

American Revolution:

Build up, overview, results



Agenda:

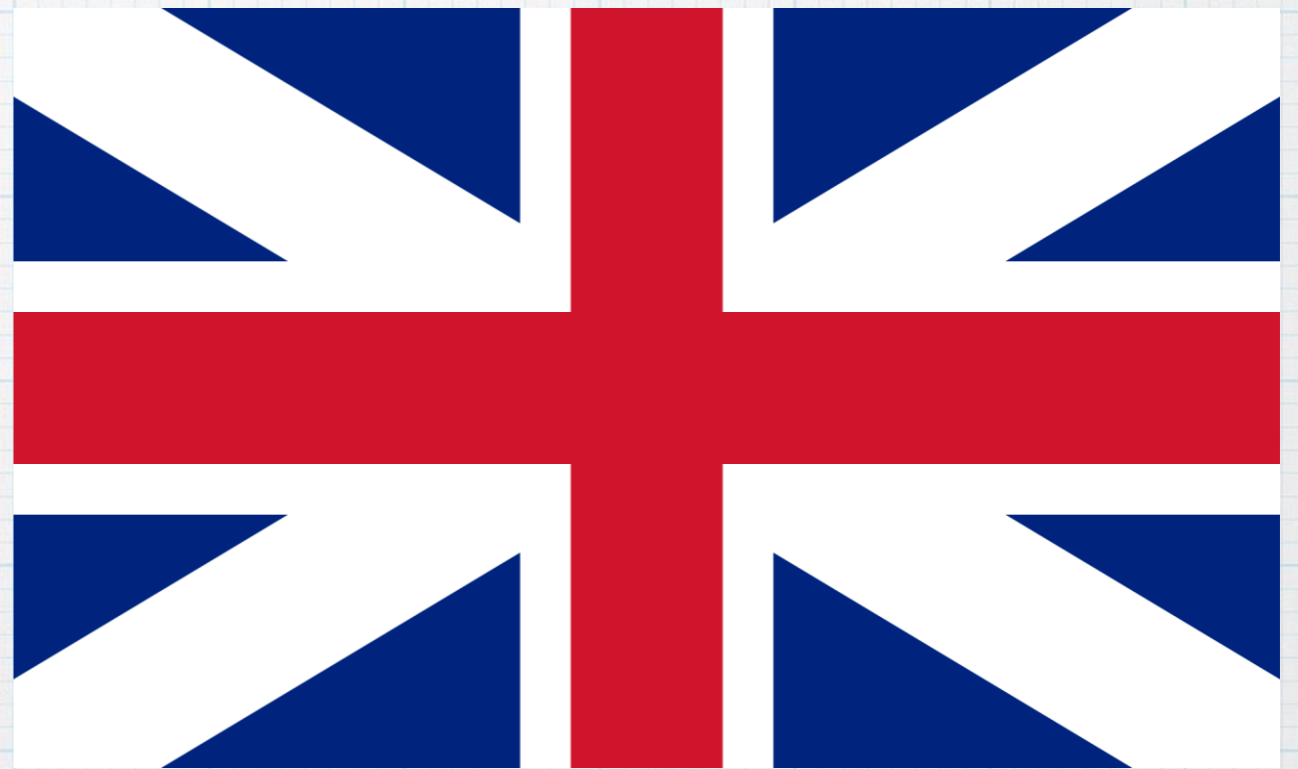
1. American Revolution Notes
2. D.O.I. Analysis Worksheet

Today's Goals

- * Analyze a primary source document
- * Evaluate which Enlightenment Ideas influenced the American Revolution.

Britain as a Superpower

- * By the 1700s, Britain was a global superpower
- * Strong trading nation due to its location
- * Monopolized the slave trade to Spanish America
- * Won many European conflicts



