

# Events Leading to Independence

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# The French and Indian War (1754-1763)

For about 150 years, the American *colonists were happy* with the relationship they had with England.

Everything was cool!

This would change after the ***French and Indian War***

- French & Indians on one side
- English & American colonists on the other side



# The French and Indian War (1754-1763)



Starting in 1754,  
*England* and *France*  
went to *war* over  
territory in America.

**The French and Indian  
War is also called the  
Seven Years War.**

# The French and Indian War (1754-1763)



The colonies joined in the war to help Britain fight the French.

The colonies helped fight the war to keep their homes and land protected from French takeover.

***England***  
won the  
war.



# The French and Indian War (1754-1763)



In 1763, the Treaty of Paris ended the French and Indian War; the Treaty **gave England *all French lands*** east of the Mississippi River...

...but the war left England with ***massive debts.***

*What is a debt?*

**Britain wanted the colonies to pay one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of the debt**

*(England protected America, so the colonies had to pay them back).*



British debt in 1756 =  
£75 million.

British debt in 1763 =  
£133 million.

To ***pay off*** the war debts, Britain created a series of ***new taxes*** on the American colonists.

The colonists were ***upset*** that the Parliament in England would pass laws ***without*** the colonists' ***approval***.





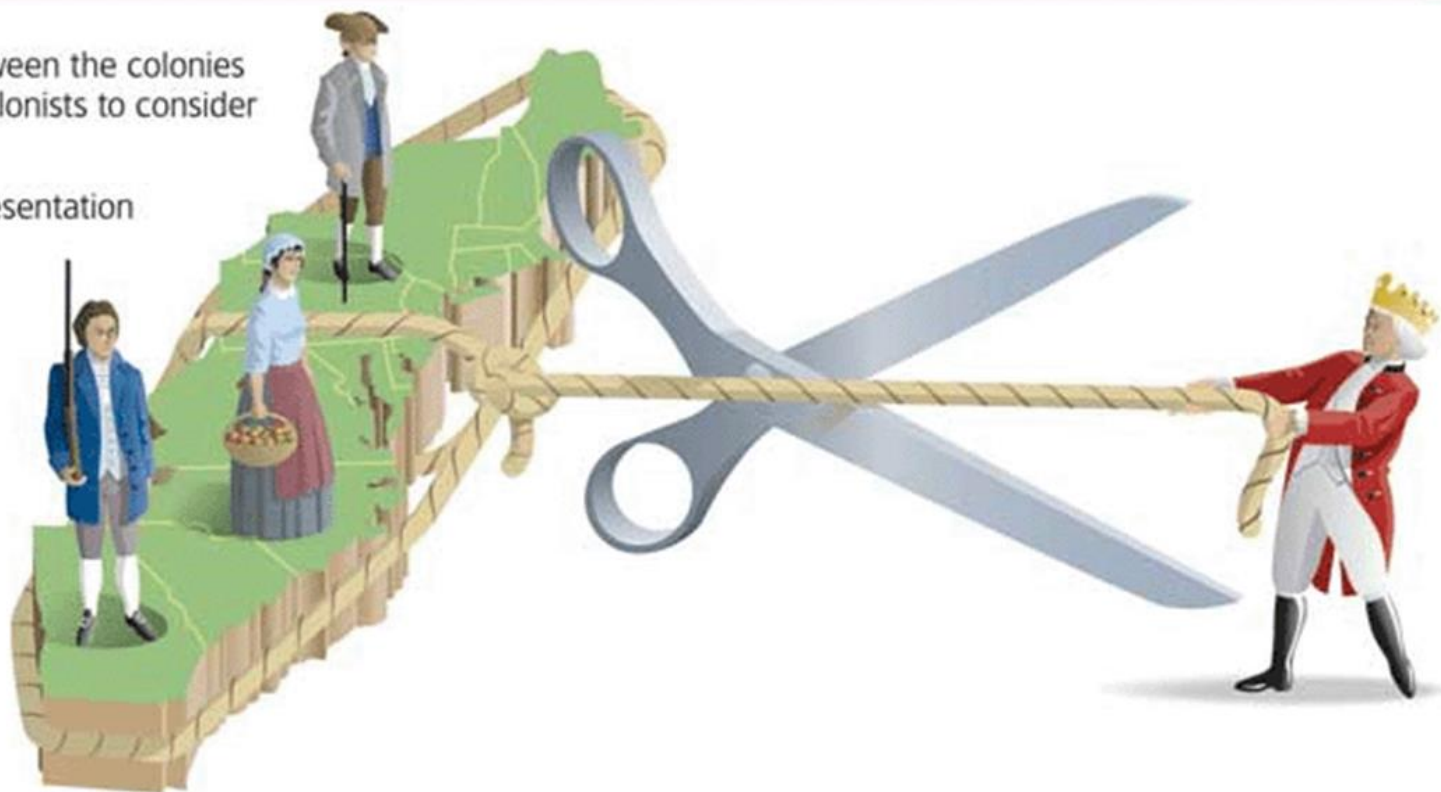
Their slogan became:  
***“No taxation without representation”.***





Increasing tensions between the colonies and Britain led many colonists to consider cutting ties to Britain.

- Taxation without representation
- Acts of Parliament
- Violence between colonists and British troops



# Class Assignment: England's Tax Acts

- Using your textbook, Internet, and library books, you and your partner will be researching the different tax acts that England placed on the colonies.
- You will be assigned an Act randomly.
- You will be creating a graphic organizer poster to display each act.
- On your graphic organizer, you will have the following:
  - 1. Name of the tax act
  - 2. When the act was started
  - 3. A description of the act (in your own words)
  - 4. A drawing depicting the tax act
- **After this activity, we will continue with our lesson.**

# The Sugar Act

- In 1764, England created a tax on the colonies on any item involving molasses, sugar, and other food products.
- Each time a ship arrived in the colonies with sugar or food product, the British wouldn't unload it off the boat until they paid the money tax.
- *What would you do as a colonist?*





- The colonists went nuts! What kinds of things do you think the colonists complained about?
- Due to the heavy complaints and refusal to pay, the British caved in and “repealed” the law.
  - *Can you guess what repealed means?*

Repeal – withdraw or cancel

The colonists thought they won, but the British had more taxes up their sleeves...

*Can you guess what they would be?*

# The Stamp Act

- When this tax law came about, the colonists were angry and confused with England.
- The colonies still thought of themselves as English, and they couldn't understand why England was “punishing” them with unnecessary taxes.
- The Stamp Act, in 1765, required all colonists to buy special stamps in order to read a newspaper, send a letter, sign a contract, get a license, etc.
  - Without this special stamp, all paperwork was considered illegal and not recognized.

