

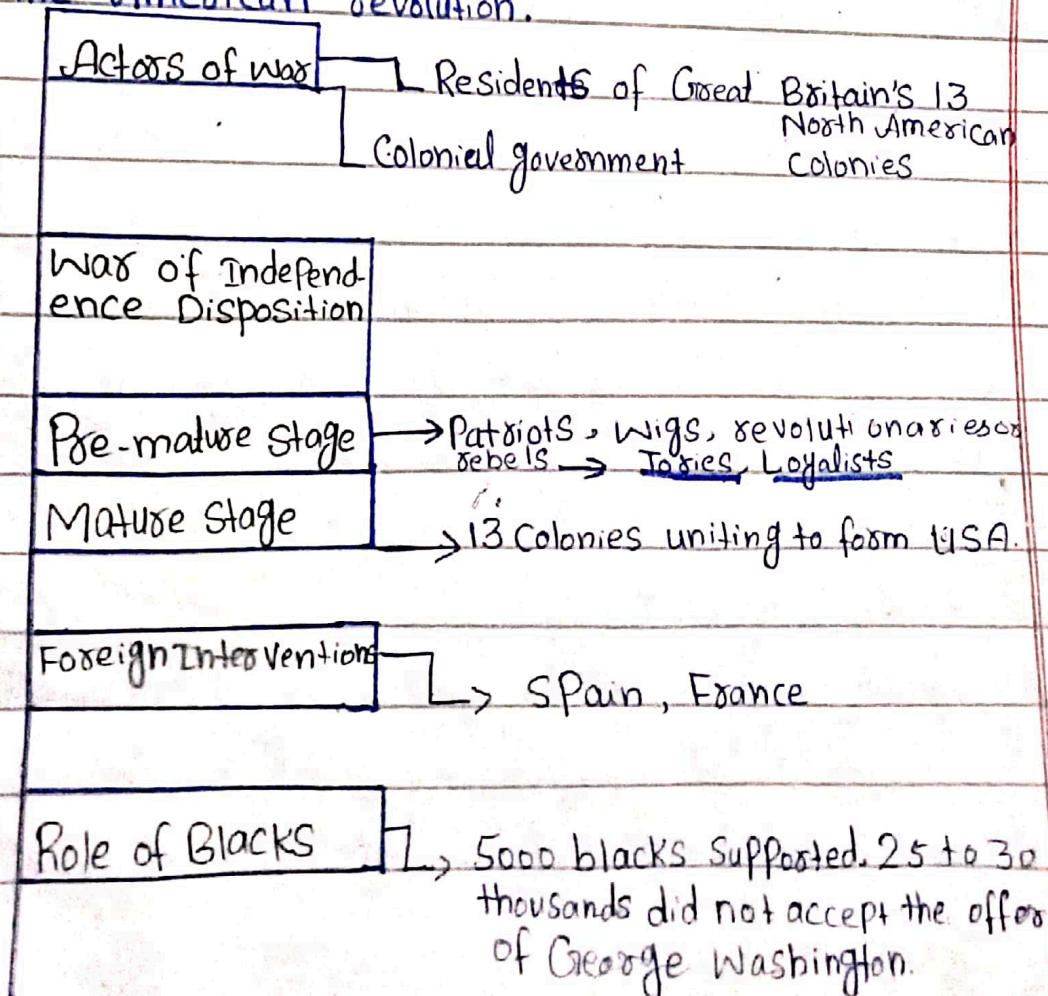
Q The Revolution was affected before the war commenced. "The revolution was in the heart and minds of the people. Discuss it with reference to American Revolution.

Ans Introduction:

The American Revolution was one of the greatest movements in the history of mankind. American revolution was not the same thing as American war of independence. The war itself lasted only eight years but the revolution lasted over a century and a half. So the revolution was affected before the war commenced.

The revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people"

- The revolutionary war (1775-83) also known as the American revolution.





## 1) Actors of War:

The Revolutionary war arose from tensions between residents of Great Britain's 13 Colonies of North America and the Colonial government, which represented the British Crown. War of independence was a unique example of war between feeble and dominant.

## 2) War of Independence Disposition:

The war of independence was not a war of weapons and battled in the first stage. During the first phase the former thirteen colonies individually started to boycott the British orders. They started to boycott imposed Colonial Policies of British Empire. The colonists found every cause as a pretext for quarrel with the British because they had reached a stage when British control was considered as hindrance rather than help.

