

# Immediate Causes of the American Revolution:

## Boston Happenings!



**Rewrite** = rewrite the sentence to make correct

**Complete** = write the correct answer that completes the idea

**Vocab** = define the word, using the context

**Revise** = rewrite the sentence with simpler grammar

**Opinion** = give your own opinion



= complete the interactive notebook entry

Americans will fight for their independence. They will fight the mightiest power in Europe—England. They will fight them by themselves for years. They will fight them without hesitation. We will now discuss the immediate causes. Two major events happen in the city of Boston. This is the capital of New England, home of the Puritans. The Puritans were strict and judgmental. And in the 1770s, their sons judged King George III no longer good enough to rule America.

**Vocab** define hesitation

The year is 1775. We are in Boston, Massachusetts. Colonists are talking... Well, they are not colonists, anymore. Most were born in America, not England. They didn't come over on a boat. They've been American their whole lives. They don't know England.

They talk about a new country in America. They talk about not having to listen to the King of England. These Americans feel separate from the British. (British = people from England.) They feel independent. They talk about having their own country. They are *Patriots*. (Patriots = Americans who want independence.)

### Rewrite

1. Patriots are people who support the British.

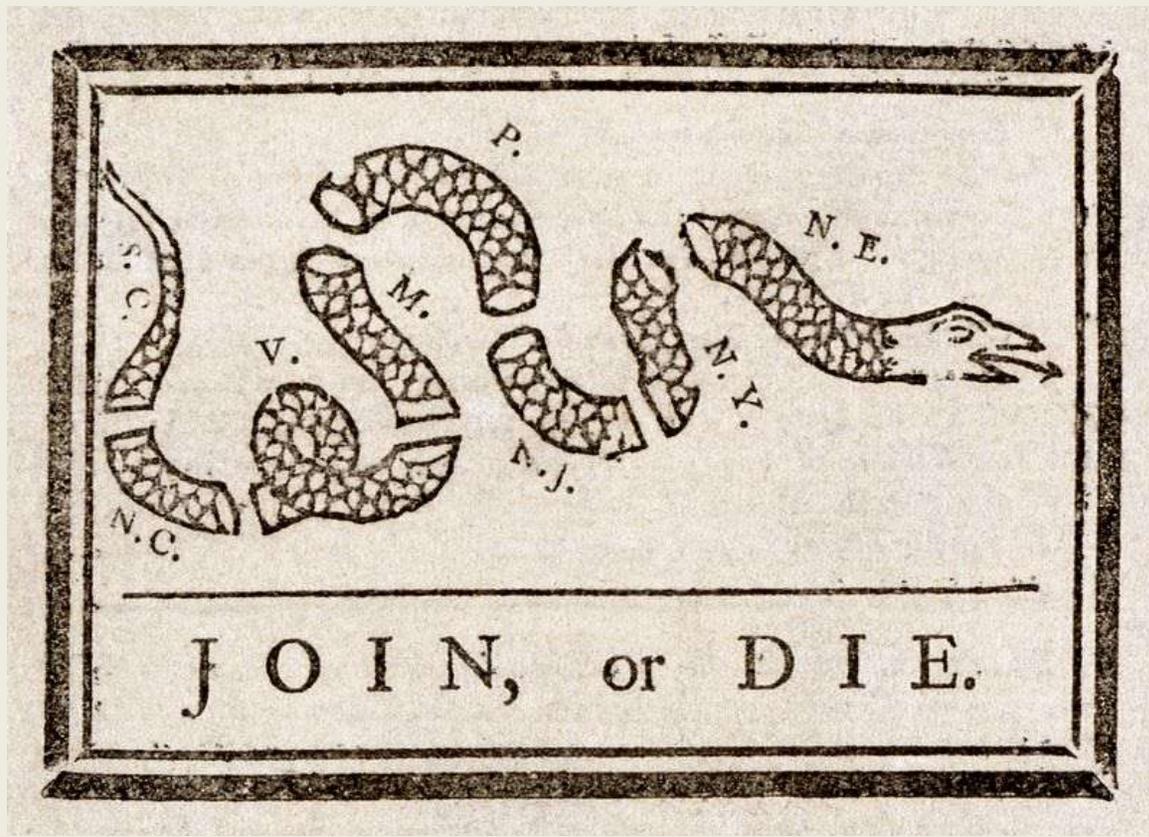
### Complete

2. Americans want independence from...

The patriots form a small political group called the “Sons of Liberty.” This secret groups make pamphlets. The pamphlets are news articles and small books that support American independence. The pamphlets argue that Americans need to fight back against the British to get their independence. This is illegal activity. The “Sons of Liberty” have to be careful.



