

Roots of American Democracy

Why It Matters

The American colonies were settled by individuals from many nations. Nonetheless, the majority of American settlers came from England. Many of the rights that American citizens enjoy can be traced to the political and legal traditions of England. When English people began settling in the Americas, they brought with them a tradition of limited and representative government.

BIG Ideas

Section 1: Our English Heritage

Political and economic institutions evolve to help individuals and groups accomplish their goals.

The English colonists brought with them ideas about government that had been developing in England for centuries.

Section 2: The English Colonies

Political, social, religious, and economic changes influence the way Americans think and act.

The English established thirteen colonies along the East Coast of North America.

Section 3: Colonial Society

Political, social, religious, and economic changes influence the way Americans think and act.

The English colonists created a prosperous economy and learned to govern themselves.

Section 4: Birth of a Democratic Nation

Political principles and major events shape how people form governments.

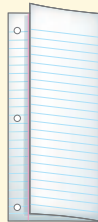
The Declaration of Independence explained why the colonies were founding a new nation.

◀ The Lincoln Memorial is an important symbol of American democracy.

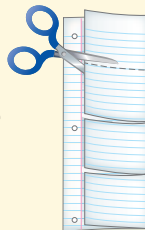
FOLDABLES™ Study Organizer

Sequencing Information Study Foldable Make the following Foldable to help you sequence information about the roots of American democracy.

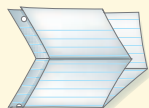
Step 1 Fold the paper in half from side to side.



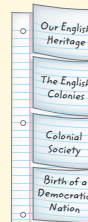
Step 3 Cut the top layer of the paper only along the fold lines.



Step 2 Turn the paper and fold it in half and in half again.



Step 4 Label each tab as shown.



Reading and Writing

As you read the chapter write details of the sequence of events that unfolded as democracy developed in America under the tabs.

Section
1

Our English Heritage

Guide to Reading

Big Idea

Political and economic institutions evolve to help individuals and groups accomplish their goals.

Content Vocabulary

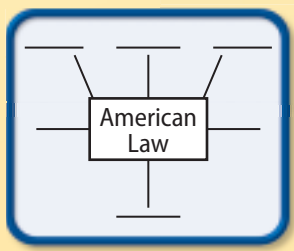
- Enlightenment (p. 33)
- monarch (p. 33)
- legislature (p. 33)
- precedent (p. 34)
- common law (p. 34)
- natural rights (p. 34)
- social contract (p. 35)
- colony (p. 36)
- joint-stock company (p. 36)
- charter (p. 36)
- compact (p. 36)

Academic Vocabulary

- document (p. 33)
- authority (p. 33)
- grant (p. 33)

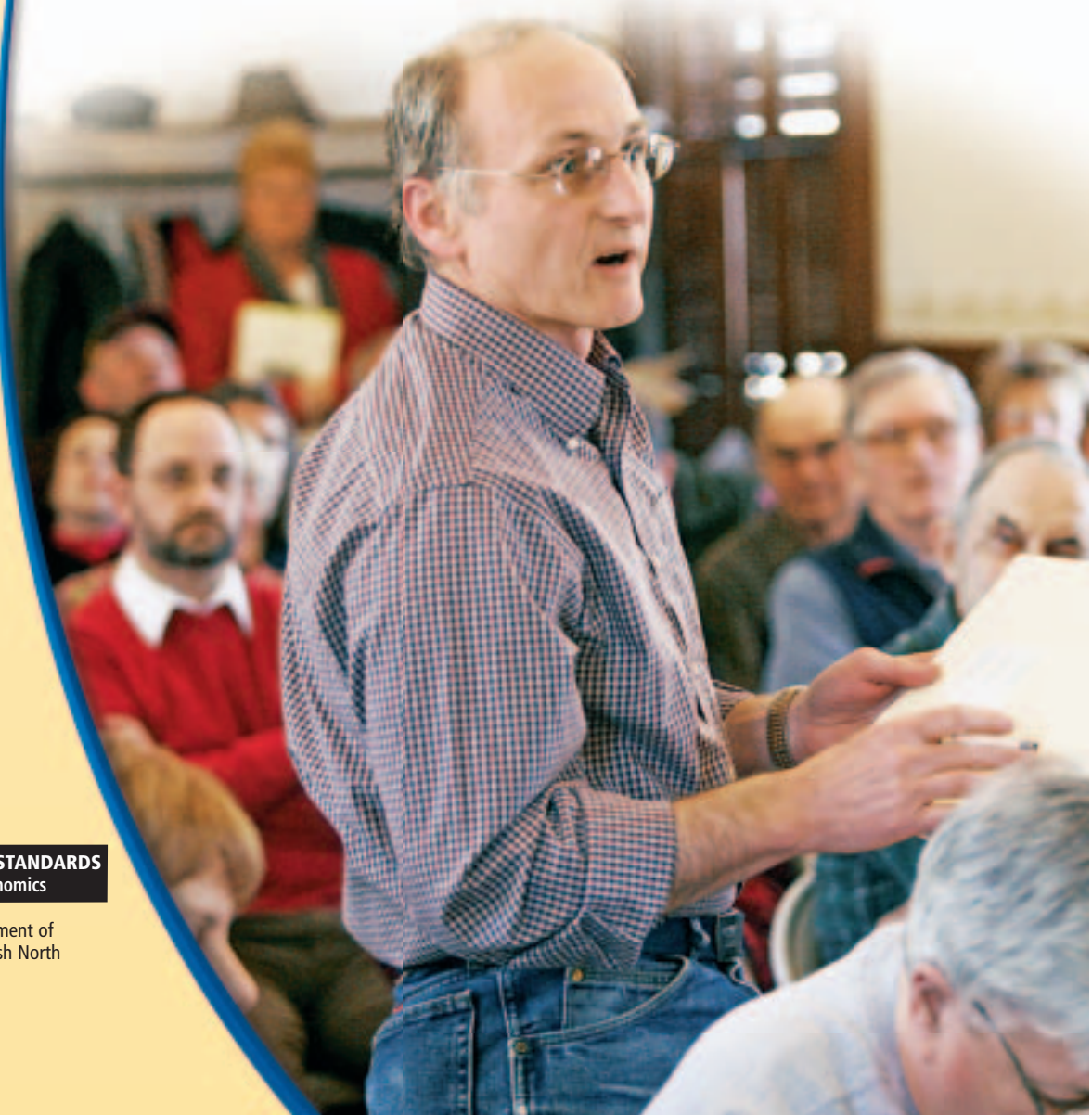
Reading Strategy

Organizing As you read, complete a web diagram like the one below by listing six sources of American law.



Real World Civics For many of us, town meetings seem like something from another century—and for the most part they are. The first settlers in this country, most of whom were English, brought with them their traditional forms of government, which relied on local involvement. Town meetings are a form of direct democracy, giving citizens a clear voice in decision making. The purpose of the town meeting has not changed in over 200 years.

▼ **Town meeting in Bridgeport, Vermont**



What Influenced Colonial Government?

Main Idea Science and the influence of reason led to new innovations in political thought.

Civics & You What helps people get along with each other? Do they need rules, a strong leader, or to share the same goals? Read to learn how thinkers in Europe answered these questions.

Many of the rights that American citizens enjoy today can be traced to the political and legal traditions of England and to the ideas of a cultural movement called the **Enlightenment**. When English people began settling here in the 1600s, they brought with them a history of limited and representative government. They also brought with them new ideas about law, society, and the rights people possessed.

For centuries, England had been ruled by a **monarch**—a king or queen. However, noble families also had considerable power. The monarch gave them ownership and control of vast lands in exchange for their loyalty, tax payments, and promises of military support.