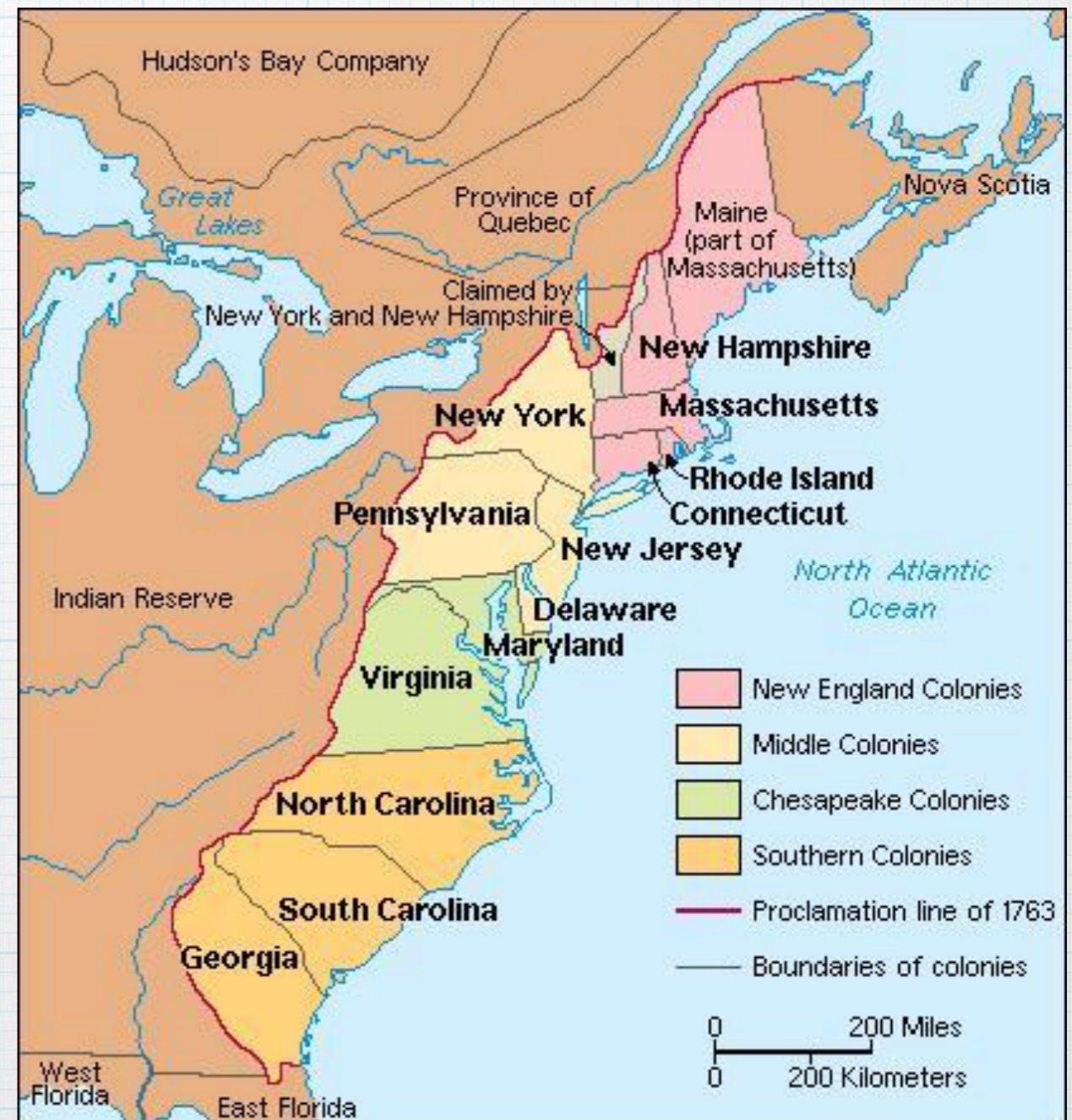
King George III



- * Britain had an Enlightened Despot
- * King George III
- * Although enlightened, wanted to reassertion his royal power by:
 - * Choosing his own ministers
 - * Dissolving his cabinet
 - * Making parliament follow his will

Britain's American Colonies

- * String of prosperous colonies along North America's Eastern Coast
- * Colonies linked North America to Africa and Europe
- * Home to diverse religious and ethnic groups
- * Social distinctions were less important and political discussions were more free in the colonies than in Europe