The inhabitant of colonists divided into two major groups

- Patriots, Wigs, revolutionaries or rebels they wanted complete break away from Great Britain.
- Tories, Loyalists (They were of the view that complete separation from Great Britain was not the solution of problem, that is why they remained loyal to Great Britain) This phase is sometimes referred as pre-mature stage and span from (1600 to 1775)
- Mature stage: or the actual rebellion started on April 19, 1775 and ended September 3, 1783 with independence of 13 colonies uniting to form United State of America



### 3) Foreign interventions

Foreign Powers played a major role in war of Independence. The role played by Spain and France was quite cunning and remarkable in its own way. Both supported secretly and trained many colonists to fight against their British masters. It is often said that divide and rule policy was basically used for the first time by France.

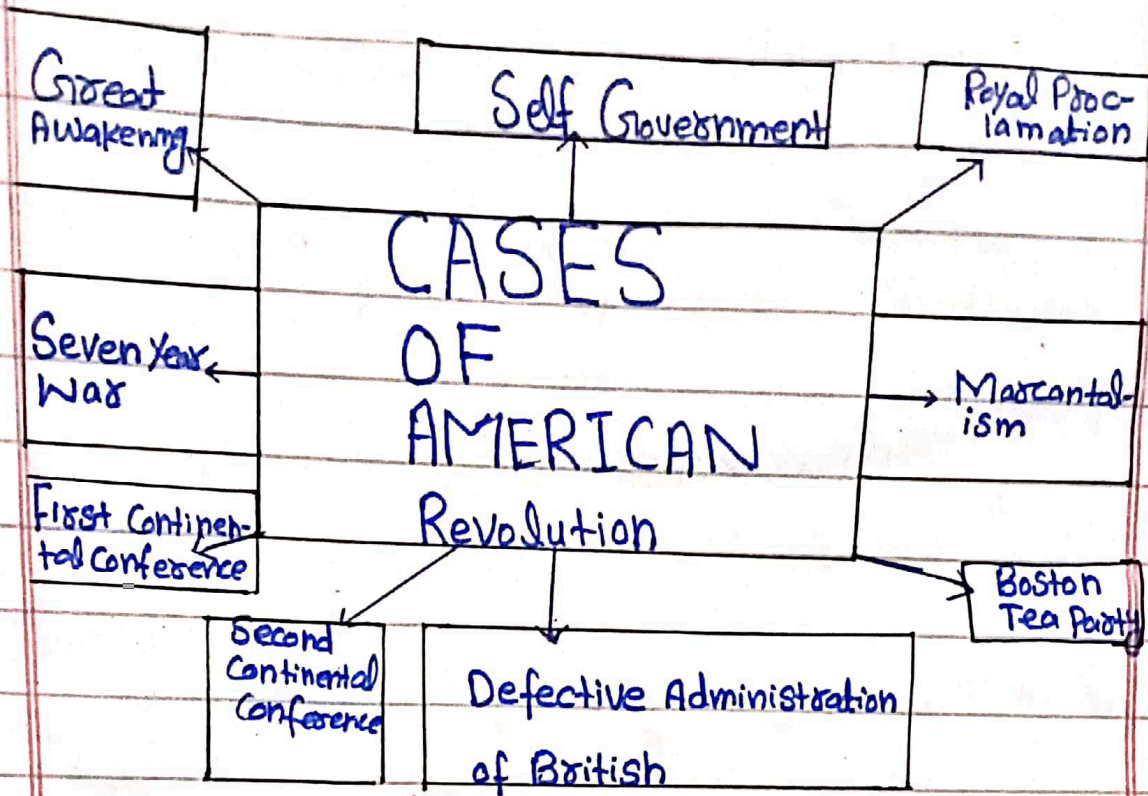
### 4) Role of Blacks

Blacks were the slaves of British masters and they were also the ones who were suffering from hands of British. Approximately 5000 black supported America in the war and more than 25 to 30 thousands did not accept the offer of George Washington.

### • Causes of American War of Independence

For more than a decade before the outbreak of the American Revolution in 1775, tensions had been building between colonists and British authorities. Though these thirteen colonies enjoyed self-government in internal administration, trade and commerce were fully under control of British Parliament. After treaty of Paris, British Government tried to raise revenue and established stringent control over colonies. This attitude of British government had been a cause of surging discontent among the colonists. The inhabitants of colonies protested and as a result the war started. The main causes of war are as under.