The Magna Carta

In 1215, nobles rebelled against King John, who had treated them harshly. They forced the king to sign an agreement called the Magna Carta (Latin for “Great Charter”). This **document**, or deed, protected the nobles’ privileges and **authority**, or control. It also **granted**, or allowed, certain rights to all landholders—rights that eventually came to apply to all English people. These rights included equal treatment under the law and trial by one’s peers. The Magna Carta limited the power of the monarch by guaranteeing that no one would be above the law, not even the king or queen. 📖 (See the Appendix to read this document.)

Parliament

Kings who followed John met regularly with nobles and church officials to get their advice. Gradually, this group grew in size and power, expanding to include representatives of the common people. By the late 1300s, it had developed into a **legislature**—a lawmaking body—known as Parliament.

For the next few centuries, English monarchs cooperated with Parliament. In the mid-1600s, however, serious power struggles began. In 1688, Parliament removed King James II from the throne and invited his daughter Mary and her husband William to rule instead. In doing so, Parliament demonstrated that it was now stronger than the monarch.

This peaceful transfer of power, known as the Glorious Revolution, changed government in England. From that time on, no ruler would have more power than Parliament.

Authority From the end of the seventeenth century on, English monarchs, such as George III, shared the powers of government with Parliament. **Describing** How did the authority of English monarchs change?



Sources of American Law



Greek Law

Each city-state had its own government and laws. Citizens were expected to take part in government.

Roman Law

Roman law was standardized. Legal procedures were the same in all parts of the Roman Empire.

Common Law

Made by judges in the process of resolving cases, this law is sometimes called case law. It was brought to America from English courts.

Equity Law

This law is a system of rules that resolves disputes on the basis of fairness. It was developed in the king's courts in England and merged with common law in America.

Constitutional Law

America's fundamental and most important source of law was written in 1787 and has been changed by 27 amendments.

Statutory Law

This law is made by legislatures at the national, state, and local levels. It is based on the Roman practice of writing down the laws of their senate.

Analyzing Charts

1. **Explaining** Why is statutory law sometimes called Roman law?
2. **Identifying** What is our nation's most important source of law?

English Bill of Rights To clarify this relationship, Parliament drew up the English Bill of Rights in 1689. This document further restricted the monarch's power. It also guaranteed free elections to Parliament, the right to a fair trial, and the elimination of cruel and unusual punishments.

Common Law

In its earliest days, England had no written laws. People developed rules to live by, however, and these customs came to have the force of law. In addition, as a court system developed, the courts' decisions became the basis of a body of law. When judges were asked to decide a case, they would look for a **precedent**, or a ruling in an earlier case that was similar. The judge would then make a consistent ruling.

This system of law is known as **common law**. It rests on court decisions rather than regulations written by lawmakers. Although England's system of common law came about without being planned, it worked well and has remained in place to this day. Our own laws about property, contracts, and personal injury are based on English common law.

Philosophical Influences

John Locke (1632–1704) was an English writer who supported the Glorious Revolution. Locke argued that people were born free, equal, and independent. They also possessed rights, called **natural rights**, to life, liberty, and property that no government could take away. In *The Second Treatise of Government*, Locke wrote:

“All mankind . . . being all equal and independent, no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions.”

—John Locke, *The Second Treatise of Government*

What Is a Social Contract? Locke also believed that if a government tried to take away people’s natural rights, it was breaking the social contract. A **social contract** is an agreement among the people in a society. They agree to give up part of their freedom to a government in exchange for protection of natural rights. The people agree to obey the government as long as it protects their rights.

French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712–1778) wrote in *The Social Contract*, published in 1762, that “man is born free, yet everywhere he is found in chains.” Rousseau was referring to the large number of people in Europe living under oppressive governments. He argued that the people alone had the right to determine how they should be governed.

Separation of Powers A French writer, Baron de Montesquieu (1689–1755), developed the idea about dividing the branches of government into different parts to balance

each other so that no one part can become too strong or threaten individual rights. His ideas on the separation of powers, along with Locke’s ideas on the social contract and natural rights, became cornerstones of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

Ideas of Enlightenment Locke and Montesquieu are considered Enlightenment thinkers. Building on the scientific discoveries of the 1600s, these thinkers believed that God had created an orderly universe. The laws of this universe could be discovered through the use of human reason. Enlightenment thinkers argued that the laws that governed nature also applied to human life and society. As you will read, the ideas of the Enlightenment had a profound effect on Americans.

Reading Check Evaluating Why was the English Bill of Rights important to English citizens?

Social Contract The Mayflower Compact, signed by the Pilgrims in 1620, stands as the first example of many colonial plans for self-government. **Explaining Why is the Mayflower Compact considered a social contract?**



Colonial Traditions of Self-Government

Main Idea The American colonists accepted the idea of representative government.

Civics & You What do you do when you face a difficult problem? Do you try to solve it yourself? Do you ask other people for help? Read to learn about the development of representative government in the colonies.

In the 1600s and 1700s, England established colonies in America. A **colony** is a group of people in one place who are ruled by a parent country elsewhere.

The Capitol at Williamsburg Williamsburg was the capital of Virginia from 1699 to 1780. Those who met here included Patrick Henry, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and George Mason. **Explaining** How were the members of the House of Burgesses chosen?



The early colonists remained loyal subjects of England, with a strong sense of English political traditions. They accepted common law and believed that the ruler was not above the law. They also expected to have a voice in government and other basic rights.


Gibson Stock Photography

Representative Government

The first permanent English settlement in North America was Jamestown, in what is now Virginia. It was founded in 1607 by the Virginia Company, a group of London merchants. Jamestown was organized as a **joint-stock company**, which provided investors partial ownership and a share in future profits. The merchants also received a charter from King James I. A **charter** is a written document granting land and the authority to set up colonial governments.

At first Jamestown was managed by a governor and council appointed by the Virginia Company. In 1619, however, the colonists formed the House of Burgesses, the first representative assembly, or legislature, in the English colonies. The House of Burgesses had little power, but it marked the beginning of self-government in colonial America.

The Mayflower Compact In 1620, shortly after the House of Burgesses was formed, another group of colonists from England, known as the Pilgrims, arrived in America. They built a settlement called Plymouth hundreds of miles north of Virginia. Today Plymouth is in Massachusetts, a part of New England.

Even before their ship, the *Mayflower*, reached America, the Plymouth colonists realized they needed rules to govern themselves if they were to survive in a new land. They drew up a written plan for government. Forty-one of the men aboard signed the Mayflower Compact.  (See the Appendix to read this document.) A **compact** is an agreement, or contract, among a group of people.

Town Meetings The Mayflower Compact established a tradition of direct democracy. Throughout the colonial period—and in New England today—citizens held town meetings to address local problems and issues. These town meetings developed into the local town government. Although anyone in the town could attend and express an opinion, voting was limited to men who had been granted land by the town.

Fundamental Orders of Connecticut By 1639 a number of Pilgrims were being persecuted for their religious beliefs. They left Massachusetts and colonized the area that is now Connecticut. There, they developed America’s first written constitution—the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut. This document called for an assembly of elected representatives from each town to make laws. It also called for the popular election of a governor and judges.

Early Legislatures The success of the Jamestown and Plymouth colonies led to other settlements in America. By 1733, thirteen English colonies stretched from Massachusetts (which included what is now Maine) in the north to Georgia in the south. Each new colony set up its own government.

Each colony had a governor, who was elected by the colonists or appointed by the English king. Each colony also had a legislature, with representatives elected by the free adult males.

As years passed, the colonial governments took on more responsibility while the king and Parliament dealt with matters in Great Britain (the country was renamed the United Kingdom of Great Britain in 1707 when England unified with Scotland). The colonists in America soon grew used to making their own decisions.

Reading Check Concluding How did Great Britain’s tending to matters in that country affect the colonists?