The Sons of Liberty use the cartoon symbol of the snake. The snake is cut into different pieces. The pieces have the names of the colonies. The title says: "Join or Die." One famous pamphlet is by a man called Thomas Paine. It is called: "Common Sense." It makes a common sense argument why Americans should fight against the British. It is written for the common man.... The everyday dude.



## Complete

1. The secret political organization that fights against the British is called the...
2. The Sons of Liberty publish \_\_\_\_\_ that encourage Americans to fight for their independence.
3. Thomas Paine publishes a pamphlet called \_\_\_\_\_.

## Rewrite

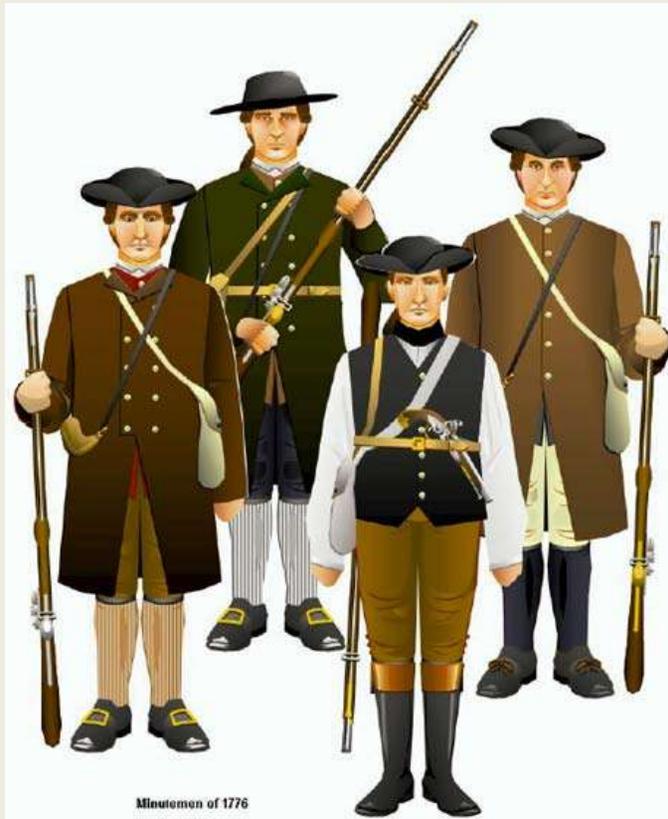
4. A secret military group that quickly assembles is an army.
5. The Continental Congress is an underground (secret) political group.
6. The Sons of Liberty want to remain an English colony.

The patriots form small groups of men called militias. These militias are illegal. Only British soldiers are allowed. So, they are secret. The secret militias of patriots are supposed to quickly assemble to fight for the rights of Americans.



## Vocab

1. Define Militias:
2. Define assemble:



But the Americans aren't united. People aren't going to say: "I'm an American" until much later. Even after America gets its independence, people will talk about the colony they are from:

"I am a Virginian from the United States of America. Not an American from Virginia. I don't always trust those Yankees from Massachusetts or Quakers from Pennsylvania! "



(not a real quote)

The leaders of the colonies know they need political leaders. They know they can't depend only on secret militias and Sons of Liberties. They depend on their Continental Congress to represent them. Each colony sends representatives to the Continental Congress to make laws. The only problem is: the British don't recognize the Continental Congress. They don't give them power or authority. They say: "The King and Parliament have all of the authority. Your Continental Congress has very limited power."



