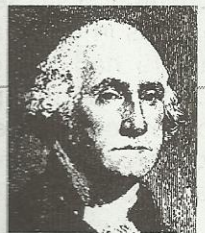
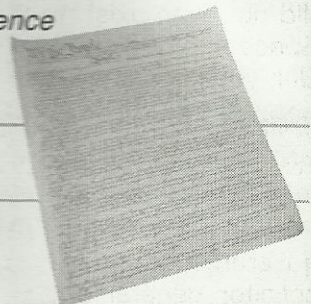


Listed below is a sampling of the important events that led up to America's independence and the adoption of a new Constitution. You will find the year and the significant event that happened during that time.

1763-1765	England decides on a program of taxation and control of the colonies. The American colonists begin organized protests against British rule. Patriotic groups such as the <i>Sons of Liberty</i> are formed. Laws such as the <i>Quartering Act</i> , <i>Stamp Act</i> , and <i>Sugar Act</i> anger the colonists, who are forced to pay unjust taxes and provide supplies to British troops.
1770	Colonists reduce their boycott of British goods when they withdraw all of the <i>Townshend Act</i> , except the tax on tea. <i>Boston Massacre</i> occurs when an angry crowd of citizens surround a group of soldiers causing them to open fire.
1773	With the American colonists and merchants still angry over British tax policies, an uprising called the <i>Boston Tea Party</i> occurs.
1774	In response to the Boston Tea Party, the Parliament passes several acts to punish Massachusetts. Twelve of the 13 colonies name delegates to a congress, The First Continental Congress. On September 5th they meet mainly to deal with Britain's actions.
1775	When the Americans learn the British plan to seize their guns and ammunition, Paul Revere is sent to alert the countryside and gather the <i>Minutemen</i> . An unidentified shot triggers this <i>Battle at Lexington</i> . This starts the American Revolution and also leads to another famous battle, <i>Bunker Hill</i> .
1776	On July 4th, The Second Continental Congress adopts the <i>Declaration of Independence</i> (written by Thomas Jefferson and a committee). A few days later the <i>Liberty Bell</i> is rung in Philadelphia to call the people to the first public reading of the Declaration.
1781	The <i>Articles of Confederation</i> are adopted by the states.
1787	On May 14th, The Constitutional Convention meets in Philadelphia and lasts until September 17th. Here the delegates reviewed and approved the Constitution.
1788	Nine states ratify the Constitution, and it is put into effect (the remaining four states will ratify by 1790). America prepares to operate under this new document.
1789	On March 4th, the new federal government is inaugurated in New York. In April, the first House of Representatives is organized. George Washington is elected the first president on April 6th. He is inaugurated on April 30th. On September 25th, the first 10 amendments (<i>Bill of Rights</i>) are adopted by Congress.



QUESTIONS

TRUE OR FALSE? Write a **T** or **F** in the space provided.

- ___ 1. The Minutemen helped the British at the Battle of Lexington.
- ___ 2. The Boston Tea Party occurred in 1773.
- ___ 3. The colonists especially liked the British Quartering Act and the Sugar Act.
- ___ 4. The Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Second Continental Congress.
- ___ 5. The Bill of Rights was adopted by Congress in 1789.

PUT THE EVENTS IN ORDER. Put the events in chronological order, from most recent to the latest, by using the letter of the event.

1. **a.** Boston Massacre **b.** Declaration of Independence **c.** Washington becomes president _____
2. **a.** Articles of Confederation **b.** Boston Tea Party **c.** The Constitution ratified by nine states _____
3. **a.** England decides on a program of taxation and control of the colonies **b.** Constitutional Convention **c.** Battle of Bunker Hill _____
4. **a.** Paul Revere alerts colonists **b.** Stamp Act **c.** First House of Representatives organized _____
5. **a.** Bill of Rights adopted **b.** First Continental Congress is held **c.** Liberty Bell is rung _____