Section Review 1

Vocabulary

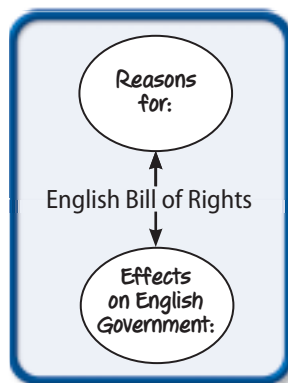
- Write** complete sentences using each of these key terms: *Enlightenment, monarch, legislature, precedent, common law, natural rights, social contract, colony, joint-stock company, charter, compact.*

Main Ideas

- Explaining** Describe two influences that changed colonial thought.
- Hypothesizing** Why were colonists so eager to put self-government into practice?

Critical Thinking

- BIG Ideas** Explain the reasons for and the effects of the English Bill of Rights by completing a graphic organizer like the one that follows.



- Drawing Conclusions** Explain the significance of the Glorious Revolution.
- Comparing** Read the Mayflower Compact in the Appendix. What ideas do you see in the compact that also exist in the government of the United States?

CITIZENSHIP Activity

- Persuasive Writing** Imagine you are an English noble in favor of the Magna Carta. Write a letter to the king explaining why he should sign the document.



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Section
2

The English Colonies

Guide to Reading

Big Idea

Political, social, religious, and economic changes influence the way Americans think and act.

Content Vocabulary

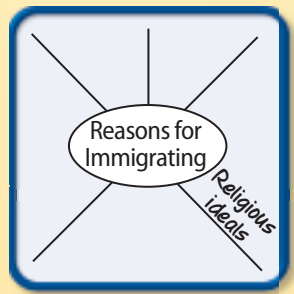
- proprietary colony (p. 39)
- royal colony (p. 39)
- religious dissenters (p. 41)
- Puritans (p. 41)
- Pilgrims (p. 41)
- toleration (p. 41)
- indentured servant (p. 42)
- plantation (p. 43)
- triangular trade (p. 43)

Academic Vocabulary

- acquire (p. 39)
- decade (p. 39)

Reading Strategy

Identifying On a web diagram like the one below, identify reasons that people immigrated to the English colonies.



Real World Civics During the American Revolution, the drum and fife called the soldiers to action! Julie Phelps keeps the tradition alive. She practices the fife, whose shrill notes strengthened soldiers' orders to march, turn, change formation, or halt. The fife, and its companion the drum, have marched to war with soldiers since the twelfth century. During the Revolutionary War, the fife and drum were well known to colonist-soldiers. The rat-a-tat tat-a-pan of the drums provided a beat for marching and for signaling battle. So, even though colonists worked to escape from English rule, they brought an English military custom into battle.

▼ Julie Phelps, playing the fife, keeps tradition alive



NORTH CAROLINA STANDARDS
Civics and Economics

- 1.01** Describe how geographic diversity influenced economic, social, and political life in colonial North America.
- 1.04** Elaborate on the emergence of an American identity.

Settling the Colonies

Main Idea The English established thirteen colonies along the East Coast of North America.

Civics & You How far would you travel to live in a new place? What would it be like if you did not know what to expect? Read to learn about the early settlements in North America.

Although several European nations had claims in North America, it was the English who eventually dominated the continent. By 1733, there were thirteen colonies along the eastern seaboard under English control. These colonies had been founded in a variety of ways and for a variety of reasons. Despite these differences, the colonies had one thing in common—their English heritage.

New England Colonies

Nine years after the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth, another group of investors received a royal charter to start a colony north of Plymouth. In 1630, about 900 men, women, and children landed at Massachusetts Bay and built a town they called Boston. During the 1630s, more than 15,000 people journeyed to the new colony of Massachusetts. By the mid-1600s, the New England colonies of Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New Hampshire had been founded.

The Middle Colonies

A second group of colonies grew up south of New England. Known as the Middle Colonies, they included New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware.

The first of these, New York, was originally the Dutch colony of New Netherland. An English fleet seized the important harbor town of New Amsterdam on Manhattan Island in 1664. The English King Charles II gave the colony to his brother, the Duke of York.

The newly **acquired**, or obtained, colony of New York became a **proprietary colony**, in which the owner, or proprietor, owned the land and controlled the government. The Duke of York gave the southern part of his colony to two men, who named it New Jersey. For several **decades**, or ten-year spans, New Jersey was a proprietary colony. In 1702, it became a **royal colony**, one owned and ruled directly by the king.

Another proprietary colony was started in 1680. William Penn received a large parcel of land west of the Delaware River from King Charles. Penn saw his colony, Pennsylvania, as a place to put his Quaker ideals of peace, equality, and justice to work. By offering freedom of religion, Penn drew many settlers to his new city of Philadelphia. In 1704, the southernmost three counties of the colony separated and became known as Delaware.

Southern Colonies

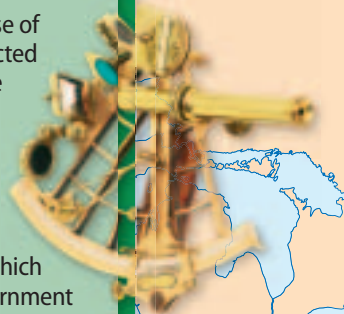
A third set of colonies formed in the South after Jamestown, Virginia, was founded as a joint-stock colony in 1607 (it became a royal colony in 1624). North of Virginia, Maryland was founded in 1734. To Virginia's south, another group of proprietors started Carolina. The two parts of Carolina developed differently, and they officially became two royal colonies, North and South Carolina, in 1729.

Boston By the 1660s, Boston was one of the largest cities in the English colonies. **Specifying In what year did the first English settlers come to Boston?**



Key Events

- ★ **Jamestown** In August 1619, the Virginia House of Burgesses, the first elected lawmaking body in the English colonies, meet for the first time.
- ★ **Plymouth** On November 11, 1620, Pilgrims sign the Mayflower Compact, which outlines a form of government based on a social compact.
- ★ **Hartford** In January 1639, settlers in Connecticut draw up the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, America's first written constitution.
- ★ **Halifax** On April 12, 1776, North Carolina Provincial Congress issues the Halifax Resolves. North Carolina is the first colony to call for independence.
- ★ **Philadelphia** At Independence Hall, the Declaration of Independence was adopted, and the Constitution of the United States was debated, drafted, and signed.



Analyzing Maps

1. **Identifying** What states made up the Middle Colonies?
2. **Describing** What colony had the first written constitution, and what was it called?

Georgia The last English colony founded in America was Georgia. A group led by James Oglethorpe received a charter to create a colony where English debtors and poor people could make a fresh start. In Great Britain, debtors were often thrown into prison. The British government had another reason for

creating Georgia. This colony could protect the other British colonies from Spanish attack. Great Britain had been at war in the early 1700s, and new conflicts over territory in North America were always breaking out. Located between Spanish Florida and South Carolina, Georgia could serve as a military barrier.

Reading Check Comparing How did proprietary and royal colonies differ?

People of the Colonies

Main Idea Throughout the colonies, people adapted their traditions to the new conditions of life in America.

Civics & You Would you be willing to move across the ocean to unexplored, possibly dangerous territory to gain certain freedoms or perhaps just to get a new start on life? Read to find out why English settlers came to North America.

English colonists settled in America for different reasons. Some immigrated to escape religious persecution in England. Others came in search of economic gain. Still others, such as criminals, prisoners, and enslaved

Africans, did not come willingly. Colonists' reasons for immigration helped shape the types of colonies they created.

Why Did Colonists Immigrate?

Many colonists in New England and the Middle Colonies were **religious dissenters**, those who followed a faith other than the official religion of England, the Anglican religion. For example, the founders of Massachusetts were called **Puritans**, because they wanted to reform, or purify, the Anglican Church.