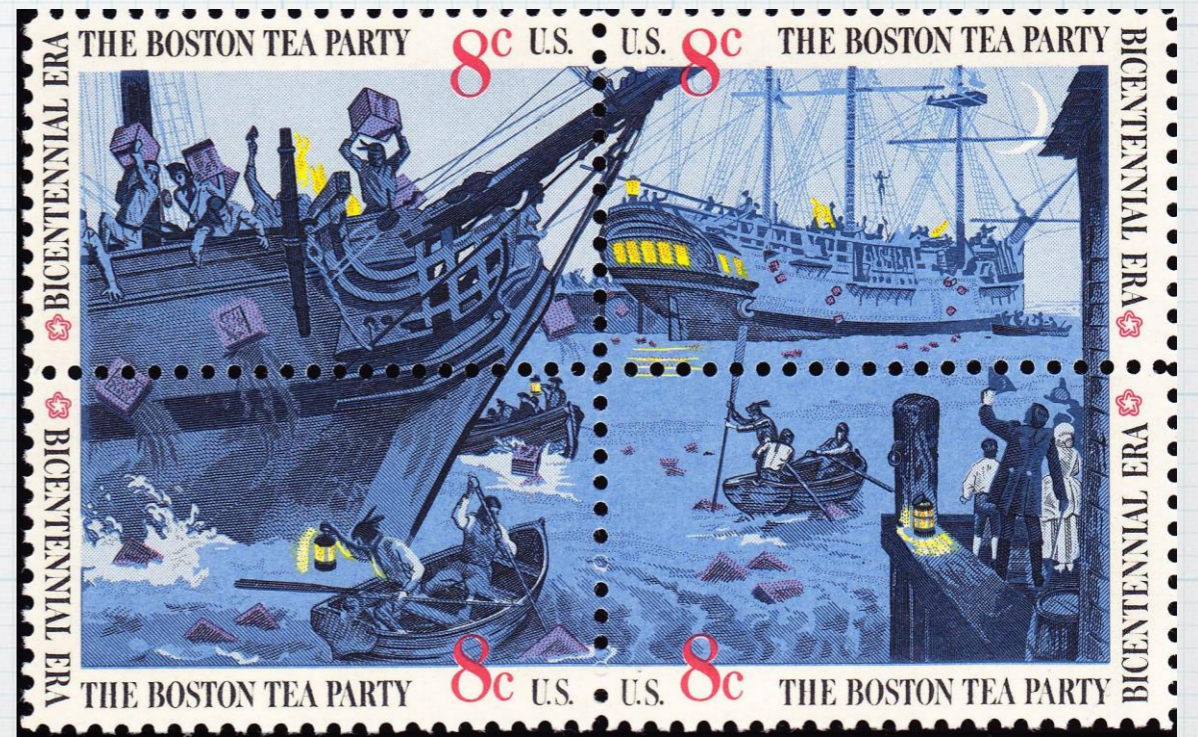
