

Study Sheet for Chapter 2

egalitarianism---Theory of equality, A belief in the equality of all people.

common law--a system of law based on precedent and customs.

precedent--a ruling used as the basis for a judicial decision in a later, similar case.

joint-stock company---investors provide partial ownership in a company organized for profit.

Tidewater---Areas of flat, low plains, near the seacoast of Virginia and North Carolina.

Mercantilism---a theory that a country should sell more goods to other countries than it buys. Power is based on wealth.

What were the various taxes imposed on the colonists by Great Britain?

Quartering Act--required colonies to provide barracks and supplies for British troops.

Stamp Act--tax on newspapers and legal documents.

Declaratory Act--stated that Parliament had the right to tax and make decisions for the American colonies in all cases.

Townshend Act---laws that levied new taxes on goods imported to the colonies, such as glass, tea, paper, and lead. Items the colonists needed but could not produce.

Tea Act---gave the British East India Company the right to ship tea to the colonies without paying most of the taxes usually placed on tea; to bypass colonial merchants and sell tea directly to shopkeepers at low prices.

Intolerable Acts (Coercive Acts)---laws restricting the colonists' rights, series of laws passed to punish Boston for the Tea Party.

natural rights---Life, Liberty, and Property--John Locke

What is the Enlightenment?---Movement that spread the idea that reason and science could improve society.

John Locke--Social contract, Tabula Rasa, natural rights. People have the right to abolish a government that does not protect their natural rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of property.

Baron de Montesquieu---government principle where power is divided among different branches

boycott---the refusal to purchase certain goods.

What did colonial governments have in common?---governor and legislature

What does it mean to repeal?---to cancel a law.

What is an indentured servant?---Immigrants who received passage to America in exchange for a fixed term of labor

What was the Magna Carta and what did it give to the nobles?-document signed by King John that protected the nobles' privileges and upheld their authority. Equal treatment under the law and trial by one's peers.

charter-a written document granting land and the authority to set up colonial governments; or a government document granting permission to organize a corporation.

Mayflower Compact---a written plan for government written by the colonists arriving on the ship, The Mayflower; established a tradition of direct democracy

What are religious dissenters?---those who followed a religious faith other than the official religion of England

plantation---large estate farmed by many workers

Who were the Pilgrims and the Puritan?

Puritans-English Protestants who wanted to "purify" the Anglican Church of Catholic elements.

Pilgrims- people on a religious journey. Separatists.

monarch--King or queen, a hereditary ruler.

colony --a group of people in one place who are ruled by a parent country.

Jamestown--the first known English settlement in North America, in what is now the state of Virginia

What had the greatest impact on public education in the colonies? ----Religion---many colleges started as seminaries and public education served the purpose of helping people learn to read the Bible.

What is the difference between a royal colony and proprietary colony?

Royal colony--a colony ruled directly by a monarchy.

Proprietary colony--English colony granted to an individual by the Crown

What were the Middle Colonies?---New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware
Bread basket, food, agriculture---grew wheat and had sawmills and ironworks

What was the main economic activity in the Southern Colonies?

This colony consisted of Virginia, Maryland, The Carolinas, and Georgia;
Slavery; several plantations for tobacco, rice, cotton and indigo.

New England Colonies--Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire; ---
had small businesses, furniture, shipbuilding

What was the Triangular Trade?----trade route between three destinations, such as Europe, West Africa, and the America

What could men do in colonial society that women could not?---Women could not vote or be community leaders

Women could own property and run businesses only if they were widows and single women.

What are delegates?----a representative to a meeting.

What happened at the First Continental Congress and Second Continental

Congress?----delegates from each colony met in Philadelphia, discuss Britain's unfair taxes and rules

Second Continental Congress---Political authority that directed the struggle for independence beginning in 1775. signing of Declaration of Independence.

Common Sense--a pamphlet published by Thomas Paine and inspired by colonists, calling for complete independence from Britain.

Declaration of Independence----a document written by Congress officially announcing the independence of the United States from Britain; written almost entirely by Thomas Jefferson; passed on July 4, 1776.