Religious Havens These Puritans also considered themselves **Pilgrims**, or people on a religious journey. The rulers of Massachusetts did not believe in **toleration**, or acceptance, of other religions.

New York City Colonists settled where economic opportunities were available. New York became a leading center for commerce and trade. **Explaining** What natural feature made New York an economic center?



Dominant Immigrant Groups in the Colonies



Analyzing Maps

1. **Locating** What immigrant group was predominant along the Atlantic Coast?
2. **Describing** In what regions did German immigrants settle?

In the late 1600s, devout Puritans in Salem and other Massachusetts towns held trials of people accused of witchcraft. In the town of Salem alone, 19 residents were convicted and hanged, and five died in prison before the trials were discontinued in 1693.

Other groups sought religious freedom. The Quakers founded Pennsylvania as a safe place to practice their religion. A proprietor named George Calvert founded Maryland in 1634 as a safe home for Catholics. In 1636, a minister named Thomas Hooker led his church congregation to Connecticut, south of Massachusetts, in search of religious freedom. Another minister, Roger Williams, was forced to leave Massachusetts for his religious views and his belief that it was wrong to take land from Native Americans. In 1644, Williams received a charter to found the colony of Rhode Island. Rhode Island became the first place in America to welcome people of all faiths.

Economic Opportunity Especially in the South, many settlers came to the colonies for economic reasons. Early Virginians struggled until they began successfully to raise and sell their tobacco crop. Carolina was strongly influenced by immigrants from the English colony of Barbados in the West Indies. There, many settlers became involved in growing rice and indigo, a valuable blue dye.

The system of **indentured servants** made it possible for poor people to come to the colonies. Colonists in America agreed to pay the cost of transporting the servants to the colonies and promised to provide food, clothing, and shelter to them until their indentures, or labor contracts, expired.

Conflict Over Land Throughout the colonies, the spread of settlements led to conflicts with Native Americans over land. In some colonies, such as Pennsylvania, relations were fairly peaceful. In Virginia, they were not. In the 1640s, Virginia Governor William Berkeley agreed to keep settlers from taking Native American land. A planter named Nathaniel Bacon disagreed strongly with this policy and led attacks on the colonial government. Bacon's Rebellion showed that many settlers were not willing to be restricted by government policy.

The Beginnings of Slavery

In the Southern Colonies, a form of large-scale agriculture developed, based on the **plantation**, or large estate. This system for growing tobacco, rice, and indigo demanded more workers than immigration and the system of indentured servants could provide. Southern farmers began using enslaved Africans. Enslaved workers, unlike indentured servants, did not have to be freed and therefore would never need their own land.

At first it was not clear that enslaved Africans were to be treated differently from white indentured servants. Gradually, legal distinctions were adopted. Indentured servants retained the rights of English people and the protection of the law. Africans were protected by no law or tradition.

The trade in enslaved Africans was at the heart of what came to be called the **triangular trade**—the pattern of trade that developed among the Americas, Africa, and Europe. The colonists shipped rum to Africa, where traders exchanged it for enslaved people and

gold. The enslaved were shipped to the West Indies and traded for sugar and molasses, which was used to make rum in America. The Africans' horrendous journey across the Atlantic was known as the Middle Passage. A young African, Olaudah Equiano, described the voyage:

“I was soon put down under the decks The closeness of the place, and the heat of the climate, added to the number in the ship, which was so crowded that each had scarcely room to turn himself, almost suffocated us The shrieks of the women, and the groans of the dying, rendered [made] the whole a scene of horror.”

—Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*

Reading Check Evaluating How did the system of indentured servants help both business owners and workers?

Section Review 2

Vocabulary

- Write** a paragraph in which you use the following terms: *proprietary colony*, *royal colony*, *religious dissenters*, *Puritans*, *Pilgrims*, and *toleration*. Then write a second paragraph using these terms: *indentured servant*, *plantation*, and *triangular trade*.

Main Ideas

- Identify** the Southern Colonies and their location.
- Describe** three main reasons why colonists came to America. Which do you think was most important? Why?

Critical Thinking

- BIG Ideas** Use a graphic organizer similar to the one below to identify who founded the colony, and discuss the reasons the colony was founded.

Colony	Why was it founded?
New York	
Pennsylvania	
Georgia	

- Analyzing** Why did slavery become more prevalent in the Southern Colonies than in New England?

- Explaining** What was the main reason immigrants settled in the Southern Colonies?

CITIZENSHIP Activity

- Descriptive Writing** Pretend you have decided to move from England to America in the 1700s. Write a letter to your family and friends explaining why you have chosen to settle in a particular colony.



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Section
3

Guide to Reading

Big Idea

Political, social, religious, and economic changes influence the way Americans think and act.

Content Vocabulary

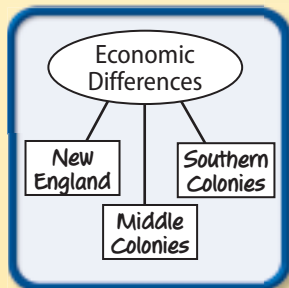
- Tidewater (p. 46)
- egalitarianism (p. 48)

Academic Vocabulary

- adapt (p. 45)
- assist (p. 48)

Reading Strategy

Organizing Use a graphic organizer like the one below to describe the differences in the economies of the New England, Middle, and Southern Colonies.



Colonial Society

Real World Civics Six U.S. presidents graduated from Harvard University, a remarkable record for a school founded before the Revolutionary War and designed to train ministers. Most early schools in America were established on the ideals of freedom of religion and freedom of education. In 1940, John F. Kennedy, one of those Harvard graduates, prepared to leave college to visit Britain, where his father was the U.S. Ambassador. Kennedy later returned to the United States during the early rumblings of World War II and went on to be, in just over two decades, the 35th president of the United States.

▼ **A youthful John F. Kennedy**



 **NORTH CAROLINA STANDARDS**
Civics and Economics

- 1.01** Describe how geographic diversity influenced economic, social, and political life in colonial North America.
- 1.02** Trace and analyze the development of ideas about self-government in British North America.
- 1.04** Elaborate on the emergence of an American identity.

The Economy

Main Idea The people in the colonies developed different ways of living.

Civics & You Is your community or region known for any special product, either agricultural or manufactured? Read to find out how the economies of the New England, Middle, and Southern Colonies differed.

From the beginning, geography played a key role in how colonies developed. Colonists in the different regions had to **adapt**, or adjust, to the climate, soil, terrain, availability of rivers and harbors, natural resources, and other factors.

New England

Most people in New England, including farmers, lived in towns. Farms were small and located on the towns' outskirts. Long winters and rocky, infertile soil made large-scale farming difficult. Other New Englanders worked in small businesses, milling grain, sewing clothes, or making furniture. Some worked as blacksmiths, shoemakers, or shopkeepers.

Shipbuilding was an important industry. The region's forests provided wood for boats, and fishing and whaling also employed many New Englanders. The Puritan religion of early New England emphasized hard work, modest living, and personal virtues such as honesty, thriftiness, and obedience. These personal characteristics became known as the Puritan ethic.

The Middle Colonies

In contrast to New England, the soil and climate in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware were more suited to agriculture. Farmers in the Middle Colonies grew large amounts of wheat and other cash crops, which they sold in markets and overseas. This foreign trade spurred the

growth of busy ports, such as New York and Philadelphia. Industries such as sawmills, mines, and ironworks were developed to take advantage of the region's abundant natural resources. Industry and agriculture also improved through the ideas and energy of immigrants from Germany, Holland, Sweden, and other European countries.

American Economy, c. 1750



Analyzing Maps

- Describing** On what crops did the economy of the Southern Colonies depend?
- Locating** What colonies produced rice and indigo?

