

Grade 3

Reading - History

A Journey Through Time: The American Revolution

Many years ago, before the United States was a country, it was a group of colonies. These colonies were like big neighborhoods and were controlled by a country called England. The people who lived in these colonies were called colonists. While some things were good in the colonies, there were some things the colonists did not like. They were especially unhappy about the taxes. Taxes are like fees that people have to pay. England was making the colonists pay a lot of taxes without asking them if it was okay.

So, a lot of colonists started to get upset. They said, "No taxation without representation!" This meant that they didn't want to pay taxes unless they had a say in the decisions. They wanted a voice.

Because of this, some colonists started to protest. There were famous events like the Boston Tea Party, where colonists dressed up and threw tea into the sea! They did this because they were being taxed on tea without their agreement.

As time went on, the disagreements between the colonies and England grew bigger. This led to a big fight called the American Revolution. During this time, brave leaders like George Washington and Thomas Jefferson stood up for the colonies. They wanted to be free from England's control.

After many battles and with the help of friends from other countries, the colonies won their freedom! They then wrote the Declaration of Independence and later, the Constitution. These important papers helped to make rules and promises for the new country. This was the beginning of the United States of America.

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. Why were the colonists unhappy with England?

- A) England was making them learn a new language.
- B) England made them pay a lot of taxes without asking.
- C) The colonists didn't like tea.
- D) England took away their homes.

2. What does "No taxation without representation!" mean?

- A) No tea without sugar.
- B) No paying taxes if they didn't have a say in decisions.
- C) Always pay your taxes.
- D) Taxes are unimportant.

3. What was the big fight between the colonies and England called?

- A) The Big Tea Fight.
- B) The Colonial War.
- C) The Boston Tea War.
- D) The American Revolution.

4. Who were some of the leaders during the American Revolution?

- A) George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.
- B) Benjamin Franklin and King George.

- C) Abraham Lincoln and Paul Revere.
- D) Christopher Columbus and John Adams.
5. What did the colonies write after winning their freedom?
- A) A book about England.
- B) The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.
- C) A thank you letter to England.
- D) The Colonial Times newspaper.

Answers and Explanations:

1. B England made them pay a lot of taxes without asking.

The passage mentions that colonists were unhappy about the taxes that England was imposing on them without their consent.

2. B No paying taxes if they didn't have a say in decisions.

The phrase means the colonists wanted a voice in tax decisions

3. D The American Revolution.

The passage mentions that the big fight was called the American Revolution.

4. A. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

The passage mentions George Washington and Thomas Jefferson as leaders during this time.

5. B The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

The passage states that after their freedom, they wrote the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.