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READINGS

"The passions and prejudices of men often mask themselves under the names of virtuous qualities."

II. Conquest, Rebellion, and Republic, 1608-1800

- The Duel for North America, 1608-1763 (Chapter Six) (CP-1.4 & 2.1)
- The Road to Revolution, 1763-1775 (Chapter Seven) (CP-2.1)
- America Secedes from the Empire, 1775-1783 (Chapter Eight) (CP-2.2)
- The Confederation and the Constitution, 1776-1790 (Chapter Nine) (CP-2.3)
- Launching the New Ship of State, 1789-1800 (Chapter Ten) (CP-2.4)

KEY CONCEPTS

❖ Europeans developed a variety of colonization and migration patterns, influenced by different imperial goals, cultures, and the varied North American environments where they settled, and they competed with each other and American Indians for resources.

❖ British Attempts to assert tighter control over its North American colonies and the colonial resolve to pursue self-government led to a colonial independence movement and the Revolutionary War. -The American Revolution's democratic and republican ideals inspired new experiments with different forms of government.

-Disputes over the power of government, foreign relations, and visions of the future divide the Nation and lead to intense political rivalry.

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

As part of their worldwide rivalry, Great Britain and France engaged in a great struggle for colonial control of North America, culminating in the British victory in the French and Indian War (Seven Years' War) that drove France from the continent. The French defeat created conditions for a growing conflict between Britain and its American colonies.

The American Revolution occurred because the American colonists, who had long been developing a strong sense of autonomy and self-government, seriously resisted British attempts to impose tighter imperial controls and higher taxes after the end of the French and Indian War in 1763.

When hostilities began in 1775, the colonists were still fighting for their rights as British citizens within the empire, but in 1776 they declared their independence, based on a proclamation of universal, "self-evident" truths. Inspired by revolutionary idealism, they also fought for an end to monarchy and the establishment of a free republic.

A combination of Washington's generalship and British bungling in 1776-1777 prevented a quick British victory and brought French assistance, which enabled the Patriots to achieve victory after several more years of struggle.

The American Revolution was not a radical transformation like the French or Russian revolutions, but it did produce political innovations and some social change in the direction of greater equality and democracy.

The Articles of Confederation provided the United States with its first government, although it could not solve the new country's problems.

The federal Constitution represented a moderately conservative reaction against the democratic and decentralizing effects of the Revolution and the Articles of Confederation. In effect, it embedded the revolutionary ideals of liberty and popular government within a strong framework designed to advance national identity and interests against the dangers of fragmentation and disorder.

Led by Washington and Hamilton, the first administrations under the Constitution overcame various difficulties and firmly established the political and economic foundations of the new federal government.

The cabinet debate over Hamilton's financial measures expanded into a wider political conflict between Hamiltonian Federalists and Jeffersonian Republicans—the first political parties in America.

The French Revolution created a severe ideological and political division over foreign policy between Federalists and Republicans. The foreign-policy crisis coincided with domestic political divisions that culminated in the bitter election of 1800, but in the end power passed peacefully from Federalists to Republicans.

DEBATE TOPICS

Subjects of individual interest to stimulate discussion and deeper understanding

Was the American Revolution a Conservative Movement? (9th Ed.)

2- Was Thomas Jefferson Committed to Bringing an End to Chattel Slavery? (9th & 10th Ed.)

3- Was the Great Awakening *the* Key to the American Revolution? (10th)

4- Did the American Revolution Produce a Christian Nation? (13th Ed.)

5- Was Alexander Hamilton an Economic Genius? (13th Ed.)

6- Were the Founding Fathers Democratic Reformers? (10th & 13th Ed.)

7- Was the American Revolution Largely a Product of Market-Driven Consumer Forces? (15th Ed.)

THOUGHTS on the STATE of GOVERNMENT from "COMMON SENSE"

THOMAS PAINE
1776

One of the strongest natural proofs of the folly of hereditary right in kings is that nature disapproves it, otherwise she would not so frequently turn it into ridicule by giving mankind an Ass for a Lion. But where, some say, is the King of America? I'll tell you, friend, He reigns above, and doth not make havoc of mankind like the Royal Brute of Great Britain.

ESSENTIAL DETAILS

French Colonial Efforts - French-Indian Trade Networks - Seven Years' War (French and Indian War)  Rights of British Subjects - Liberty - Colonial Independence Movement - George Washington - The American Revolution  Enlightenment Ideas and Philosophies - Loyalists - Patriots - Thomas Paine's *Common Sense* - The Declaration of Independence - Thomas Jefferson - The Continental Army - George Washington's Military Leadership  State Constitutions - The Articles of Confederation - The Northwest Territory - The Northwest Ordinance - The Constitutional Convention - The Constitution - Federalism - Separation of Powers - The Anti-Federalists - *The Federalist Papers* - James Madison - Alexander Hamilton - Republican Motherhood  The Bill of Rights - The French Revolution - Washington's and Adams' Administrations - George Washington's Farewell Address - The Formation of Political Parties -