The Southern Colonies

A warm climate, long growing season, and rich soil spurred the growth of large-scale agriculture in the Southern Colonies. In Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, tobacco was the leading crop. Rice dominated in South Carolina and Georgia. Both crops were grown in the **Tidewater**, areas of flat, low plains, near the seacoast of Virginia and North Carolina. The region's rivers made it easy to transport the harvested tobacco and rice, along with other products such as indigo and grain, to the coast for shipment to overseas markets. Charleston, South Carolina, became a leader in trade, thanks to its excellent harbor.

Tidewater crops required very large amounts of labor. Owners of plantations, the

large estates of the Southern Colonies, came to depend on enslaved African workers. Smaller-scale agriculture also existed, mainly in inland areas. Independent small farmers grew tobacco, corn, and other crops and were less dependent on enslaved workers.

Small farmers outnumbered the large plantation owners. The plantation owners, however, had greater wealth and more influence. They controlled the economic and political life of the region. Because large-scale agriculture was dominant in the South, the region did not develop much industry or commerce. It traded its many agricultural products for the manufactured goods it needed.

North Wind / North Wind Picture Archives

Reading Check Explaining Why did the plantation system develop in the South but not in the New England or the Middle Colonies?

The Southern Economy Large-scale farming grew in South Carolina and in many parts of the South. **Explaining** Why did slavery become the labor system for large plantations?



An American Identity

Main Idea The colonies continued to grow and developed their own culture and beliefs.

Civics & You What are some things you consider truly American? Read to find out how the colonists began to form a culture that was different from other cultures.

In 1760, an English traveler in America, Andrew Burnaby, wrote that the colonies were as different from one another as “fire and water.” He felt their differences in character, manners, religion, and interests would prevent them from ever uniting. Burnaby noted:

“In short, such is the difference of character, manners, religion, and interest of the different colonies that if they were left to themselves, there would soon be a civil war from one end of the continent to another.”

—Andrew Burnaby, *Burnaby's Travels Through North America*

But in spite of the opinion of Burnaby and others, by the mid-1700s, colonists were already developing an American identity.

Religion

The desire for religious freedom was the reason many settlers first came to America, and religion remained a key element of the emerging American identity. In several colonies, such as Massachusetts, religious leaders were often also the leaders of the government. Puritans passed laws that supported their beliefs about religion and society, and they had the power to expel those who did not share these beliefs.

In other colonies, however, religion became separate from government, and toleration became the official policy. In colonies



Religion Revival Massachusetts minister Jonathan Edwards preached throughout the colonies urging renewed faith. **Explaining What was the Great Awakening?**

such as Pennsylvania and Rhode Island, toleration of other religions drew settlers of many different faiths. Religious tolerance gradually spread to other colonies during the 1700s.

The Great Awakening While some Americans turned away from religion in the 1700s, others renewed their faith. In the 1720s, a powerful religious revival known as the Great Awakening swept through the colonies. Fiery preachers stressed the importance of a personal religious experience and questioned the commitment and authority of some established religious leaders. Congregations were torn apart, and new religious groups, such as Baptists and Methodists, grew strong. In the South, enslaved workers found hope in Christianity, which strongly influenced the development of a new African American culture.

Education

Religious feeling also led to the founding of America’s first colleges and schools. Colleges such as Harvard in Massachusetts, Princeton in New Jersey, and William and Mary in Virginia were created for the

Amelia Pennewell



When it comes to helping her community, Amelia Pennewell, 16, of Livermore, California, believes in jumping in feet first.

QUESTION: You started an organization called Amelia's Socks. How did you get started?

ANSWER: When I was nine, I was on my way to my aunt's for Thanksgiving dinner. We drove past people who were lined up outside a building. Some people didn't have socks. My mom explained that they were homeless or hungry, and when the doors opened they would get a hot meal. I wanted to help. I thought I could use my money to buy them some socks to help keep them warm. I asked my teacher, Mr. Menendez, to help. I started Amelia's Socks, which is now a nonprofit organization. People help by donating clothing to the group.

Q: How has it worked out?

A: The first year I collected more than 3,000 pairs of new socks, about 1,000 hats, and 450 pairs of mittens. I have given more than 80,000 pairs of new socks over the past seven years. And I've sent socks to Iraq, Mexico, Afghanistan, and to victims of Hurricane Katrina.



Amelia and her volunteers

ACTION FACT:

Pennewell was a finalist in the Do Something 2005 Brick Awards. When she's not collecting socks and mittens, Pennewell runs track and plays soccer.

Making a Difference

CITIZENSHIP

What was the result of Amelia's efforts in the first year?

purpose of training ministers. Religious groups also set up schools for children to make sure that people could read the Bible for themselves. In some colonies, taxes were levied to pay for public education. Not all colonial Americans enjoyed the benefits of education, however. Slave codes—strict laws governing the treatment of enslaved people—made it illegal to teach enslaved workers to read or write.

Family Life

The family formed the foundation of colonial society. Men were the formal heads of their families, which were often large. Wives looked after children and worked on household chores. On farms, men and women often worked together, **assisted**, or helped, by older children.

In towns, women sometimes held jobs outside the home. They worked as maids, cooks, nurses, teachers, shopkeepers, or seamstresses. Families often arranged for their sons to work as apprentices, or learning assistants, to craft workers who taught them a trade. Married women had few rights, while widows and unmarried women could run businesses and own property. Women, however, could not vote, and men managed all community and church affairs.

Ideas About Government

In spite of the inequalities that existed in colonial America between whites and African Americans and between men and women, a new spirit was growing. The Enlightenment reinforced the idea of natural rights and individualism. The Great Awakening encouraged Christians to question traditional authority and to rely on their own insights about God. Together these two powerful influences helped create a spirit of **egalitarianism**, or equality. One element of this spirit of egalitarianism was the belief of many colonists that they possessed all the traditional rights of native English people.

Americans viewed the growth of the power of Parliament in the 1700s with approval. They considered the British legislature the protector of the people’s rights against royal power. At the same time, America’s colonies were governed by officials appointed by the British crown, a decision in which Americans had no say. British trade and tax policies protected British interests at the expense of American businesses.

Government in the Colonies The English government had permitted new patterns of land ownership, new types of worship, and new kinds of government in its colonies. Once established, these practices became fixed principles. The colonists became used to self-government and gradually came to think of it as their right.

By 1733, all thirteen English colonies had been established, each with its own constitution. The Massachusetts Body of Liberties, adopted in 1641, protected individual rights and became part of colonial law. In 1683 the Pennsylvania Frame of Government

was passed. This document, along with the 1701 Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges, established part of the basis for the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. By the time the colonies gained independence in 1776, each colony had its own representative government, one that had been operating for more than 100 years.

Growing Discontent Yet, by the mid-1700s, many Americans felt they did not possess the rights of English citizens. They read Enlightenment writings in which the rights of the individual were proclaimed. Yet many British policies toward the colonies did not follow these ideals. In particular, colonists accepted John Locke’s idea that government derives its power from the consent of the people. As the century wore on, Americans looked for answers to the problem of a distant and unresponsive British government. To a growing number, one answer seemed to make the most sense: independence.

Reading Check Concluding How did religious beliefs influence American ideas about government?

Section Review 3

Vocabulary

- Write** a paragraph about life in the Southern Colonies using these terms: *Tidewater*, *egalitarianism*.

Main Ideas

- Identifying** What were the main crops grown in the Southern Colonies?
- Describing** What was the purpose of the first colleges?

Critical Thinking

- Determining Cause and Effect** How did the geography of the New England and the Middle Colonies contribute to their economic development?
- BIG Ideas** Use a graphic organizer similar to the one below to show the effects of the Great Awakening on the American colonies.



