**American Revolution Unit Test Study Guide**

**Use the topic points and questions below to help you review for the test on the American Revolution! Remember this is a *guide* to help you review the material**

**and focus your studying on the areas you are having the most trouble on!**

**Reviewing Main Concepts:**

**1.** What were the causes of the French and Indian War? How did this conflict become a cause of the American Revolution?

* French and British colonists into unclaimed territories
* Unclaimed territories between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River, from the Great Lakes to the Ohio River.
* Both wanted it for strategic reasons, for the fur trade, and for possible future settlement.
* The British decide to raise more money by taxing the colonies to pay for the war.

**2.** How did the Treaty of Paris (1763) change things in America?

* Treaty of Paris (1763) ended the French and Indian War between Great Britain and France, as well as their respective allies.
* France gave up all its territories in mainland North America, effectively ending any foreign military threat to the British colonies there.

**3.** What were the new laws/acts imposed by the British? Describe the variety of ways the colonists resisted these British laws and policies.

* The Navigation Acts were a series of three acts that included Colonial trade being restricted to the British in both the buying and selling of goods
* The Stamp Act led many colonists to take up the cry “no taxation without representation”
* The Quartering Act that was passed in 1764 and forced colonists to provide food and shelter to British soldiers
* The Intolerable Acts were Laws that were meant to punish the people of Boston, Mass.
* The Proclamation of 1763 barred the colonists from settling west of the Appalachian Mountains allowing Native Americans control of that land
* The Declaratory Act stated Parliament’s authority could not be challenged and the colonists had to follow their laws.
* The Townsend Act taxed a variety of everyday items, including tea.

**4.** What was the goal of the First Continental Congress?

* The First Continental Congress was important because it was the first time the colonies acted together

**5.** What were the major debates between independence versus reconciliation at the Second Continental Congress?

* Most congressional delegates favored trying to reconcile with Great Britain.
* The idea of declaring independence from Britain gained traction after King George III ignored the Olive Branch Petition.
* Other factors that drove the colonies toward a break with Britain included Parliament's December 1775 decision to allow the Royal Navy to seize colonial ships
* Mistreatment of colonial civilians by the British military
* The January 1776 publishing of Thomas Paine's pamphlet "Common Sense," this made a strong case for independence.

**6.** What role did the ideas of a “social contract” play in the creation of the Declaration?

* It played a huge role because Social contract theory is the view that persons' moral and/or political obligations are dependent upon a contract or agreement among them to form the society in which they live.

**7.** Explain the parts and purpose of the Declaration of Independence:

* confirmed American independence and set the boundaries of the new nation
* Declaration of Independence was based on the Enlightenment ideas of natural rights that belong to all human beings
* Benjamin Franklin persuaded delegates to vote for the signing of the Declaration of Independence

**8.** What were the strengths and weaknesses of the British and American forces?

* Great Britain’s well-trained army and navy, and their monetary resources for supplies

**9.** Why was Saratoga a turning point in the American Revolution?

* France’s entry into the war on the side of the Americans

**10.** Why did the American colonists win the war?

* French military and financial assistance

**Reviewing the Important Terms**

**(Be able to identify each and explain its significance)**

* The French & Indian War was the military struggle in which the British fought against the French and their Native American allies
* Mercantilism is a system in which a country attempts to amass wealth through trade with other countries, exporting more than it imports and increasing stores of gold and precious metals
* Stamp Act placed a tax on colonial newspapers and other printed materials.
* John Locke was the 17th century philosopher who wrote about natural rights.
* Treaty of Easton was a colonial agreement in North America signed in October 1758 during the French and Indian War between British colonials and the chiefs of 13 Native American nations
* Treaty of Paris (1763) ended the French and Indian War between Great Britain and France, as well as their respective allies. In the terms of the treaty, France gave up all its territories in mainland North America, effectively ending any foreign military threat to the British colonies there.
* George Washington was the leader of the Continental Army
* King George III was the leader of Great Britain during the American Revolution.
* Boston Massacre was a confrontation between the American colonists and the British soldiers guarding the Customs house in Boston
* The Stamp act resulted in the idea of “No taxation without representation”
* Sons/Daughters of Liberty were the name of the groups of patriots who organized resistance against the British
* Olive Branch Petition drafted on July 5, 1775, was a letter to King George III, from members of the Second Continental Congress, which represents the last attempt by the moderate party in North America to avoid a war of independence against Britain. King George III rejected the petition and declared that the colonies were in active rebellion
* Battle of Lexington and Concord was the first battle of the American Revolution. The British attempted to seize the colonial arms and ammunition that was being stored there
* Bunker Hill was a great battle of the Revolutionary War; it was fought near Boston in June 1775.
* Loyalists supported Great Britain while the Patriots supported the American colonists
* The Declaration of Independence, written mainly by Thomas Jefferson, was based on the Enlightenment ideas of natural rights, or rights that belong to all human beings
* Different military strategies The British were more formal and would fight in a straight line while the Indians/French used more surprise tactics.
* During the American Revolution, British strategy was to seize key Southern areas, enlist the help of the Loyalists, and move northward from one colony to another
* Hessians soldiers who fought for Britain were paid to as fight mercenaries
* *The Crisis* was written by Thomas Paine wrote to inspire the colonists to keep fighting *B*attles of Trenton and Philadelphia
* Charles Cornwallis was the commanding British general who surrendered to Washington at Yorktown
* Battle of Saratoga resulted in France’s entry into the war on the side of the Americans
* Battle of Yorktown was the final battle of the Revolutionary War because the French fleet won control of the Chesapeake Bay
* Treaty of Paris (1783) was the peace agreement signed by the United States and Great Britain at the end of the Revolutionary War.
* A result of the American Revolution was the spread of the idea of liberty at home and abroad