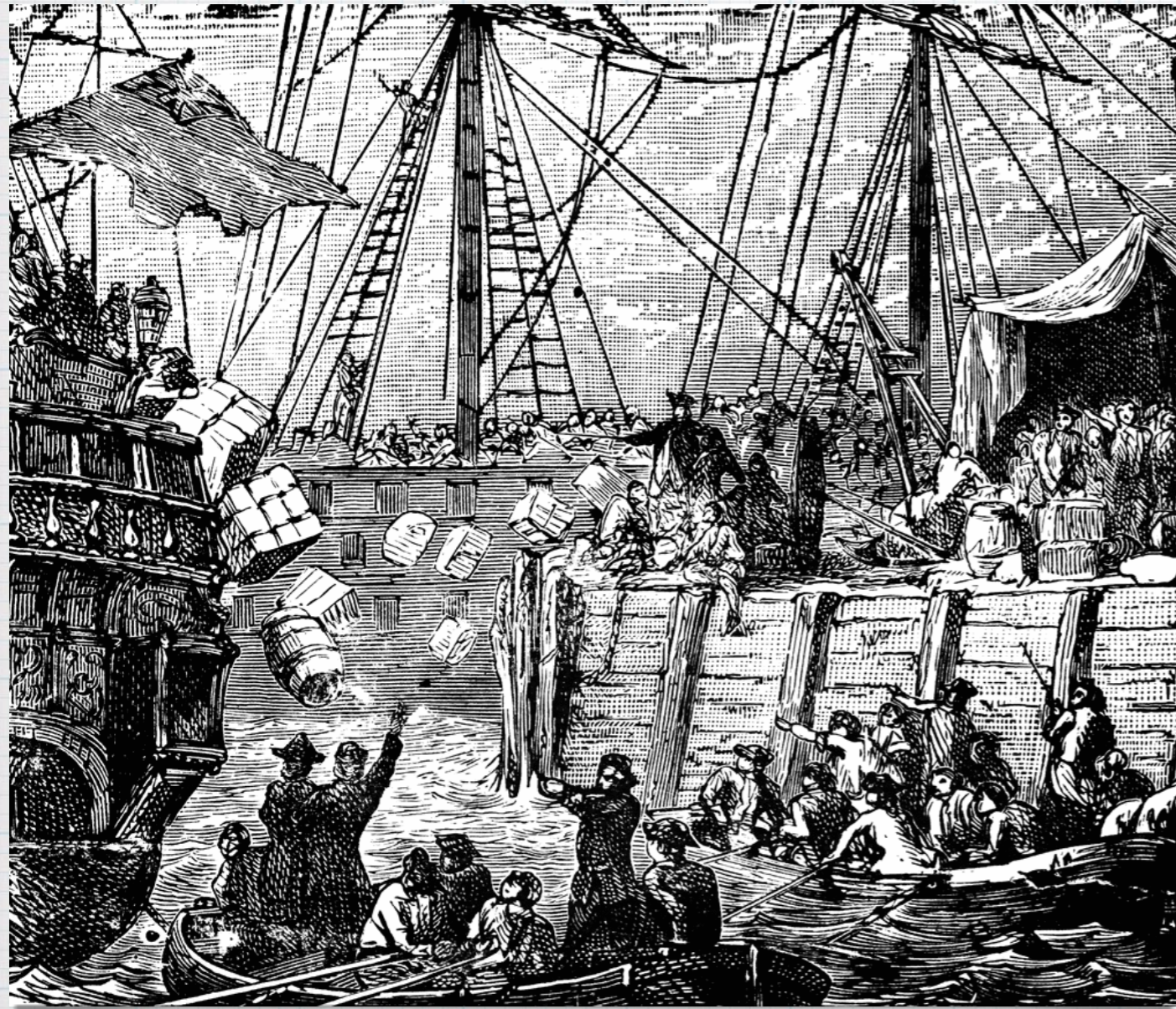
Taxes on Colonies