- Analyzing Visuals** Study the map on page 45 that shows the economic activity of the colonies. On what crops did the economy of the Middle Colonies depend?

CITIZENSHIP Activity

- Expository Writing** Describe the founding of at least two colonies in a short essay.



Study Central™ To review this section, go to glencoe.com.

Birth of a Democratic Nation

Guide to Reading

Political principles and major events shape how people form governments.

Content Vocabulary

- mercantilism (p. 51)
- boycott (p. 52)
- repeal (p. 52)
- delegate (p. 54)
- independence (p. 54)

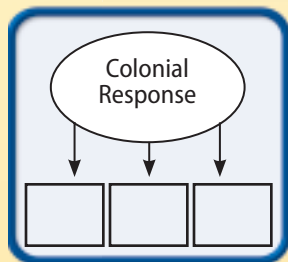
Academic Vocabulary

- challenge (p. 54)
- restore (p. 54)

Reading Strategy

Determining Cause and Effect

As you read, complete a chart like the one below by explaining how the colonists responded to British actions.



Real World Civics The air was hot and muggy, the sun beating down at midday, and the windows were tightly shut. As July, 1776 began, dozens of men sat around these tables in Independence Hall in Philadelphia debating Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence. They were British subjects living in a British colony, so each man agreeing to this document was committing treason against his country. Treason was punishable by death. Yet 56 men signed the Declaration, which outlines the reason why America should declare itself a new and independent nation. On the Fourth of July, these men announced to the world: "We mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor," in the hope that they one day would be free.

▼ Room where Declaration of Independence was signed





New York Harbor New York served as an economic center of activity for the Northern Colonies, receiving ships from all over the world. **Analyzing** How did the British policy of salutary neglect affect the colonies?

Colonial Resistance

Main Idea The American colonists began to fight against British control.

Civics & You Have you ever stopped buying a product, perhaps because the manufacturer changed the product or raised its price? Read to find out why American colonists refused to buy British products.

Separated from Great Britain by more than 3,000 miles (4,828 km) of vast ocean and left largely to their own devices, the American colonists gained valuable experience in self-government. They learned how to manage their own affairs. This policy of loose control by the British was known as salutary, or healthy, neglect. Under this policy, the British did not insist on strict enforcement of laws.

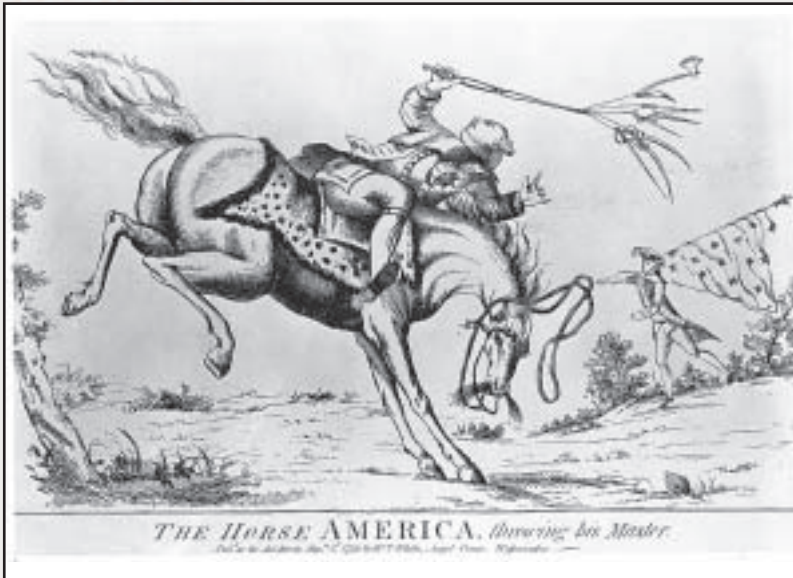
Mercantilism Around 1760, when George III took the throne, Britain's policy toward the American colonies began to change. The British adopted a program called mercantil-

ism. **Mercantilism** is the theory that a country's power depends on its wealth. A nation should sell more goods to other countries than it buys. A favorable balance of trade—more exports and fewer imports—brings money into the country. For mercantilism to be successful, Great Britain needed the colonies to be a source of cheap, raw materials. The Navigation Acts were a series of laws, passed in the early 1660s, that put the theory of mercantilism into practice.

Growing Tensions

Since the late 1600s, the British and the French had battled for supremacy in Europe and other parts of the world. After several wars in Europe, the fighting spilled over into North America. At a conference in Albany, New York, in 1754, the colonies debated a plan for a federal union. The plan, proposed by a committee led by Benjamin Franklin, was rejected. However, the Albany Plan showed that many colonists were already thinking about joining together for their common defense.

Political Cartoons



THE HORSE AMERICA, throwing his Master.

—Library of Congress

Every year, more than half of all Americans do volunteer work. One of the responsibilities of citizens is to help make their role in it. One of the responsibilities of citizens is to help make their role in it. One of the responsibilities of citizens is to help make their role in it.

This cartoon was created in Great Britain in 1779.

1. What does the horse represent?
2. Whom does the rider stand for?
3. What action is taking place in this image, and what does it symbolize?
4. What historical event do you think inspired this image?

From 1754 to 1763, Great Britain fought a long, costly war against France—the French and Indian War—winning French territory in North America. In order to prevent conflict with Native Americans over land, colonial settlers were forbidden to settle west of the Appalachian Mountains without permission from the British government. This Proclamation of 1763 enraged many farmers and others who wanted the land. To pay off its heavy war debts, Britain placed steep taxes and new restrictions on the American colonies. The Stamp Act of 1765 required colonists to attach expensive tax stamps to all newspapers and legal documents. The Quartering Act required the colonies to provide barracks and supplies to British troops.

Worsening Relations

In protest, many colonists decided to **boycott**, or refuse to buy, British goods. Organizations known as the Sons of Liberty

were formed throughout the colonies in opposition to the Stamp Act.

Stamp Act Congress In October of 1765, nine of the thirteen colonies sent representatives to the Stamp Act Congress held in New York City. The representatives prepared a declaration against the new British actions, which was sent to King George III. This action marked the first time that a majority of the colonies joined together to oppose British rule. As a result, the British Parliament **repealed**, or cancelled, the Stamp Act.

The same day it repealed the Stamp Act, Parliament passed the Declaratory Act of 1766, which stated that Parliament had the right to tax and make decisions for the American colonies “in all cases.” Then, in 1767, Parliament passed a set of laws that came to be known as the Townshend Acts. One of the Townshend Acts legalized the use of writs of assistance to assist customs officers in arresting smugglers.

The writs were general search warrants that enabled customs officers to enter any location to look for evidence of smuggling. Angered by these laws, colonists caused trouble for British officials. The worst incident of violence took place in Boston. On March 5, 1770, British soldiers fired into a crowd, killing five. The shootings became known as the Boston Massacre.

New Taxes and a Tea Party

The colonists resented the new taxes. Because they had no representatives in Parliament, as people living in Great Britain did, the colonists believed that Parliament had no right to tax them. They summed up their feelings with the slogan “No taxation without representation!”

In 1773 Parliament passed another measure. The Tea Act gave the British East India Company the right to ship tea to the colonies without paying most of the taxes usually placed on tea. This made the East India Company tea cheaper than any other tea in the colonies, giving the British company an advantage over colonial merchants. In December 1773, a group of angry colonists dressed as Native Americans dumped 342 chests of British tea into Boston Harbor. In reaction to this protest, known as the Boston Tea Party, Parliament passed the Coercive Acts, which Americans called the Intolerable Acts. These laws restricted the colonists’ civil rights, including the right to trial by jury.

Reading Check Explaining Why were the colonists angry about the new taxes?

