

VIDEO CLIP FOR ALL ACTIVITIES: [The American Revolutionary War](#)

I. Watch the video once. Tick (✓) the places mentioned where important events in this movement happened.

- Boston
- Chancellorsville
- Trenton
- Alamo
- Paris
- Saratoga
- Yorktown
- Bunker Hill
- Gettysburg

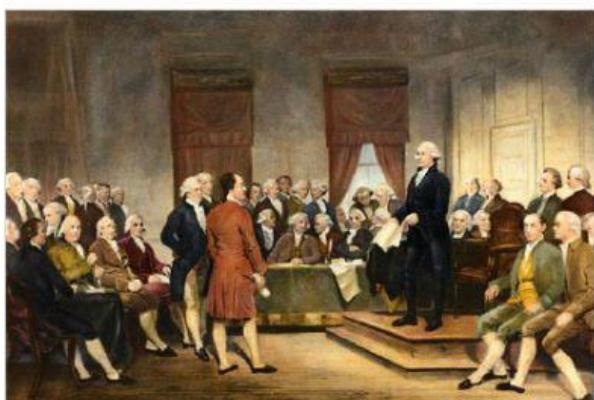
II. Watch the first part of the video again (00:00 – 04:30). Complete the following summary about the events that happened between the beginning of the American Revolution and the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Type the most appropriate word(s) in the blank space. NB: (1) Mind appropriate spelling and capitalization, and (2) use numbers only for years and dates.

During the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, many European countries started colonizing other continents. Great Britain established in North America in what is known in history as the Thirteen Colonies, who by the late 1700s began a revolutionary war which lasted approximately (1) \_\_\_\_\_. This movement was primarily caused by unfair impositions by the British government, such as lack of colonial representatives in Parliament and a raise in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ on the colonies. According to them, this type of government was cruel and unreasonable, which they considered a (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

Although the attempt of taxation was not successful, it created feelings of resentment at both ends. In the year of (4) \_\_\_\_\_, in Boston, Massachusetts, British soldiers shot at a group of colonists and killed five of them, in what was called *the Boston Massacre*.

Three years later, a group of colonists jumped on a British ship and threw an entire shipment of tea into Boston Harbor. This event is known as the (5) \_\_\_\_\_. After these two events, the British government decided to take tougher measures to punish the colonists for their behaviour, and passed a group of laws which were known as the (6) \_\_\_\_\_. These new laws were severe and caused confrontations between colonists and British soldiers, which eventually turned into small battles where they opened fire at each other. Such armed conflicts marked the beginning of the Revolutionary War.

The colonists appointed George Washington as the commander of their Continental Army, and a series of major battles began. The British troops — known as the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ because of the colour of their jackets — won the first battle, although their losses were high as well.



The colonists knew that the war would be difficult to win, so they sent a letter to King George to put an end to it, which he refused to read. Instead, he declared the colonists (8) \_\_\_\_\_. This enraged the colonists, who then decided to announce their independence as a country and in charge of their own (9) \_\_\_\_\_, and wrote a document to explain their reasons for breaking away from Great Britain. This document was called the *Declaration of Independence*, which was adopted by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, (10) \_\_\_\_\_.

**III. Watch the second part of the video (04:30 – 08:12). Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).**

	TRUE	FALSE
1 The surprise attack on Trenton, New Jersey, was a failure for the American troops.	•	•
2 Some British forces surrendered to the Americans in the autumn of 1777.	•	•
3 France supported the American Revolution because they were enemies of Great Britain as well.	•	•
4 American troops sieged the city of Yorktown for over a week until the British gave in.	•	•
5 The Treaty of Paris (Sep 3, 1783) was a temporary truce between Americans and British.	•	•

**IV. Drag and drop the following less-common words from the video where they belong in the sentences. Use a dictionary to look up their meanings if necessary. NOTE: The letter in parentheses indicates the type of word it is.**

1 hostility (n)	a In war, when armed forces are outnumbered, they often decide to get in _____ rather than to keep fighting.
2 harsh (adj)	b International treaties try to eradicate _____ between nations who have had conflicts in the past.
3 sneak (adj)	c A common military strategy is to launch a _____ attack on the enemy to catch them off guard.
4 retreat (n)	d The minister received some _____ criticism about the new laws the Parliament passed last week.

*"It takes time to persuade men to do even what is for their own good."*

— Thomas Jefferson, American writer and USA's Founding Father. —