- * Wars in Europe and the Americas had drained the British Treasury
- * King George III expected the colonies to help pay for the wars
- * Passed taxes that directly impacted the colonies,
 - * Sugar Act of 1764
 - * Stamp Act of 1765
- * Colonists angered by these taxes. Argued they were subjected to "taxation without representation" in Parliament

Clashes broke out in Colonies

Boston Massacre

Boston Tea Party



Parliament Passes Punishments

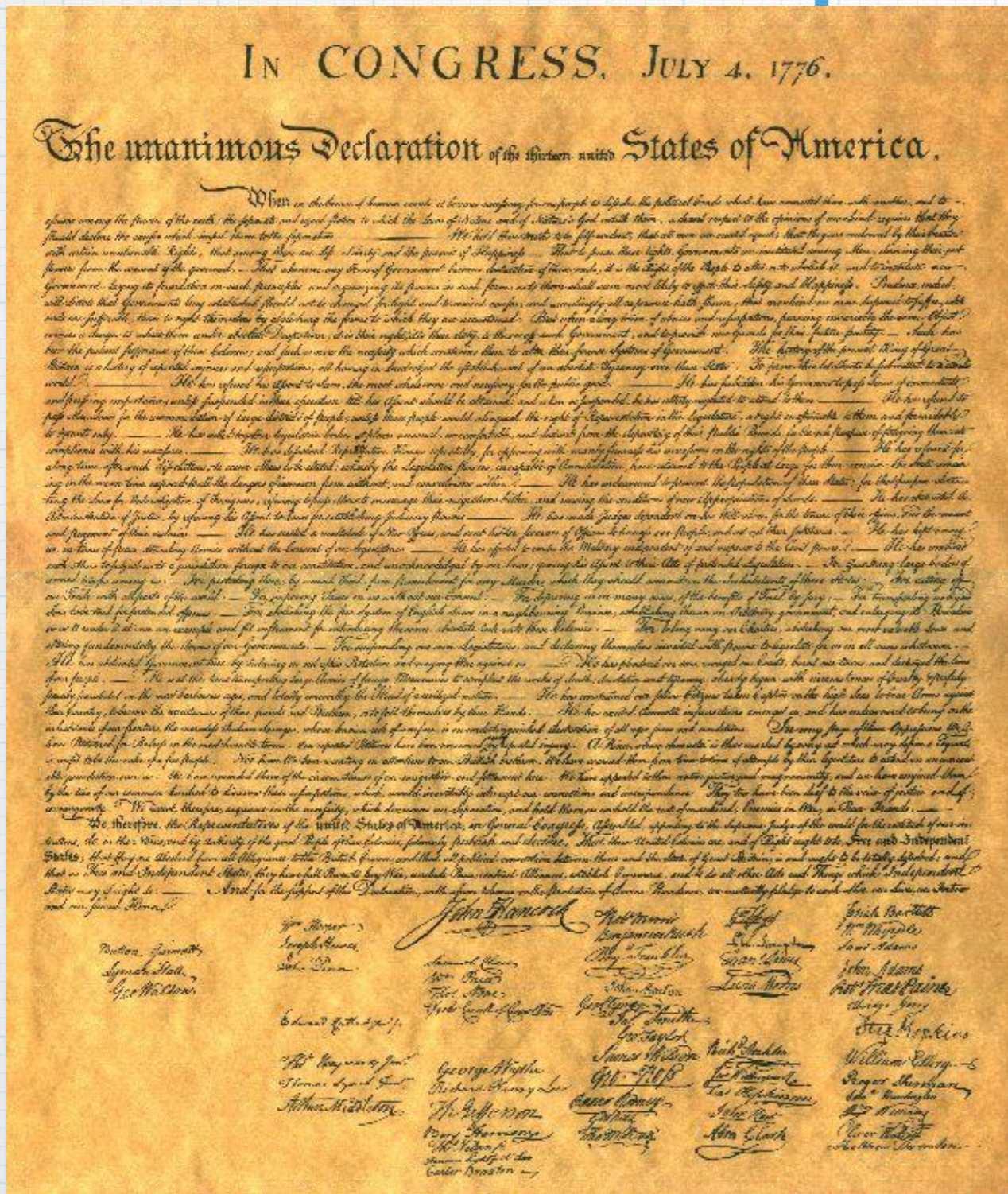
- * Parliament passed harsh laws to punish Massachusetts for the violence and destruction of the tea.
- * Other colonies rally to support Massachusetts
- * A representative from each of the 13 colonies met in Philadelphia at what became the first Continental Congress.
 - * Debated how to respond to British laws

Colonists decide to declare Independence!

- * War broke out in April 1775
- * George Washington was in charge of the army
- * July 1776, declared independence from Britain



Declaration of Independence



- * Written primarily by Thomas Jefferson
- * Inspired by Enlightenment ideas
- * Primarily John Locke

Enlightenment Ideas in the D.O.I

- * Government had an obligation to protect people's natural rights
- * People had the right to overthrow unjust governments
- * Idea of popular sovereignty, or that government's power comes from the people

