John Adams: Part One “Join or Die”- Boston Massacre

**Timeline of the Revolutionary War**

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| **1754-1763** | |
|  | **The French and Indian War**   1. How does the French and Indian war start the path towards the American Revolution?    1. “Last of the Mohicans”    2. $$ debt (140 million pounds)- British were among the most heavily taxed people in the world       1. [OUR NATIONAL DEBT](http://www.usdebtclock.org/)    3. Colonies were prospering    4. Why shouldn’t they have to pay for some of the costs of government? |
| **1754** | |
| **June 19-July 11** | **The Albany Congress**  5.jpg   1. **What was the significance of the Albany Congress? How does this meeting contribute to the American Revolution?**    1. **Colonial unity** |
| **1763** | |
| **May** | **Pontiac’s Rebellion**   1. **What happened during this rebellion? How does it contribute towards the American Revolution?**    1. **Ottawa, Huron, Potawatomi and other tribes in the Great Lakes rebelled against the British.**    2. **All British forts west of App. Mountains destroyed**    3. **2,000 colonists killed or captured on the frontier.**    4. **Eventually crushed by the British** |
| **Oct. 7** | **Proclamation of 1763**   1. **What was the Proclamation of 1763? What is the perspective of the colonists? What is the perspective of the British?**    1. **No settlement west of app mountains for colonists**    2. **British did not have resources to protect settlers on the frontier. Native Amer. deserved some reward for helping British during French and Indian War.**    3. **Colonists were frustrated that they couldn’t move west- many did anyway**    4. **END of salutary neglect.** |
| **1764** | |
| **Directions--** | **Read the text book (Chapter 4 section 2) and complete the timeline up to the Boston Massacre** |
| **April 5** | **The Sugar Act**   1. **Imagine you were from Great Britain, why would you be shocked about the American response to the Sugar Act?**    1. **They actually cut the taxes in half on foreign molasses**    2. **Goal was to lower the incentive to smuggle in goods illegally** 2. **What was unfair about how the Sugar Act was enforced?**    1. **Smuggling ships would be confiscated**    2. **If you were accused of smuggling, you would have to go to a British rather than a colonial court.**    3. **Judges received 5 percent kickback on all convictions.** |
| **1765** | |
| **March 22** | [**The Stamp Act**](http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/related/stampact.htm)   1. **What was taxed under the Stamp Act?**    1. **Newspapers, pamphlets, legal docs, and other printed materials** |
| **March 24** | **The Quartering Act of 1765**   1. **What was the Quartering Act? What Amendment will this eventually become in our future Constitution?**    1. **Required colonial assemblies to house and provision the British soldiers** |
| **Oct. 7-25** | [**The Stamp Act Congress**](http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/related/sac65.htm)   1. **What was the Stamp Act Congress?**     1. **Delegates met in NY from 9 colonies- argued against Brit policy- “No taxation without rep”** 2. **Who were the Sons of Liberty? What other strategies were taken to protest the Stamp Act? Were these strategies successful?**    1. **Groups of merchants who organized boycotts against British goods**    2. **Successfully had the Stamp Act repealed** |
| **1767** | |
| **June 29** | **The Townshend Revenue Act**   1. **What was taxed under the Townshend Act?**    1. **Import taxes on lead, paper, tea, paint, and glass**    2. **Money used to support British troops, royal governors, and judges taking the power of the purse away from colonial assemblies** |
| **1770** | |
| **March 5** | **The Boston Massacre** |

**The Boston Massacre was a street fight that occurred on March 5, 1770, between a "patriot" mob, throwing snowballs, stones, and sticks, and a squad of British soldiers. Several colonists were killed and this led to a campaign by speech-writers to rouse the ire of the citizenry.**

**The presence of British troops in the city of Boston was increasingly unwelcome. The riot began when about 50 citizens attacked a British sentinel. A British officer, Captain Thomas Preston, called in additional soldiers, and these too were attacked, so the soldiers fired into the mob, killing 3 on the spot (a black sailor named Crispus Attucks, ropemaker Samuel Gray, and a mariner named James Caldwell), and wounding 8 others, two of whom died later (Samuel Maverick and Patrick Carr).**

