**American Revolutionary War Packet**

**From Protest to War**

1. Name three methods used by the colonists to protest against the new acts and regulations

instituted by Britain after the French and Indian War.

2. Explain the importance and impact of the Stamp Act as it shaped the relationship between

colonists and Britain.

3. Explain the role of the Boston Massacre in the cause for revolution.

(Hint: Use the picture of the engraving of the Boston Massacre in your books to help you

answer this question.)

4. Read and analyze the account about the Boston Massacre (teacher handout). To do this,

complete the handout for analyzing primary sources. Next, summarize your opinion about the

reliability of the account in a well-developed paragraph. Provide at least two

pieces of evidence to support your position.

5. Pose an argument in *favor* of the colonists’ reaction to the Tea Act with the Boston Tea Party.

Next, make an argument *against* the colonists’ reaction to the Tea Act from the British point

of view.

6. What were the Coercive Acts? How did the colonists respond to the Coercive Acts? What was

another name for the Coercive Acts?

7. What is the historical importance of the Battle at Lexington and Concord?

8. What was the Olive Branch petition? Was it successful?

9. Explain the role of the Second Continental Congress.

10. Until this time, colonists were still not seeking to separate with Britain; rather, they

continued to assert that they were “resisting tyranny,” but certainly not taking up arms

against the crown. It was at this time, January 1776, that a pamphlet entitled *Common Sense:*

*Addressed to the Inhabitants of America* was published and reached about 150,000 readers,

well over the few hundred that normally sold for political pamphlets of these days. Read the

excerpt provided (by the teacher) and answer the following questions:

Who wrote the pamphlet?

Why do you think the pamphlet had the impact that it did in the colonies?

(Hint: Use your understanding of literary devices and persuasive speech/writing to help you

analyze the document excerpts.)

11. On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia announced his opinion in a persuasive

speech to the Continental Congress regarding separation from Britain.

Find this quote on page 105 and write it down.

What was the final decision by the delegates?

What message in Lee’s quote could have convinced some delegates to vote for separation

from Britain?

12. Name the five writers of the Declaration of Independence. Who was the major author?

13. Analyze the excerpts from *Two Treatises on Government*. How did they influence the ideas

and writing of the Declaration of Independence?

14. Identify (list in comparison chart form) the advantages and disadvantages both the colonists

and the British faced at the beginning of the American Revolutionary War. Which side

appeared to have the better advantage at the outset of the war? Explain.

15. When do you think the American Revolutionary War began?