American Disadvantages at the Start of the War

British

American

Large military fleet

Few military resources

Large number of trained
soldiers

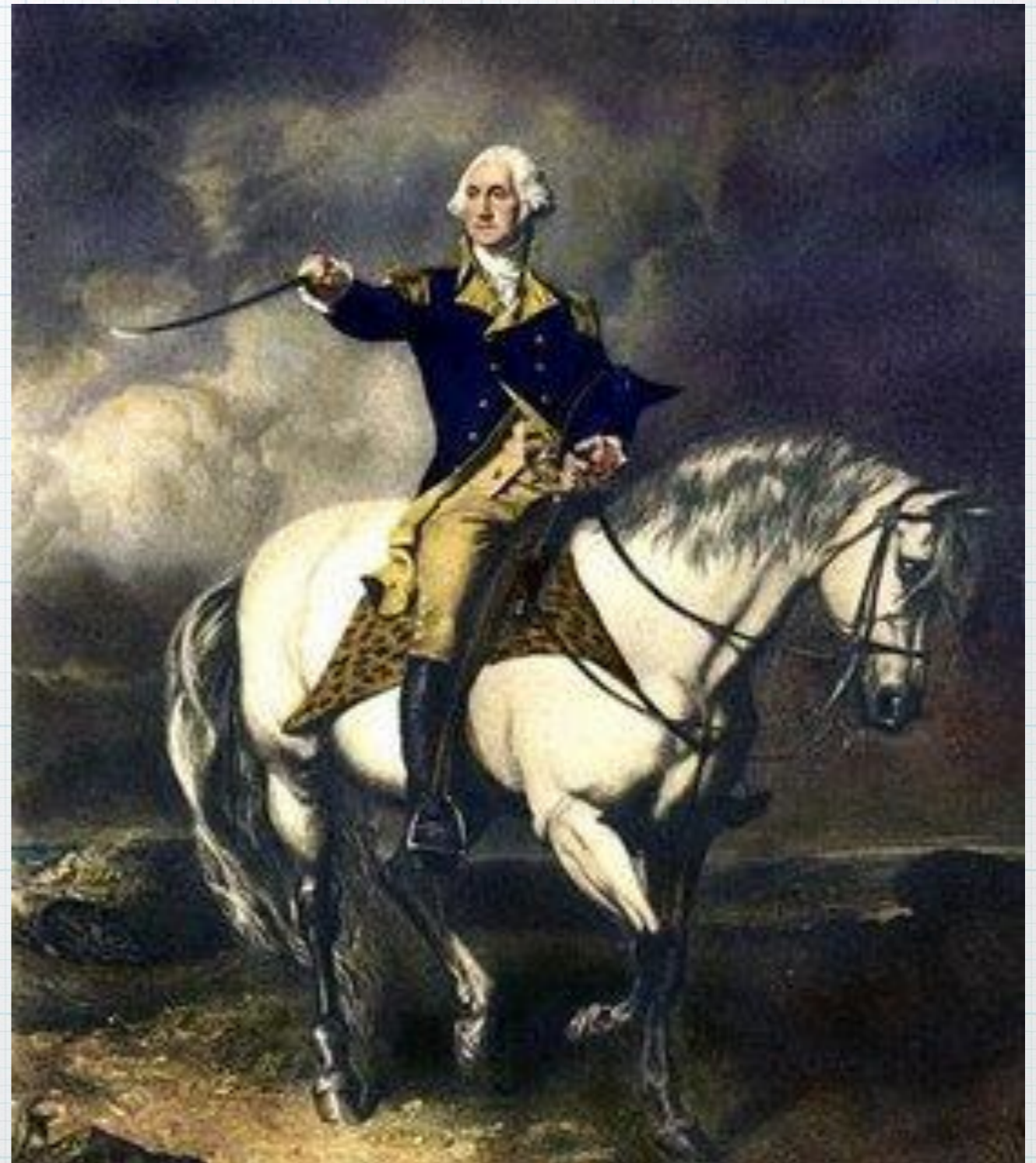
Little money to pay soldiers

Greater military resources

No strategic plan

George Washington

- * Used the advantages they did have:
 - * Familiar terrain
 - * Strong leadership
 - * Fierce determination to fight for their ideals of Liberty



America Needed a Strong Alliance

- * Needed alliance for military and monetary support
- * France was persuaded to support the Americans after a strong victory at the Battle of Saratoga
- * Followed by Spain and the Netherlands

End of the War

- * War ended in 1783 with the signing of the Treaty of Paris
- * Britain recognized the Independence of the United States of America



Articles of Confederation

- * First draft of the Constitution
- * Proved too weak to rule the diverse states effectively

