

Road to Independence

Trace causes, actions, leaders, and results of the American Revolution.

5.2 "History. The student understands how conflict between the American colonies and Great Britain led to American independence and the formation of the United States..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that show a cause or effect, then number these six events in the order they happened: the war ends, Britain taxes the colonies, the Boston Tea Party, fighting begins, the Declaration of Independence, and the Treaty of Paris.

From Taxes to a New Nation

- ① After the French and Indian War ended in 1763, Great Britain had large war debts. Parliament decided that the colonies should help pay. It passed taxes on items such as paper, glass, and tea. Many colonists believed this was unfair because they had no elected representatives in Parliament. They protested by refusing to buy some British goods.
- ② In 1773, the Sons of Liberty protested the tea tax at the Boston Tea Party. They boarded ships and dumped tea into Boston Harbor. Britain answered with harsh laws that punished Boston. Tension grew, and fighting began in 1775. Patriot leaders wanted greater freedom from British rule. George Washington led the Continental Army, while Benjamin Franklin helped gain French support.
- ③ Other Founding Fathers also shaped the revolution. John Adams spoke for independence and helped persuade people to support it. Thomas Jefferson wrote most of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, explaining why the colonies should be free. After the Patriots won the war, the Treaty of Paris recognized American independence in 1783. The former colonies became the United States, a new nation.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the French and Indian War lead Great Britain to tax the colonies?

2 What did the Sons of Liberty do at the Boston Tea Party, and what happened after Britain responded?

3 What was one contribution of each leader: John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and George Washington?

4 What were two results of the American Revolution named in the passage?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence cause-and-effect explanation of how conflict with Great Britain led to a new nation. Include taxation, one colonial protest, one Patriot leader's contribution, and the final result.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline words that show a cause or effect, then number these six events in the order they happened: the war ends, Britain taxes the colonies, the Boston Tea Party, fighting begins, the Declaration of Independence, and the Treaty of Paris. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the French and Indian War lead Great Britain to tax the colonies?	Great Britain had large war debts after the war and decided the colonies should help pay them through taxes.
2	What did the Sons of Liberty do at the Boston Tea Party, and what happened after Britain responded?	They dumped tea into Boston Harbor to protest the tea tax. Britain punished Boston with harsh laws, tension grew, and fighting began in 1775.
3	What was one contribution of each leader: John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and George Washington?	Adams spoke for independence and persuaded people to support it. Franklin helped gain French support. Jefferson wrote most of the Declaration of Independence. Washington led the Continental Army.
4	What were two results of the American Revolution named in the passage?	The Treaty of Paris recognized American independence in 1783, and the former colonies became the United States.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After the French and Indian War, Britain sought money by taxing the colonies. The Sons of Liberty showed resistance at the Boston Tea Party. George Washington led the Continental Army as Patriots fought for freedom. After the Patriots won, the United States became a new nation.

Accept accurate paraphrases supported by the passage. For the open response, accept different leaders or protests from the passage if the response clearly explains a cause-and-effect chain and includes all four required parts.