## 1) Defective Administration of British

The British believed that American was their colony and the sole purpose of the colony and the colonists was to serve their mother country. This kind of attitude produced an administration system in American colonies that proved to be defective. The administration system of each colony was controlled by the British Parliament. The British Parliament did not recognize the colonial problems. Thus the colonial people became intolerable and raised their voice against the defective administrative system of England.

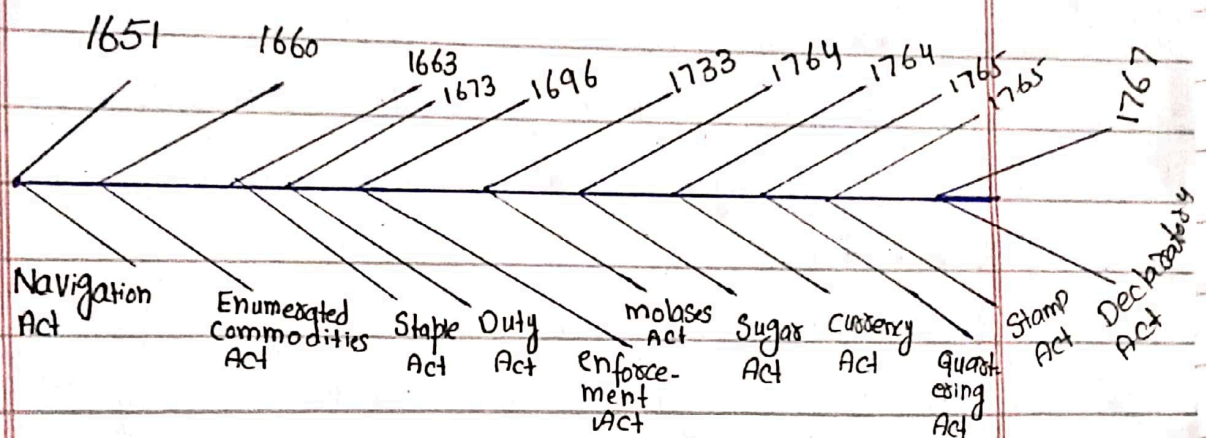
## 2) Self-Government

Some of the thirteen colonies tried to have control over the purse. Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania,



and Carolina got these powers between 1703 and 1750. Self-government produced local political leaders, and these were the men who worked together to defeat what they considered to be oppressive acts of Parliament. Thus, the American view was that they considered to be should manage their affairs in their own way.

### 3) Mercantilism



Mercantilism is **Economic nationalism** for the purpose of building a wealthy and powerful state. Through mercantile system British's goal was to achieve a "favorable" balance of trade that would bring **Gold and Silver** into the mother land.

Opinions about Mercantilism as cause of American Independence

- **Jacob Viner**, argues that mercantilism was simply a straightforward, common-sense system whose logical fallacies could not be discovered by the people of the time, as they simply lacked the required analytical tools. He claims that mercantilism was the most important doctrine created



a sense of revolt in American

- **Robert B. Ekelund**, He claims that mercantilism was not the "only" cause of war of independence but there were many other causes that fueled the Americans to revolt against the British Lords. He contends that ~~contends~~ mercantilism was not a mistake, but rather the best possible system for those who developed it.

Acts passed in Mercantilism

### 1) Navigation Act 1651

This Act stated that all the goods that were carried to England will now only be carried in British own ships

### 2) Enumerated Act 1660

This act imposed ban on the colonies export. Now the commodities such as sugar, cotton, tobacco and dyes were only to be exported to either England or its colonies only.

### 3) Staple Act 1663

This act provided that all the European exports to American colonies must be brought to English port and be reshipped after the payment of duty.

### 4) Duty Act 1673

This act aim at the enforcement of all earlier acts through the services of custom collectors.

### 5) Enforcement Act 1696

This act provided strict measures for checking smuggling and all the colonial ship were now necessarily to be registered in England.



## 6) Molasses Act 1733

This act imposed ban on the import of French West Indian molasses into the English colonies.

## 7) The Sugar Act 1764

This Act placed taxes on luxury goods, including coffee, silk, and wine, and made import of rum illegal.