American Biography

Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826)

Thomas Jefferson disliked public life. “I had rather be shut up in a very modest cottage, with my books, my family and a few old friends,” he once wrote.

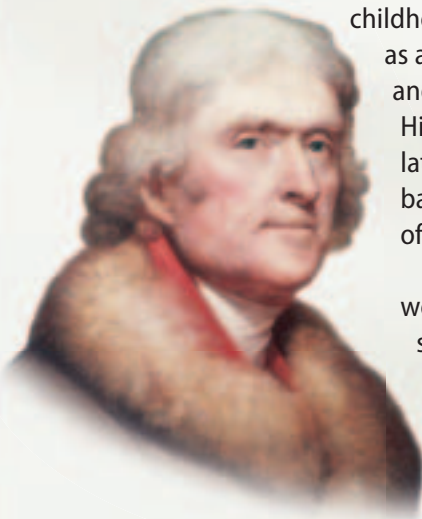
Jefferson acquired his lifelong love of books on science, philosophy, and literature from his childhood teachers and as a student at William and Mary College.

His enormous library later became the basis of the Library of Congress.

Jefferson had the wealth and social status to live as he wished. However, abuses of power by the

British pulled Jefferson from his beloved home at Monticello, Virginia, and launched him into a lifelong political career.

Jefferson held a variety of offices. They included governor of Virginia, secretary of state, vice president, and president of the United States. Yet, when writing the words for his gravestone, Jefferson mentioned none of these offices. Instead he wrote: *Here was Buried Thomas Jefferson, Author of the Declaration of Independence, of the Statute of Virginia for Religious Freedom and Father of the University of Virginia.*



Making a Difference

CITIZENSHIP

Speculating Jefferson is considered one of the greatest writers of early America. Why do you think Jefferson wrote what he did for his gravestone?

Moving Toward Independence

Main Idea The colonists began to take steps toward independence from Great Britain.

Civics & You How might you protest a new community or school rule that you believed was unfair? Read to find out how Americans protested British measures.

The colonial governments banded together to fight the Intolerable Acts. In September 1774, twelve of the colonies sent **delegates**, or representatives, to Philadelphia to discuss their concerns. These representatives—from every colony except Georgia—wanted to establish a political body to represent American interests and **challenge**, or question, British control.

The First Continental Congress

The meeting in Philadelphia, known as the First Continental Congress, lasted seven weeks. During that time, the delegates sent a document to King George III demanding that the rights of the colonists be **restored**, or given back. They also made plans to extend the boycott of British goods. When the Congress ended, the delegates vowed to hold another meeting if their demands were not met by the following year.

King George responded with force. In April 1775, two battles between British and colonial soldiers took place in Massachusetts at Lexington and Concord. These became the first battles of the Revolutionary War. Until this time, most colonists still thought of themselves as loyal subjects of Great Britain. Now, with British soldiers shooting at Americans, many colonists began to question their attachment to Britain. More people began talking about **independence**, or self-reliance and freedom from outside control.

Years after the first battle, Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote this poem to immortalize the colonists who fought at Concord:

“By the rude bridge that arched the flood, Their flag to April’s breeze unfurled, Here once the embattled farmers stood; And fired the shot heard round the world.”

—Ralph Waldo Emerson, “The Concord Hymn”

The Second Continental Congress

In May 1775, colonial leaders met at the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia. Not every member of the Congress favored independence. Some believed the colonists could never win a war against Great Britain. Others were still loyal to their home country. The Congress spent many months debating the best course of action.

Meanwhile, support for independence grew. In January of 1776, an American colonist named Thomas Paine inspired many other colonists by publishing a pamphlet titled *Common Sense*. In it Paine called for complete independence from Britain. He argued that it was simply “common sense” to stop following the “royal brute,” King George III. Paine called the colonists’ actions a struggle for freedom. By 1776 more than half of the delegates of the Second Continental Congress agreed with Paine that the colonies must break away from Britain.

The Congress, acting now as a government for the colonies, appointed a committee to write a document that would officially announce the independence of the United States. Thomas Jefferson, a delegate from Virginia, did most of the work. His draft of the Declaration explained why the United States of America should be a free nation.

 **Reading Check Explaining** Why did colonists gather at the Second Continental Congress?



Citizen Warriors Many women, including Molly Pitcher, fought side by side with other colonial soldiers during the American Revolution. **Comparing** How does the colonial fighting force compare with the makeup of modern army groups?

The Declaration of Independence

Main Idea The Declaration of Independence used traditional English political rights to call for independence for the colonies.

Civics & You Why do you think governments are formed? Read to find out how the writer of the Declaration of Independence addressed this question.

The Declaration argued that the British government did not look after the interests of the colonists. The authors included a long list of abuses by King George III and called him a “Tyrant . . . unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.” However, the document was much more than a list of complaints.

Democratic Ideals

The second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence set forth the colonists’ beliefs about the rights of individuals. It said:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

—The Declaration of Independence

Civics ONLINE

Student Web Activity Visit glencoe.com and complete the Chapter 2 Web Activity.

The paragraph quoted from the Declaration went on to say:

“... to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it, and to institute new Government. . . .”

—The Declaration of Independence

In other words, the purpose of a government is to protect the rights of the people. Moreover, government is based on the consent, or agreement, of the people. It only has the powers that the governed give it. The people are also entitled to change a government if it disregards their rights or their combined wishes.

These ideas were not new. Remember as you read earlier, the ideas about democracy and freedom originated with the ancient Greeks. Jefferson was influenced by John Locke and other writers. As you learned earlier, Locke wrote that good government is based on a social contract between the people and the rulers. Locke also wrote that all people should equally enjoy the rights to life, liberty, and property.

An Uncertain Future

The Second Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence, with a few changes, on July 4, 1776. The American colonies were now independent states—at least in theory. True freedom, though, would not come until the war ended and Great Britain officially recognized the United States as an independent nation.

 **Reading Check** **Summarizing** According to the Declaration, what is the purpose of government?

Section Review

4

Vocabulary

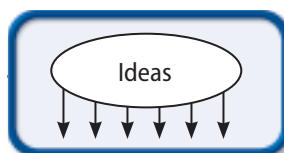
1. **Write** complete sentences that include these groups of terms: *merchant, boycott, repeal; delegates, and independence.*

Main Ideas

2. **Explaining** Why did Great Britain show control by raising taxes on the American colonists after 1763? What effect did this have on the colonists?
3. **Identifying** What British legislation prompted colonists to hold the First Continental Congress in a show of independence?

Critical Thinking

4. **Persuasive Writing** Assume the role of a British government official in 1774, and write a press release explaining why the Coercive Acts (Intolerable Acts) were necessary.
5. **BIG Ideas** In a web diagram like the one below, list the ideas of government found in the Declaration of Independence.









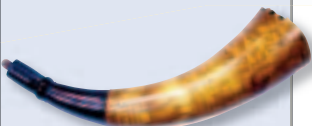


CITIZENSHIP Activity

6. **Expository Writing** Read the Declaration of Natural Rights in the Declaration of Independence (second, third, and fourth paragraphs). Select what you think is the single most important idea and explain in a paragraph how that idea affects your life today.



