

CHAPTER FOUR THE EMPIRE IN TRANSITION

Objectives

A thorough study of Chapter Four should enable the student to understand:

1. The primary reasons for the growth of the differences between colonial Americans and the British government that resulted in a clash of interests.
2. The colonial attitudes toward England and toward other colonies before the Great War for empire.
3. The causes of the Great War for empire, and the reasons for the French defeat.
4. The effects of the war on the American colonists and on the status of the colonies within the British Empire.
5. The options available to the British for dealing with the colonies in 1763, and the reasons for adopting the policies that they chose to implement.
6. The importance of the series of crises from the Sugar Act through the Coercive Acts, and how each crisis changed colonial attitudes toward the mother country.
7. The change in American attitudes toward Parliament, the English constitution, and the king. What such slogans as "No taxation without representation" really meant.
8. The significance of the convening of the First Continental Congress, and what it accomplished.
9. Lexington and Concord—who fired the first shot, and does it really matter?

Main Theme

How it was that colonists who, for the most part, had enjoyed benefits unattainable by their European counterparts, rose in rebellion against the nation that was responsible for their circumstances.

TERMS, CONCEPTS, NAMES

salutary neglect	Townshend Duties	Representation: virtual versus direct
Franklin's Albany Plan	Internal and external taxation	Nature of sovereignty
French and Indian War	Boston Massacre	General Braddock
Iroquois Confederacy	Gaspee Affair	William Pitt
Ohio Valley	Tea Act of 1773	Battle of Quebec
Fort Duquesne	Women in resistance activities	Peace of Paris, 1763
Paxton Boys	Boston Tea Party	Proclamation of 1763
Stamp Act Crisis	Coercive Act (Intolerable Acts)	Sugar Act (1764)
Patrick Henry; the "Virginia Resolves"	Quebec Act	Taxation: "Virtual and Direct"
The Stamp Act Congress	First Continental Congress	Samuel Adams
Declaratory Act	Suffolk Resolve	Committees of Correspondence
Quartering Act of 1765		John Locke

Chapter Self Test

After you have read the chapter in the text and done the exercises in the Study Guide, take the following self test to see if you understand the material you have covered. Answers appear at the end of the Study Guide.

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

Circle the letter of the response which best answers the question or completes the statement.

1. By the 1750s colonial legislatures had come to see themselves as:
 - a. little parliaments.
 - b. agents of the royal governor.
 - c. powerless.
 - d. agents for democratic reform.
2. A conference of colonial leaders gathered in Albany, New York, in 1754 to discuss a proposal by Benjamin Franklin to:
 - a. establish "one general government" for all of the colonies.
 - b. negotiate a treaty with the French.
 - c. expand a system of intercolonial roads.
 - d. extend the operation of the colonial postal service.
3. Both the French and the English were well aware that the battle for control of North America would be determined in part by:
 - a. who had the Dutch on their side.
 - b. whose king was the best military commander.
 - c. which group could win the allegiance of native tribes.
 - d. whose armies could best fight "Indian" fashion.
4. The British victory in the Great War for the empire:
 - a. expelled France and Spain from North America.
 - b. gave England control of the settled regions of North America, including Canada and Florida.
 - c. resulted in the defeat of all North American Indian tribes.
 - d. resulted in less contact between Britain and America.
5. Prior to the Great War for the empire, the Iroquois Confederacy:
 - a. traded exclusively with the English.
 - b. traded exclusively with the French.
 - c. maintained their autonomy by avoiding a close relationship with both French and the English.
 - d. traded only with the five tribes that made up the Confederacy.
6. Which of the following did not occur during the Great War for the empire?
 - a. Americans were reimbursed for supplies requisitioned in their British colonies.
 - b. Colonial assemblies were in charge of recruitment in their respective colonies.
 - c. The French lost the city of Quebec.
 - d. Most of the fighting was done by colonial militia.

7. For which of the following was the result of the Great War for the empire a disaster?
- English frontiersmen and traders.
 - Colonial merchants.
 - The Iroquois Confederacy.
 - The Royal Africa Company.
8. The English decision to reorganize the British Empire after 1763 was the result of:
- problems in the merchant community and their desire for regulation.
 - colonial unrest, which the British government planned to put down before it became serious.
 - a need to administer an empire that was now twice as large as it had been.
 - In an effort to keep peace between frontiersmen and Indians and provide for a more orderly settlement of the West, the British government:
- forbade settlers from crossing the mountains that divided the Atlantic coast from the interior.
 - gave Indian tribes and confederations colonial status.
 - allowed interior settlement only if settlers bought land from the tribes.
 - put forts in the Ohio Valley to protect settlers there.
10. Which of the following was a consequence of the policies of the Grenville ministry?
- British tax revenues in the colonies increased ten times.
 - Colonists effectively resisted and paid little tax.
 - Many colonial merchants went out of business.
 - Colonial assemblies assumed the responsibility for taxing their individual colonies.
11. The Regulator movement of 1771 consisted of:
- Pennsylvania frontiersmen who demanded attention from the colonial government for their defense needs.
 - farmers of the Carolina upcountry who protested lack of representation and forcibly resisted tax collection.
 - northern merchants who refused to comply with the restrictions of the Grenville program.
 - western farmers who protested the Proclamation of 1763.
12. British policies after 1763:
- destroyed the economy of the American colonies.
 - stripped colonial assemblies of their authority.
 - created a deep sense of economic unease, particularly in colonial cities.
 - actually helped the colonial economy.
13. Colonists argued that the Stamp Act was not proper because:
- it affected only a few people, so the burden was not shared.
 - the money raised would not be spent in the colonies.
 - colonies could be taxed only by their provincial assemblies.
 - the tax was too high.
14. British authorities decided to repeal the Stamp Act primarily because of the:
- passage of the "Virginia Resolves."
 - well-reasoned petitions of the Stamp Act Congress.
 - intimidation tactics employed by the Sons of Liberty.
 - economic pressure caused by a colonial boycott of English goods.
15. Colonists were most upset over the Mutiny Act (Quartering Act) of 1765 because it:
- required that the colonies pay the soldiers' expenses.
 - quartered troops in private residences.
 - required colonies to draft citizens to serve in the Army.
 - punished innocent civilians for the vague crime of "mutiny."
16. Colonial "committees of correspondence" were created to:
- keep colonial intellectuals in contact with each other.
 - publicize grievances against England.
 - improve the writing skills of young gentlemen.
 - correspond with English radicals who supported the American cause.
17. American complaints concerning lack of representation made little sense to the English who pointed out that:
- over eighty percent of the population of Great Britain was entitled to vote for members of Parliament.
 - each colony was represented by an agent and a designated member of Parliament.
 - each member of Parliament represented the interests of the whole empire rather than a particular individual or geographical area.
 - American participation in parliamentary discussions would bind them to unpopular decisions.
18. Colonists felt that when the English constitution was allowed to function properly, it created the best political system because it:
- distributed power among the three elements of society—the monarchy, the aristocracy, and the common people.
 - created a republican government.
 - created a democracy.
 - put power in the hands of those best suited to govern.
19. The Coercive Acts or "Intolerable Acts":
- isolated Massachusetts from the other colonies.
 - made Massachusetts a martyr in the eyes of other colonists.
 - created no concern among any group other than merchants.
 - increased the power of colonial assemblies.
20. Which of the following was not a step taken by the First Continental Congress?
- It adopted a plan for a colonial union under British authority.
 - It endorsed a statement of grievances.
 - It called for military preparations.
 - It called for a series of boycotts.