## 8) The Currency Act 1764

The currency act prohibited the printing of paper money in the colonies.

## 9) The Quartering Act 1765

The Quartering act forced colonists to provide food and housing for royal troops.

## 10) The Stamp Act 1765

The Stamp act required the purchase of royal stamp for all legal documents, newspapers, licenses, and leases. Colonists objected to all these measures, but Stamp Act sparked the greatest organized resistance.

## 4) Great Awakening, this religious movement was started by Jonathan Edwards in 1730 to 1740 which laid stress on the unity of the 13 colonies.

## 5) French Indian Seven year war

War between Britain and French in 1754-1763 was fought by colonists in North America. Britain was victorious and soon initiated policies designed to control and fund its vast empire. These measures imposed greater restraints on the American colonists way of life.



## 6) Royal Proclamation of 1763

The Royal Proclamation restricted the opening of new lands for settlement. This also prohibited the westward expansion of colonies toward Appalachian Mountains.

## 7) Boston Tea Party, British government impose ban on production of tea in the 13 Colonies and impose the 3rd tax on tea and forced the Colonies to buy 17 million pounds of unsold tea of British East India Company to overcome the losses.

- British action on Massachusetts in December, a group of men sneaked into the three British ships in Boston harbor and dumped their cargo of tea in Atlantic ocean to punish Massachusetts for vandalism, the British Parliament closed the port of Boston and restricted local authority.

## 8) 1<sup>st</sup> Continental Conference

British action on Massachusetts was strictly condemned by other colonies. All the colonies except Georgia sent representatives to Philadelphia in September 1774 to discuss their present unhappy state and draw their future policy against the atrocities of British imperial power.

## 9) Second Continental Conference.

The Congress met on May 10, 1776, in the State House in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It is now called Independence Hall. The Second Continental Conference decided many important things.



- Completely Breakaway from Great Britain.
- officially Put the Colonies in a state of defense.
- Form an Army called American Continental Army.
- Congress officially appointed George Washington as Commander-in-chief of the Army.
- Decided to Print Paper money

At the meeting, members of the Second Continental Congress wrote and signed the Declaration of Independence.

- **Declaration of Independence**, Second Continental Congress appointed a Committee, headed by Thomas Jefferson, of Virginia, to prepare a document outlining the Colonies' grievances against the King and explaining their decision to breakaway. This Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776. The 4th July has since been celebrated as America's Independence Day.
- **Son of Liberty** was a political organization which opposed the stamp act and marched out on the streets shouting Liberty, Property and No Stamp.

## 10) ~~Wars~~ Major Battles during Revolutionary War

- Lexington/Concord first significant military confrontation between the Colonial militia and the British army, start of the American Revolution and known as "the shot heard round the world".
- Ticonderoga - Patriots claimed a large supply of cannons and artillery in the capturing this fort which were



later used to run the British out of Boston.

- **Bunker Hill** — British victory but did demonstrate the Patriots would fight bravely in an organized battle, boosted Patriot confidence.
- **Quebec** — the Patriots are defeated soundly by the British and turned back from trying to capture Canada. Large losses for the Patriots.
- **New York** — Washington's Army has many casualties in a defeat from the British but are lucky to escape New York when a storm blows in and allows them to escape.
- **Trenton** — Washington is able to defeat the Hessians in a surprise attack before many Patriots enlistments expire, inspires the Patriots to continue to fight.
- **Treaty of Saratoga** — turning point of the war. Following this victory the French and Spanish officially became allies of the United States in the war.
- **Kings Mountain** — much needed victory for the Patriots after a string of defeats, stopped Cornwallis from advancing into North Carolina and energizes the Patriots in the South.
- **Compens** — this Patriot victory is the turning for the Revolutionary War in the equal resources.
- **York town** — Final significant battle of the Revolutionary War, General Cornwallis surrenders his British army to Washington.



- **Treaty of Paris**

The treaty of Paris acknowledged the independence, freedom, and Sovereignty of the 13 former American Colonies, now States. The boundaries of 13 Colonies were set and the issue of the Mississippi river was settled between Great Britain and America. This treaty also removed any chance of war with France.

**Conclusion,** Above discussion shows that, Revolution was affected before the war commenced." The revolution was in the heart and minds of the People.

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