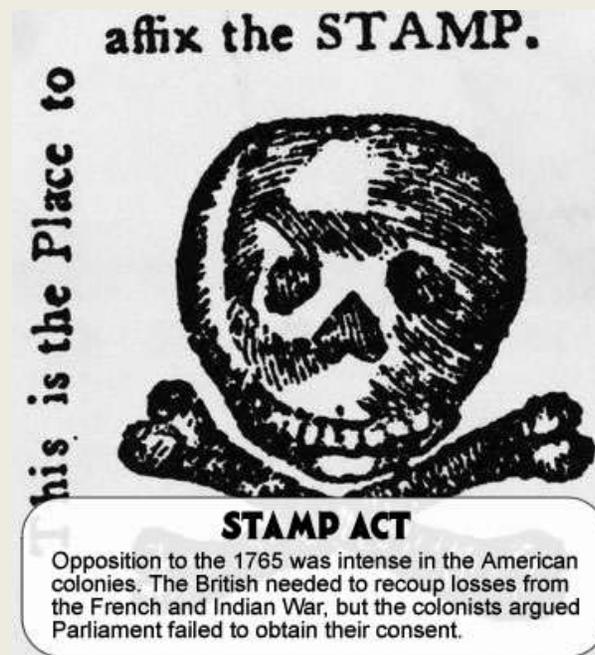


King George III of England

## Rewrite

1. The American colonists are united.
2. The British parliament represents the American colonists political desires.
3. King George III and the parliament respect the Continental Congress.
4. The Continental Congress represents the British people.

The major problem of the day is taxes and money. But the taxes at this time are not that high before the French and Indian War. They don't pay an income tax, they pay tariffs, which are like sales taxes. When they buy "tea," for example, they pay a small tax—maybe one cent. When they buy a newspaper, they pay a small tax. The taxes are raised in a document called an "act." So, the Sugar Act made a tax on sugar; the Stamp Act made a tax on legal documents; the Tea Act made a tax on tea. All of these taxes came after 1763. The taxes came to pay for a war.



## Rewrite

1. Taxes in the 1770s are historically very high.
2. The British raise taxes in declarations called notes.

## Complete

3. The Sugar Act raised taxes on...
4. The Stamp Act raised taxes on...
5. The British raised taxes to pay for a....

Let's go back to 1770. People hate the British soldiers. The British soldiers are called Redcoats. The Americans call them "lobsters." In the big cities, like Boston, they taunt them. (taunt = insult) In Boston, a group of protestors face a line of Redcoats. They taunt them: "Lobster! Lobster!" Then, someone throws a snowball. Soon, they are all throwing snow balls. All of the sudden, the Redcoats open fire. They shoot at the protestors. There is blood in the snow. This is called the Boston Massacre. Crispus Attucks dies. He's a protestor. He is seen as one of the first to die in the "war" against the British.



The Boston Massacre is in 1760.

Then, in 1763 we have the Boston Tea Party.



WALL GROUPS

This leads to stricter laws and more taxes. This leads to the Intolerable Acts.

# The Quartering Act

## 1765



In 1765 the British further angered the colonist by passing the Quartering Act. The act forced American colonist to house and feed British forces who were serving in North America. The act further inflamed tensions between the colonist and the British. The colonist were angered at having their homes forced open. The subsequent close contact with British soldiers did not engender good feelings between the sides. from Britain dropped almost in half.

<http://www.multied.com/revolt/Quatering.html>

## Complete

1. In 1770s in Boston, Americans taunt the redcoats by calling them...
2. The British respond by shooting the protestors. This is called the....
3. Three years later, Bostonians protest by throwing tea in the sea. This is called the...
4. The British responds with the...

## Rewrite

5. The Boston Tea Party occurs when British recoats fire on American protestors.
6. The Boston Massacre occurs when Americans dressed like Indians throw tea into the sea.



Now, complete  
the Boston  
pastable(s).