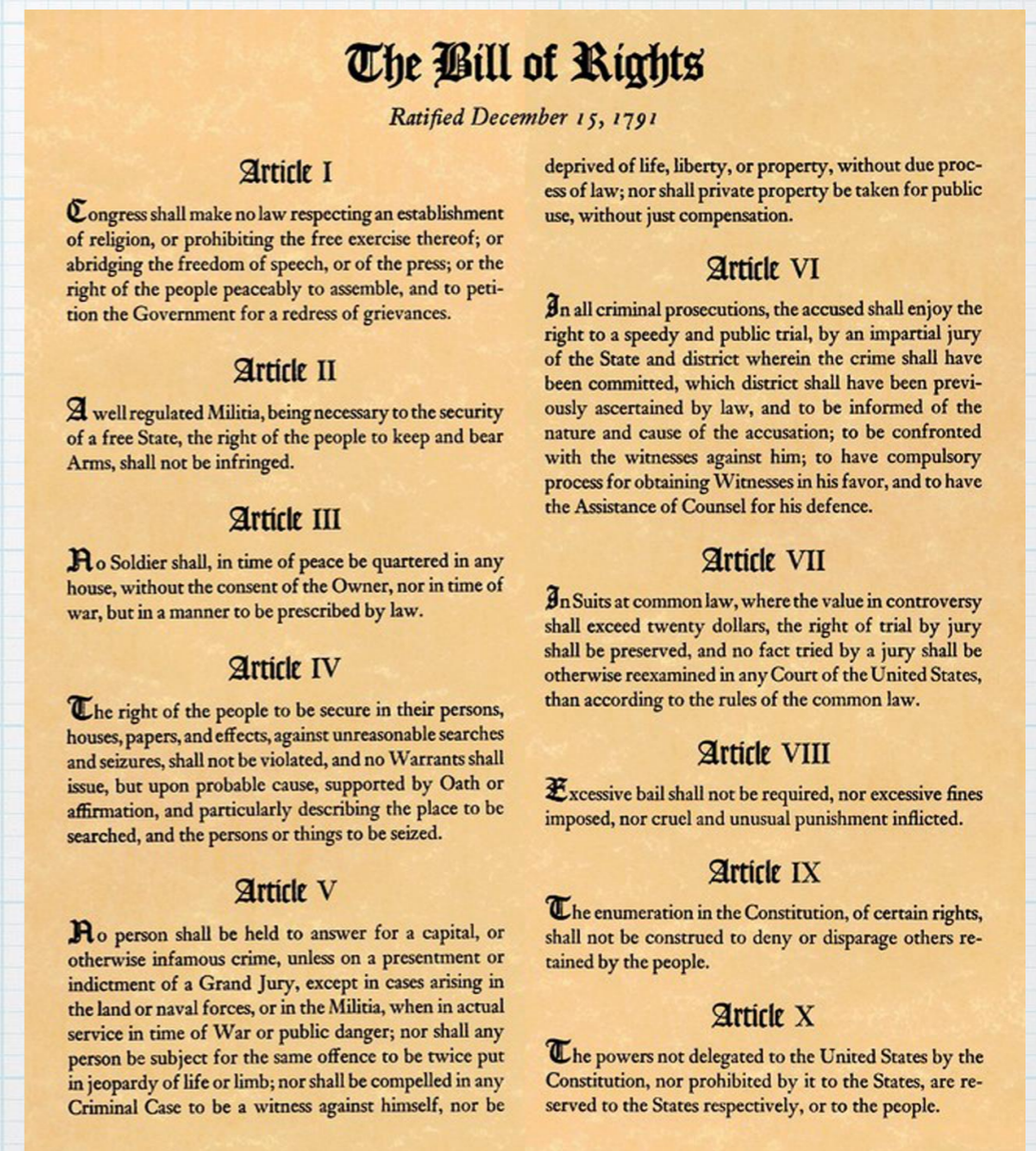
Constitution of 1787



- * Created a federal republic with power divided between the federal government and the state governments
- * Enlightenment ideas:
 - * Government was a social contract with checks and balances
 - * President and legislature were to be elected
 - * Separation of powers between legislative, executive, and judicial branches

Bill of Rights

- * First 10 amendments to the Constitution
- * Guaranteed basic rights to citizens that the government was required to protect:
 - * Freedom of speech
 - * Freedom of religion
 - * Freedom of the press
 - * Right to bear arms
 - * Right to due process of the law