1. What is John Adam’s justification for representing the British soldiers responsible for the Boston Massacre?
   1. John Sewell- attorney general for the crown in Boston- last one to serve for the British in Boston
   2. John Adams- all deserve a trial- colony is of law and order
   3. The Stamp Act should not be on trial
2. What is the importance of the first African American’s testimony?
   1. Throwing ice, snowballs, shells, AND Clubs
   2. The crowd was yelling “FIRE!” Not Captain Preston
3. According to Richard Palms, where was Captain Preston standing when the first shot was fired? Why is this significant?
   1. Captain Preston said he had no intention to fire on the crowd STANDING in FRONT of his men NOT behind them as MR. Guard said in the first testimony.
   2. Captain Preston ordered to fire AFTER the first shot.
4. Who critiques John’s closing statements?
   1. Abigail Adams
   2. “Prove the brilliance of the speaker rather than the innocence of the defendant”
5. What are some of the key arguments made by John Adams in his closing statement?
   1. Taxation without representation is not right but it does not justify finding soldiers guilty.
   2. No good evidence presented to convict
   3. Any reasonable man would fear for his life
6. What is the verdict of the trial at the Boston Massacre? Why is this shocking (makeup of the jury)?
   1. Soldiers NOT guilty
7. After the verdict, John Adams’ fame explodes in Boston. Why does Thomas Paine and Samuel Adams try to convince John to represent Massachusetts?
   1. He is not biased- reputation of impartiality
8. What happens to the British diplomat when he confronts John Hancock for smuggling illegal tea?
   1. Tar and feathered
9. **(FOR NEXT YEAR- I deleted questions 9-11)** The scene after, what are some of the points made by the British representative (who offered John Adams the job to work for the governor) regarding the situation in Boston?
   1. 133 million pounds of debt- colonists should help pay
   2. John Adams- they should get representation in Parliament
10. Why were the “Intolerable Acts” Passed? What were the 5 main points to come from this legislation?
    1. In response to the Boston Tea Party and Tar and feathering.
       1. Boston port Act closes the Boston Harbor until all money was paid back for Boston Tea Party
       2. Massachusetts Gov Act- called for all government officials to be appointed only by the King or Governor. It also limited the number of town meetings
       3. Quartering Act-giant sleepover!!!
       4. Quebec Act
       5. Administration of Justice Act- JOHN Adams was VERY Angry regarding this- he just risked his entire reputation on the trial at the Boston Massacre
11. Does John Adams accept the position to serve for the governor?
    1. NO-

Timeline continued…

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| 1773 | |
| May 10 | **The Tea Act**   1. **Why was the Tea Act passed by Parliament? What did it do?**    1. **Tea Act was created to save the troubled East India Company. It allowed the company to sell its surplus tea in the American colonies.**    2. **You must purchase the East India Company Tea AND..**    3. **The Act retained the import tax on tea.** |
| Dec. 16 | **The Boston Tea Party**   1. **Summarize the events that happened at the Boston Tea Party:**    1. **Colonists in the Sons of Liberty dressed up like Native Americans and dumped East India Company tea into the Boston Harbor.** |
| 1774 | |
| **DIRECTIONS:** | **Using the internet, summarize what each of the portion of the Intolerable acts accomplished** |
| **March 31** | **Boston Port Act, one of the "Intolerable Acts"**   1. **Boston Harbor closed until Tea is paid back from the Boston Tea Party** |
| **May 20** | **Administration of Justice Act, one of the "Intolerable Acts"**   1. **Military personnel/British agents will have trials in Britain if necessary NOT the Colonies** |
| **May 20** | **Massachusetts Government Act, one of the "Intolerable Acts"**   1. **All government appointments were to be made by the King of England AND the local governor RATHER than the colonies themselves** |
| **June 2** | **Quartering Act of 1774, one of the "Intolerable Acts"**   1. **British soldiers were to be housed in private homes** |
| **June 22** | **Quebec Act, one of the "Intolerable Acts"**   1. **Enlarged territory of Quebec.** |
| **Sept. 5-Oct. 26** | **The First Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia and issues Declaration and Resolves..**  **This is where John Adams is going at the end of Episode 1** |
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