

## American Revolution

### Video

1. Battle of the Plains of Abraham, 1759
  - a. Battle between the British and French over Quebec
  - b. British won with General James Wolfe
2. Maps focused everything on the UK
3. Separated the people living in America into classes
  - a. Old subjects - British or American
  - b. New subjects - French
  - c. German allies
  - d. Indigenous allies
  - e. Indigenous enemies
  - f. Enslaved people
4. Americans felt more British than the British
5. 7 years war in 1756-1763
6. Royal proclamation in 1763 that the Americans were revolutionaries and traitors
7. Taxation increases in 1764-1770
8. 7 years war is also called the French-Indian war
  - a. Global conflict expanded to include North Americans
  - b. British and their subjects fought the french forces
  - c. Although the Americans won the war with the British they did not feel victorious due to British oppression
9. Terror of peace - the question of how peace would reshape the world
  - a. Treaty of Paris - negotiated settlement to have an official end to the conflict
    - i. British gained territory
    - ii. French kept grand banks near Newfoundland to maintain their fishing colonies
    - iii. French rights to worship and language would be maintained
    - iv. Delineates indigenous zone between America and Spain
    - v. America was prevented from westward expansion due to these territories
10. Terror of taxation
  - a. They feared more war as that would increase taxes
  - b. They had increased taxes and had not power over the government that increased them "no taxation without representation"
11. Intolerable acts were seen as punitive
  - a. Terror of the unknown - the Quebec act of 1774
    - i. Expands territory into indigenous lands
    - ii. Expands the oath of allegiance to include Roman Catholics
    - iii. Guarantees the practice of Roman Catholics
    - iv. Guarantees the use of civil law
    - v. Roman catholic rights to impose tithes
    - vi. French language recognized
    - vii. They learned from the Acadian deportation as that did not work and was draconian

- b. James Otis wrote about the rights for the British colonies
    - i. Told them to remain their rights from the British
    - ii. Said no taxation without representation
  - c. Thomas Paine - English but resonated with Americans
    - i. Government is a necessary evil but the monarch is the root of the problem
    - ii. Constitution does not represent the colonies
  - d. 1775 - proclamation of rebellion
12. Stamp act - a tax on stamps that had to be put on paper
13. Townshend Acts - taxed imports into the American colonies

#### Video

1. Many people thought that the french were oppressed and that they could be reasoned with and wanted to be liberated
2. Arnold and montgomery had a pincer plan to take montreal and quebec
3. They hoped that they french would align with them
4. Montgomery had 300 soldiers
5. Arnold had 600, combined with Livingston and the Canadian regiment with 200 soldiers
6. They took monreal on 13th November 1775
7. Tried to take Quebec on dec 31 1775 - but they lost
8. Quebec city was a walled city with an upper town and a lower town along the harbour
9. British had the walls and knowledge of the city to their advantage
10. 5 british die, 100 americans dies, 400 captured
11. They retreated across the river and bombarded the quebecers during the winter (terror of the winter bombardment 1776)
12. British forces did not crumble as they were prepared for seige
13. Aaron Burr was one of the founding fathers who participated in the military campaigns
14. Richard Cumberland - English dramatist and civil servant who negotiated with spain to create an alliance with spain and America

#### Declaration of independence 4th July 1776

1. Terror of the civil war as it forced people to pick sides
2. Loyalists/Tories/Subjects
  - a. New and old subjects
  - b. German and european allies
  - c. Indegeous people
  - d. Enslaved people
  - e. Oneida and Tuscarora
15. Patriots/Revolutionaries/Citizens
  - a. New and old subjects
  - b. German and european allies
  - c. Indegeous people
  - d. Enslaved people
  - e. Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida
16. Created division over an ideology even though they were the same group of people
17. Communities, families split

18. 400 year indigenous treaty of peace was destroyed
19. Terror, intimidation, forced migration, destruction of property
20. There were many militias on both sides
21. Germans flocked to support the british
22. French provide blockades against the british, and gave assistance to the rebels
23. Enslaved units, some with and some against their owners