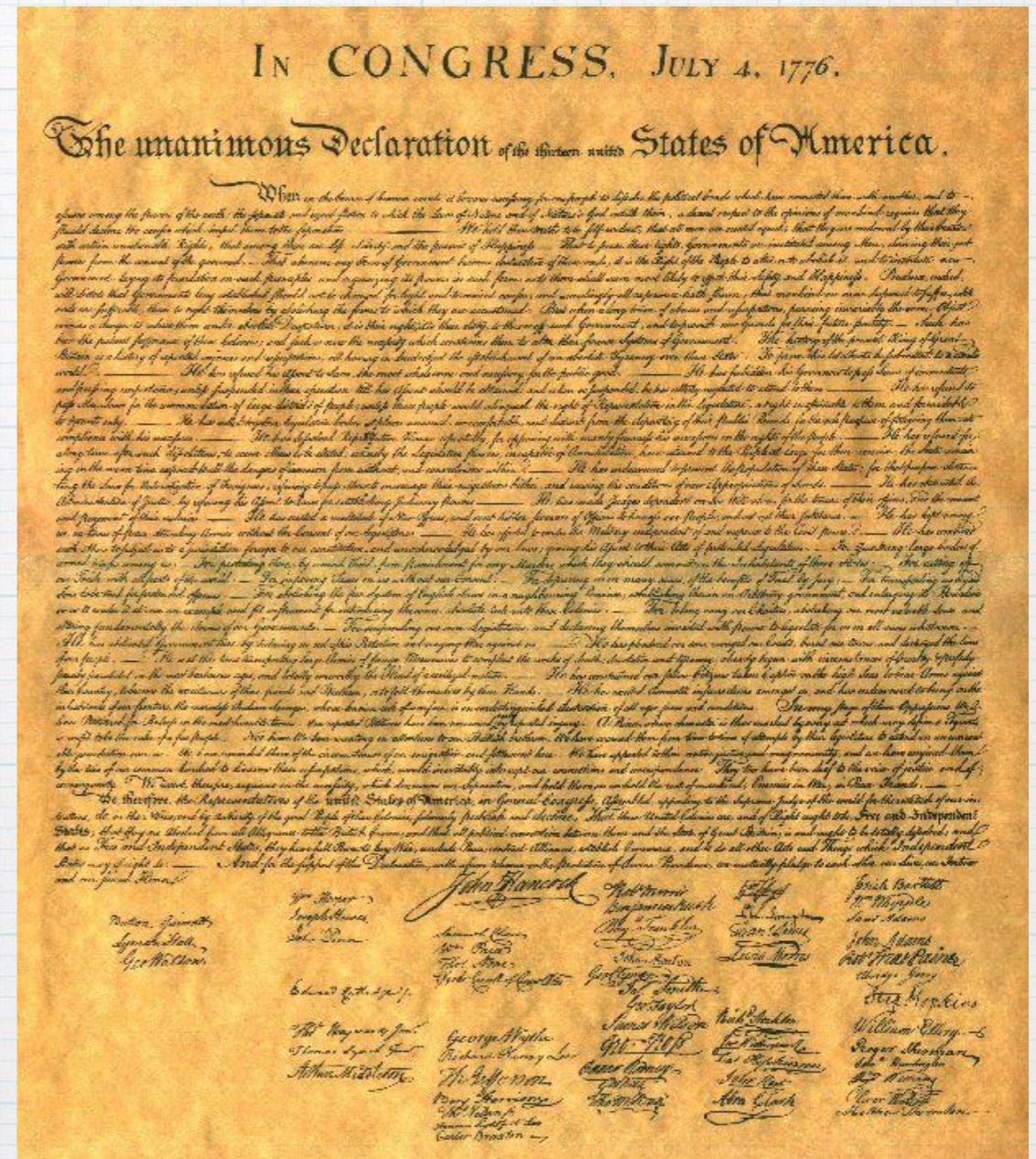
Constitution Officially Adopted in 1789

- * Became a symbol of freedom to European and Latin American Reformers
- * Leaders of American Revolution were inspired by Enlightenment Ideas
- * Success of the American Revolution influenced future revolutions in France and Latin America.
- * Became a symbol of freedom and success all over the world



Declaration of Independence Worksheet

- * Step 1: Translate the opening of the D.O.I. into your own words.
- * Step 2: Highlight the major Enlightenment ideas in the opening of the D.O.I.
- * Step 3: Answer the questions on the back of the worksheet. (Use the longer version of the D.O.I. in the folder to answer #3)



Boston Massacre: Think – Pair – Share



What different
story do these
two different
images tell?