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Visual Summary

1600–1649	1650–1699	1700–1749	1750–1783
<p>1607 Jamestown is founded</p>			<p>1754 French and Indian War begins; Ben Franklin proposes Albany Plan of Union</p>
<p>1619 House of Burgesses meets for first time</p>			<p>1729 Carolina is divided into separate colonies</p>
<p>1620 Pilgrims found Plymouth</p>	<p>1676 Bacon's Rebellion</p>		<p>1763 Proclamation of 1763 established</p>
	<p>1681 William Penn founds Pennsylvania</p>		<p>1765 Stamp Act protests</p>
<p>1630 Puritans settle Massachusetts Bay Colony</p>		<p>1733 Georgia settled last of thirteen English colonies</p>	
<p>1649 Maryland passes Toleration Act</p>	<p>1689 English Bill of Rights signed</p>		<p>1770 Boston Massacre</p>
		<p>1740 Great Awakening peaks</p>	<p>1773 Boston Tea Party</p>
		<p>1775 Battles fought at Lexington and Concord</p>	
		<p>1776 Declaration of Independence signed</p>	
			<p>1781 British surrender at Yorktown</p>
			<p>1783 With Treaty of Paris, the United States officially wins independence</p>



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North Carolina End-of-Course Test

Civics and Economics Practice

TEST-TAKING TIP

Get eight or more hours of sleep the night before a test.

Reviewing Vocabulary

Directions: Choose the word(s) that best completes the sentence.

- If a government tried to take away a people's _____, it was breaking the social contract.
 - A legislature
 - B natural rights
 - C charter
 - D compact
- The Duke of York owned and governed the _____ of New York.
 - A Tidewater
 - B royal colony
 - C proprietary colony
 - D joint-stock company
- The founders of Massachusetts were _____.
 - A enslaved people
 - B plantation owners
 - C indentured servants
 - D religious dissenters
- The Navigation Acts put _____ into practice.
 - A toleration
 - B mercantilism
 - C egalitarianism
 - D triangular trade

Reviewing Main Ideas

Directions: Choose the best answer for each question.

Section 1 (pp. 32–37)

- Which innovation allowed rights to land holders in England?
 - A Magna Carta
 - B common law
 - C English Bill of Rights
 - D Locke's social contract
- Which institution or document established a tradition of direct democracy in New England?
 - A Virginia Company
 - B House of Burgesses
 - C Mayflower Compact
 - D Fundamental Orders of Connecticut

Section 2 (pp. 38–43)

- Which English colony became the first to welcome people of all faiths?
 - A Massachusetts
 - B Rhode Island
 - C Pennsylvania
 - D Maryland
- Why did Southern farmers begin using enslaved Africans?
 - A Africans were more willing workers than Europeans.
 - B Long indentures placed huge financial burdens on planters.
 - C Plantations demanded more workers than immigration provided.
 - D The triangular trade was more humane than indentured servitude.

Section 3 (pp. 44–49)

- What about the Middle Colonies spurred the growth of ports such as New York and Philadelphia?
 - A soil and climate suited to cash crops
 - B rivers for easy transport to the coast
 - C abundant wood for use in shipbuilding
 - D an ideal location for fishing and whaling
- How would you characterize the Great Awakening of the 1700s?
 - A a religious revival
 - B a political upheaval
 - C an economic revolution
 - D an educational movement

Section 4 (pp. 50–56)

- Which legislation passed by Parliament restricted colonists' right to trial by jury?
 - A Stamp Act
 - B Townsend Acts
 - C Declaratory Act of 1766
 - D Coercive Acts

12. Who published *Common Sense*, a pamphlet calling for complete independence from Britain?

- A Benjamin Franklin
- B Thomas Paine
- C Thomas Jefferson
- D John Locke

Critical Thinking

Directions: Base your answers to questions 13 and 14 on the cartoon below and your knowledge of Chapter 2.



13. What does the cartoonist imply by using darker print for the word *men*?

- A Women are excluded.
- B All people are included.
- C All slaves are excluded.
- D Male slaves are included.

14. Why does the cartoonist include a washerwoman?

- A to contrast rulers and workers in the colonies
- B to suggest gender inequality in colonial times
- C to show the industriousness of colonial women
- D to imply the protection of even poor people's rights

Document-Based Questions

Directions: Analyze the document and answer the short-answer questions that follow.

This passage from the Declaration of Independence includes some of the colonists' complaints about King George III.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large bodies of troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:

—the Declaration of Independence

15. The Declaration refers to King George combining with "others" and "giving his assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation." Who are these others?

16. Choose two of the complaints. What legislation or event from the chapter is related to each complaint?

Informational Writing

17. The colonists tried other means of resolving their differences with the British before declaring their independence. Write a brief essay describing their efforts.



For additional test practice, use Self-Check Quizzes—Chapter 2 on glencoe.com.

Need Extra Help?

If you missed questions...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Go to page...	35	39	41	51	33	37	39	43	45	47	53	54	48	48	55	51	51

The Declaration of Independence

In Congress, July 4, 1776. The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

Words spelled as originally written.

What It Means

The Preamble The Declaration of Independence has four parts. The Preamble explains why the Continental Congress drew up the Declaration.

impel: force

What It Means

Natural Rights The second part, the Declaration of Natural Rights, lists the rights of the citizens. It goes on to explain that, in a republic, people form a government to protect their rights.

endowed: provided

usurpations: unjust uses of power
despotism: unlimited power

What It Means

List of Grievances The third part of the Declaration lists the colonists' complaints against the British government. Notice that King George III is singled out for blame.

[Preamble]

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which **impel** them to the separation.

[Declaration of Natural Rights]

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are **endowed** by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,

That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and **usurpations**, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute **Despotism**, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.

[List of Grievances]

Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny

over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would **relinquish** the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right **inestimable** to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of **Annihilation**, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and **convulsions** within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the **Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners**; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the **tenure** of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislature.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

relinquish: give up

inestimable: priceless

annihilation: destruction

convulsions: violent disturbances

Naturalization of Foreigners: process by which foreign-born persons become citizens

tenure: term



quartering: lodging

For **quartering** large bodies of troops among us:
For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:

render: make

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to **render** it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislature, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

abdicated: given up

He has **abdicated** Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

perfidy: violation of trust

He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & **perfidy** scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

insurrections: rebellions

He has excited domestic **insurrections** amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

petitioned for redress:
asked formally for a correction of
wrongs

In every stage of these Oppressions We have **Petitioned for Redress** in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free People.

unwarrantable jurisdiction:
unjustified authority

Nor have We been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an **unwarrantable jurisdiction** over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They

too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of **consanguinity**. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

[Resolution of Independence by the United States]

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the **rectitude** of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do.

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

John Hancock
President from
Massachusetts

Georgia
Button Gwinnett
Lyman Hall
George Walton

North Carolina
William Hooper
Joseph Hewes
John Penn

South Carolina
Edward Rutledge
Thomas Heyward, Jr.
Thomas Lynch, Jr.
Arthur Middleton

Maryland
Samuel Chase
William Paca
Thomas Stone
Charles Carroll
of Carrollton

Virginia
George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Thomas Jefferson
Benjamin Harrison
Thomas Nelson, Jr.
Francis Lightfoot Lee
Carter Braxton

Pennsylvania
Robert Morris
Benjamin Rush
Benjamin Franklin
John Morton
George Clymer
James Smith
George Taylor
James Wilson
George Ross

Delaware
Caesar Rodney
George Read
Thomas McKean

New York
William Floyd
Philip Livingston
Francis Lewis
Lewis Morris

New Jersey
Richard Stockton
John Witherspoon
Francis Hopkinson
John Hart
Abraham Clark

New Hampshire
Josiah Bartlett
William Whipple
Matthew Thornton

Massachusetts
Samuel Adams
John Adams
Robert Treat Paine
Elbridge Gerry

Rhode Island
Stephen Hopkins
William Ellery

Connecticut
Samuel Huntington
William Williams
Oliver Wolcott
Roger Sherman

consanguinity: originating from the same ancestor

What It Means

Resolution of Independence The final section declares that the colonies are "Free and Independent States" with the full power to make war, to form alliances, and to trade with other countries.

rectitude: rightness

What It Means

Signers of the Declaration The signers, as representatives of the American people, declared the colonies independent from Great Britain. Most members signed the document on August 2, 1776.



John Hancock