#### Timeline

1. 1775 April - Battles of Lexington and Concord
  - a. Americans retreated but the message that the war had begun started
  - b. Militias coalesced near Boston
2. June - Battles of Bunker Hill
  - a. British were successful, but there was recognition that they were in a full scale war
3. August - British Proclamation of Rebellion
  - a. Recognition that there was a battle
4. November - Capture of Montreal by the Continental Army
5. December - Battle of Quebec
  - a. Americans lost
  - b. Ambitions of Canada diminished
6. July 1776 - Declaration of Independence
7. December - Washington crosses the delaware
8. September/October - Battle of Saratoga
9. 1778 - Europeans get involved in the war
10. June 1778 - Battle of Monmouth
  - a. Not many gains on either side
  - b. Both tried to claim success
11. August 1780 - Battle of Camden
  - a. British won
12. October 1781 - Siege/Battle of Yorktown
  - a. British realize that they are unable to continue
13. September 1783 - Treaty of paris signed - ratified 1784
  - a. Ended the American revolution
  - b. Recognised US Independence and gave them significant western territory
14. August- November 1773 - British evacuated New York

#### Loyalist Migration

1. People who left new york, many went to halifax
2. Forced division of slave families
3. 400,000-500,00 Loyalist Sympathiesers
4. 60,000-80,000 left american colonies
5. Those with money left on boats
6. Those without money migrated inland, migrating to upper canada

#### Terror of New Neighbours

7. Halifax people found the loyalists annoying as they created pressure on an precarious economy

8. The loyalists demanded recognition and a place in government but there are not enough positions
9. They were calling themselves loyalists, but they all were in Halifax
10. UE after their name was approved by lord dorchester
11. New Brunswick is created
12. Black loyalists were not welcome in shelburn in Nova Scotia, founded Birchtown and they later moved to Sierra Leone
13. Anglophone loyalists were not welcome, or didn't want to abide by french law, in the eastern Townships and they were redirected to upper Canada

#### In Quebec

1. The revolution had fizzled
2. French canadians had new rights, and were fairly happy
3. Many were not touched by the revolution in any meaningful way
4. They were not as organized as american cities
5. News moved slowly so it was hard to motivate people
6. 26th Febuary 1776 - Continental Congress deploys Fluery Mesplet to canada to set up a press to print anti-british things for the Canadians

#### Changing of the Guard

1. Sir guy Carleton, Lord Dorechester, Haldiman all come into quebec
2. Fleury Mesplet - establishes a newspaper that is published in french, beings the Montreal Gazette (Gazette Littéraire de Montréal)
3. Publishes pro-american stories
4. Jautard - publishes column that could be better, could be worse, sterican take on government
5. Haldiman shuts down press and impressions Mesplet for sedition after 8 months

#### Quebec Library

1. Established by Haldiman
2. Tires to promote a coalition between new and old subjects of the crown
3. This was established during the middle of the civil war
4. Not a new concept in america, but is cutting edge for the british
5. Books were purchased by Richard Cumberland
6. The collection was 50/50 french and english - leads to closure in 1783 after americans pirated their books

#### Collective memory

1. Revolution or rebellion that brought the ideas of the enlightenment to forge a new nation
2. People felt that they were citizens of a new country
3. Felt that they were part of something larger when they were part of the british empire
4. Americans see it as a sense of liberation
5. It was involved in the creation of canada
6. Collective memory - shared experiences, touchstones, beyond the individual - comes out of the La Memoire Collective by Maurice Halbwachs
7. Past and current historical consciousness is shaped and limited by collective memory

#### Example 1 - Legacy of Montgomery

1. Americans never tried to claim quebec again

2. Thomas Paine wrote about the dialogue of his ghost
3. In this, Montgomery is framed as a martyr
4. Pamphlet becomes point of no return for the revolution

#### Example 2 - Canadian Version

1. Point of pride that they had defeated them
2. Saw it as a victory

#### Conclusion

1. Terror is a powerful thing
  - a. Born of collective misunderstandings
  - b. Fueled by discontent
  - c. Creates its own collective narrative
  - d. Can lead to a national collective memory
2. American revolution as about freedom, unity democracy
  - a. In reality it divided communities, coerced public behavior, forced migration

#### The American Revolution - Jack P. Greene

1. The British ruling of the colonies was not centralized and they had local or settler rulers do most of the ruling
2. Also farmed out the ruling to trading companies
3. In the old world, not many people were landowners and could vote, in the new world many people owned land
4. These men wanted to be consulted by their government
5. Settler classes were largely okay with being governed by the British as it offered them some protection during wars and it gave them a national identity
6. America did not have the same hierarchical system that existed in Britain, had fewer poor people and less intrusive governments
7. There was more mobility in America
8. The American government was republican in that they thought that government should be small
9. Americans were not used to taxes as they had little bureaucracy so when this was imposed by the British it was opposed
10. Believed that society was anterior to government
11. Removed indigenous culture and replaced it with British
12. However, agricultural and slave using America looked very different from metropolitan Britain
13. British tried to create a more unitary colony which challenged the autonomy of the colonies
14. Effective power after the revolution remained in the states until the late 1780s

