**Causes of the American Revolution Reading Questions**

Read the article below and answer the following questions:

[How did America win independence from Britain? - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/modern-history/mod-american-revolution-reading/)

1. Who was the first European power to create a colony in North America?

The Spanish were the first to create a colony in 1565 at St. Augustine in Florida.

1. What happened to the settlement of Roanoke?

The settlement of Roanoke mysteriously disappeared in 1590.

1. What was New Amsterdam renamed to?

New Amsterdam was renamed New York in 1665.

1. What was the main reason for European colonization of North America?

The main reason was to expand their empires and generate wealth for their home countries.

1. What was the impact of European colonization on Native Americans?

The impact was negative; the land was taken without understanding the cultures they were supplanting, and the Native Americans were often undermined by European weaponry and diseases.

1. What was the Nine Years War?

The Nine Years War was a European conflict between 1689–97 fought to limit the growing power of France.

1. What was the French and Indian War?

The French and Indian War was the North American theater of the Seven Years' War, taking place between 1756 and 1763.

1. Why was Britain in financial trouble after the Seven Years' War?

Britain was in financial trouble because the war had been incredibly expensive, leaving the British parliament in debt.

1. What were the Sugar Act and the Stamp Act?

The Sugar Act of 1764 and the Stamp Act of 1765 were taxes introduced by the British parliament on specific products: sugar and a particular kind of stamped paper.

1. What was the slogan that expressed the colonists' sentiment about taxation?

The slogan was 'No taxation without representation'.

1. What were the Intolerable Acts?

The Intolerable Acts were a new range of laws that placed restrictions on the colonists' civil liberties, including closing Boston’s port to all trade and making it illegal for people to hold town meetings or assemble to protest.

1. What was the First Continental Congress?

The First Continental Congress was a meeting in 1774 in Philadelphia where delegations from all 13 colonies considered the best response to the crisis and sent demands to Britain to remove the Intolerable Acts.

1. What was the Boston Massacre?

The Boston Massacre was a violent riot that erupted on the 5th of March 1770, where five people were killed.

1. What were the Townshend Acts?

The Townshend Acts were taxes introduced in 1767 on a wider range of products, including tea, lead, paint, paper, and glass.

1. What was the main agricultural crop that the colonies invested in?

The main agricultural crop was tobacco.

1. What was the purpose of the new Tea Tax of 1773?

The purpose was to help save the British East India Company from financial collapse.

1. What did the Sons of Liberty do during the Boston Tea Party?

The Sons of Liberty disguised themselves as Native Americans, broke into a ship owned by the East India Company, and threw chests of tea into Boston's harbor.

1. What was the outcome of the First Continental Congress?

The outcome was that the delegates sent demands to Britain to remove the Intolerable Acts, but Britain responded by sending more soldiers, making it clear that armed conflict was inevitable.

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you have learnt in your readings, answer the question below in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*Why did the American colonies fight for independence from Britain?*