

Chapter 5: 1.1 Limits on Freedom

- After the French and Indian War, the British government enacted laws that restricted some of the colonies' freedoms.
 - Problems Arise
 - At the end of the French and Indian War, the British colonists in North America had plenty of reasons to be optimistic about their future as British subjects.
 - The colonies' **militias**, or groups of local men who organized to protect their town or colony, proved they were able to fight alongside British soldiers.
 - With decades of economic growth, the colonies were prosperous.
 - However, their freedom to govern was limited by King George III and Parliament.
 - King George III believed the role of a colony was to support the mother country.
 - Settlers in the western areas objected to King George's **Proclamation of 1763**, which required colonists to stay east of a line drawn on a map along the crest of the Appalachian Mountains.

Chapter 5: 1.1 Limits on Freedom

- Soldiers in the Colonies
 - Soon, colonists along the eastern coast also found themselves frustrated by oppressive laws.
 - After the war, British soldiers were sent to port cities, such as New York and Boston, to help enforce laws.
 - In 1765, the British Parliament passed the **Quartering Act** that required colonists to provide housing for British soldiers.
 - Local governments and residents resented being forced to house the soldiers.
 - In all the colonies, the presence of British troops provoked tension and hostility between soldiers and civilians.
 - Civilians had begun to identify less with the British and more as Americans.

Chapter 5: 1.2 Taxation Without Representation

- British attempts to impose taxes and exert greater control over the colonies caused growing anger and resentment among colonists.
 - War Debt
 - After the French and Indian War, the British government needed **revenue**, or income, to pay off its debts and expenses.
 - King George appointed a new prime minister, George Grenville, who agreed that the colonies should be strictly controlled.
 - Grenville also believed that the colonies should pay for the war debt and the cost of keeping British troops in North America.
 - What followed was a series of acts that would have big consequences.

Chapter 5: 1.2 Taxation Without Representation

- Acts of Parliament

- The **Sugar Act** of 1764 was the first of the new taxes; it actually lowered the **duty**, or tax, on the imported molasses in the colonies, encouraging merchants to pay the lower duty instead of smuggling molasses into the colonies to avoid paying the tax.
- The **Currency Act** of 1764 declared that only British currency could be used in the colonies; previously the colonies had issued their own paper money.
- The colonists voiced several **grievances**, or objections, to Britain's attempts to tax and control them.
- Some colonists accused the British of **tyranny**, or unjust rule by an absolute ruler.
- Colonists argued that Parliament did not have the right to impose taxes on the colonists because they did not have representatives in Parliament who could vote on taxes.

Chapter 5: 1.3 The Stamp Act

- An attempt to impose a new type of tax sparked open protests and violent action, which forced the British government to repeal the tax.
 - A New Kind of Tax
 - The **Stamp Act** of 1765 required that all printed materials—such as newspapers, playing cards, court documents, and sales receipts—have a special government stamp.
 - Colonists could only pay officials for the stamp with gold or silver coins—rare in the colonies.
 - Any land or property purchased without the stamp was taken away.
 - The Stamp Act was designed to raise money to pay for British troops in the colonies.
 - Colonists felt the Stamp Act was a shocking example of taxation without representation.

Chapter 5: 1.3 The Stamp Act

- **Protesting British Goods**
 - Colonial reactions to the Stamp Act grew increasingly angry.
 - Patrick Henry was a young politician, newly elected to Virginia's House of Burgesses.
 - He persuaded the assembly to pass a series of resolutions that defended the colonists' right to tax themselves rather than to be taxed by Parliament.
 - Newspapers soon spread word of Virginia's action, several other colonies passed resolutions similar to Virginia's.
 - In Boston, a group rioted against the Stamp Act by destroying the governor's house and damaging the home of the official in charge of stamping documents.
 - By the end of 1765, the stamp distributors in all the colonies except Georgia had resigned.

Chapter 5: 1.3 The Stamp Act

- **Protesting British Goods**
 - Some of the men who led the angry crowds called themselves the **Sons of Liberty**.
 - The Sons of Liberty were mostly merchants, shopkeepers, and craftsmen.
 - They also organized a **boycott**, a form of protest that involves refusing to purchase goods or services.
 - Merchants in New York City, Boston, and Philadelphia agreed to stop importing goods from Britain.
 - In 1766, the protesters succeeded and Parliament **repealed**, or canceled, the Stamp Act.
 - This was the colonists' first major step toward independence from Britain.

Chapter 5: 1.4 American Voices

- Benjamin Franklin 1706–1790
 - A Representative in England
 - Franklin worked as a printer, an inventor, and a scientist who experimented with the nature of electricity, but he is best known as a statesman.
 - Franklin was in England when the Stamp Act passed. He spoke to Parliament, condemning the act and explaining the colonists' position—his speech was instrumental in the act's repeal.
 - A Supporter of Independence
 - Franklin's experiences in England convinced him that the colonies should break away from Britain.
 - Franklin became a strong voice for independence and democracy.
 - Later, Franklin would help draft the Declaration of Independence.