#### Montgomery's Misfortune - Amy Noel Ellison

1. Spring of 1775, the Continental Congress voted against a preemptive strike but kept an eye on Canada
2. Quebec was a fortress and was one of the most important strongholds for Britain
3. The colonial defeat empowered those who favoured independence
4. Common Sense pamphlet appeared at this time

### **Canadian Campaign**

1. Protestant settlers viewed French with hostility and would help the British to fight them
2. When Britain protected their identity they feared that they would become formidable
3. Americans believed that a victory in Canada could force Britain to reconcile their colonial terms and have reunification under better terms
4. Successes on the way inspired confidence

### **Defeat at Quebec - December 31, 1775**

1. Carlton's troops had dwindled
2. British refused to be drawn out of the fort
3. Montgomery did not have the supplies to outlast them
4. Canadians who had once been neutral were looking upon them less favourably as they coerced them and paid for goods in worthless paper
5. The British opened fire on the Americans when they tried to approach
6. There were too many British and they had a more strategic position
7. 3rd of them were taken as prisoners of war
8. Army was broke

### **Disagreeable News - January 1776 Home Front**

1. Believed that they were winning and this gave them pride
2. When they had lost they were stunned, grief-stricken and frightened
3. While they still hoped for a Canadian victory they no longer expected it

### **Necessity of Separation**

1. After they lost the public support for independence was peaking
2. Thomas Paine's common sense pamphlet argued that monarchy was a corrupt form of government
3. Adams disagreed with this as he did not like the independence plan set out in the pamphlet
4. The king's speech meant that colonists abandoned their hopes for reconciliation
5. They had to declare independence to get help from France
6. Used the memory of Montgomery as a Martyr to foster support for independence

### **Patrick Lacroix, "Promises to Keep"**

1. US lacked a strong fiscal system or the means of a modern bureaucratic state to provide for those who had sacrificed for the cause of independence
2. Canadians were such individuals who fought for the american

### **Older Sons of Liberty**

1. Political repression followed the US retreat out of Canada
2. British looked for those who had been disloyal
3. Many had fought for the US as they had financial interest in it, were coerced, believed it gave them the opportunity to settle local scores, they had a desire to be on the winning side
4. About 15 percent participated, but there was no large scale Canadian revolt and most remained deliberately neutral
5. Families of the Canadians who fought were wards of the US government for 10 years as they waited for payment

### **From Revolution to Redress**

1. Government could not pay them so they sent them to northern New York State
2. This meant that the area was protected
3. Received government rations but authorities were concerned about the cost of these
4. Many refused to venture to the frontier or left soon once there

### **Setting and Securing the Northern Frontier**

1. The areas was not yet surveyed and people had to sell their land to get their land survey
2. It was hard to cultivate
3. Congress reauthorized rations
4. There was still a british military presence near them south of the 45 parallel
5. Settlers continued to leave to go back to canada but their canadian land was often gone
6. Other americans joined this french settlement

### **Michel Eamon, "An Extensive Collection of Useful and Entertaining Books"**

1. Print was a powerful force of change
  - a. Educated
  - b. Improved the ming
  - c. Promoted social unity
2. Quebec library was created at the height of a civil war
3. Existed during the enlightenment which was the resurgence of reason
4. French canada never experienced the proper enlightenment
5. Enlightenment sustained the british empire as they believed that imperialism was a force of cosmopolitan progress and could benefit everyone

### **18th Century Quebec and Arrival of the British**

1. Quebec City as the center of administration and was a trading center
2. British believed that the french had a low literacy rate due to poor education promoted by the Catholic Clergy
3. ENGLISH printing influence was thought to be the mark of a civilized society

### **Funding the Library**

1. Believed that due to the ignorance of the Canadians that they were susceptible to American falsehoods
2. Haldimand established but he was a divisive force as he was thought to be rigid and obstinate
3. People had personal liberties and valued books
4. Used the press to promote the institution
5. Subsidised with public funds but also had a subscription fee
6. Had english and french books

### **Building the Library Collection**

1. American revolution delayed bookshipments
2. After the conflict ended there was renewed interest
3. They reduced subscription fees
4. They were a politically and socially eclectic group
5. The religion section did not grow as fast as the other collections, and it was always quite small
6. There were very controversial books