

Many believe the cause of the American Revolution can be summarized as unfair taxation. Would you agree or disagree?

I agree that the colonists were angry that they were being taxed by the British government after they had just finished fighting a war for them, but I can also see the British point of view. The British government was in debt after spending so much on the French and Indian war, and they were looking for ways to raise money. I also think that, when you got past the propaganda and patriotism, the original reasons behind the revolution, before the Declaration of Independence was created, were largely economic. However, there were many factors, taxation was just a big one.

To what extent was the colonists' victory in the American Revolution due to the leadership of George Washington?

George Washington was an excellent military commander who had fought with the British in the French and Indian war, and had learned from the Native American Indians how to fight in America, using guerrilla tactics. He knew that the British fighting style didn't work in the heavily forested Americas, as it relied on the other side playing fair. George Washington exploited their tactical blunders whenever he could, as he knew they couldn't win by strength of arms alone. He also had no problem with attacking on a Christmas Eve, when the British-hired Hessian soldiers were celebrating, which was a decisive victory for the Americans.

Pick three consecutive events from the period 1763-1783, and show how one event led to or caused the next event.

- 1) The Boston Massacre began to instill an anger towards the British in the minds of the colonists, and this led to many violent revolutionary groups, including the Sons of Liberty, gaining power.
- 2) This then led to the Boston Tea Party, when members of the Sons of Liberty, disguised as Indians, destroyed the stock of tea carried by a merchant ship by dumping it into the Boston harbor.
- 3) The British, outraged, passed several laws that became known to the colonists as the intolerable acts, which severely restricted their trade.