Chapter 5: 2.1 Colonial Protests Grow

- Britain's attempt to raise revenue and control the colonies through the Townshend Acts led to protests and violence.
 - The Townshend Acts
 - In 1767, Parliament passed the **Townshend Acts**, which placed duties on tea, glass, paper, lead, and paint—all goods that the colonies were required to purchase only from Britain.
 - Revenue from the duties, or taxes, would be used to pay the salaries of colonial governors and judges.
 - The Townshend Acts also required colonial courts to provide **writs of assistance**, or search warrants, so officials could search houses and businesses for smuggled goods.
 - Colonists felt the writs allowed the British to search without cause or justification.

Chapter 5: 2.1 Colonial Protests Grow

- The Colonists React
 - Colonists again protested and accused the British government of tyranny.
 - John Locke's writing strongly influenced the protests, because of his belief that a leader could rule only with the consent of the people and that government exists to uphold natural rights.
 - Samuel Adams was a follower of Locke's philosophy, a member of the Massachusetts Assembly, and a leader of the Sons of Liberty.
 - Adams and James Otis wrote a letter to the other colonial assemblies objecting to the new duties and proposing a boycott of British goods.
 - Boston colonists, and later New York merchants, signed an agreement to boycott British imports.
 - A group called the Daughters of Liberty boycotted imported tea and clothing.
 - The Great Awakening of the 1730s and the 1740s also helped push the colonists toward rebellion and independence.

Chapter 5: 2.2 The Boston Massacre

- Tensions between the British troops and the colonists in Boston reached a breaking point when some soldiers fired on an angry crowd of citizens.
 - Tensions Rise
 - In response to growing protests, more British troops were sent to Boston.
 - Some of the soldiers camped out on Boston Common, an open area intended for all Bostonians to use.
 - Frequent fights broke out between soldiers and civilians.
 - Children frequently taunted the British soldiers to annoy them.
 - On March 5, 1770, a boy yelled insults at a British soldier, who then hit the boy with his gun—escalating the situation.

Chapter 5: 2.2 The Boston Massacre

- Tensions Explode

- Suddenly, British soldiers started firing at the crowd, killing five townspeople and injuring six, in what would become known as the **Boston Massacre**.
- To the colonists, the killings would come to symbolize all that they hated about British rule.
- The first man shot and killed was Crispus Attucks, an African American and former enslaved person; he is considered to be the first person to die in the quest for American Independence.
- At trial, the British soldiers were represented by John Adams, a respected lawyer and firm believer in the right to a fair trial for everyone.
- Adams later served as the first vice president and second president of the United States.

Chapter 5: 2.3 The Boston Tea Party

- When Parliament imposed new laws to regulate tea, colonists responded by throwing a cargo of British tea into the Boston Harbor.
 - New Law, Old Tax
 - After the British government repealed most of the Townshend Acts, only tea was taxed, and there were fewer protests.
 - But, in 1772, Patriots in Rhode Island burned a British ship for searching local ships for smugglers; Parliament again passed more laws to control the colonies.
 - Samuel Adams formed a **committee of correspondence**—a group that made a list of British offenses against the colonies' rights; other colonies soon formed similar groups.
 - In 1773, Parliament passed the **Tea Act**, allowing the British East India Company to sell tea directly to the colonies.
 - The Tea Act lowered the price of tea, but took tea sales away from colonial merchants, forcing some out of business.
 - The new law fanned the flames of colonial resentment toward Britain.

Chapter 5: 2.3 The Boston Tea Party

- Tea Overboard!
 - At first, the colonists protested by making it hard for the British East India Company to deliver shipments of tea.
 - Workers in major cities refused to unload shipments of tea and ship captains were told to return to England.
 - On the night of December 6, 1773, members of the Sons of Liberty dressed up as Native Americans boarded three ships loaded with tea and dumped the tea into Boston Harbor—an event known as the **Boston Tea Party**.
 - The Boston Tea Party was not the only act of colonial defiance that involved tea.
 - On October 14, 1774, in Annapolis, Maryland, a ship filled with tea was set on fire.
 - King George was furious, and Parliament would soon enact new laws to punish the colonists.

Chapter 5: 2.4 Curating History

- Museum of the American Revolution, Philadelphia
 - The museum is located in historic Philadelphia, across the street from Carpenter's Hall, the first meeting place of the Continental Congress, and a short walk to Benjamin Franklin's home.
 - Visitors can view personal belongings of George Washington, as well as early American weapons, artwork, documents, and thousands of other items that date to the American Revolution.
 - These items help tell the earliest stories of American independence from Britain.