

Part 1: The Anchor Facts of American History

Write a brief description of the key event occurring at the date indicated.

1. 1215 AD

English lords force King John to sign the Magna Carta. (1 pt)

2. c. 4 BC

Jesus Christ is born in the Roman Empire. (1 pt)

3. c.3000 BC

Menes Narmer unifies ancient Egypt, becoming its monarch (ruler). (1 pt)

4. 1492 AD

Christopher Columbus discovers America. (1 pt)

5. 1607 AD / 1620 AD

Jamestown / Plymouth settled by the English. (2 pts)

Part 2: The American Revolution

6. Why is James Otis an important Founding Father?

James Otis is an important Founding Fathers because he was a lawyer who opposed the Writs of Assistance. These were warrants that allows government officials to enter people's homes and businesses any time. Otis said they were against the "rights of Englishmen."

(3 pts: 1 pt for the phrase "writs of assistance"; 1 pt for describing Otis' actions; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

7. What was the Stamp Act of 1765? What Founding Father famously opposed it in Virginia?

The Stamp Act was a British law for the American colonies that said that colonists had to put government stamps on certain kinds of papers, such as newspapers and diplomas. Patrick Henry was the famous leader of the opposition to the Stamp Act because it was against the "rights of Englishmen" to have a say on taxes through their own parliament.

(3 pts: 1 pt for description of Stamp Act; 1 pt for Patrick Henry; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

Total Points for this page: 12 points

8. What was the Boston Tea Party of 1773?

The Boston Tea Party was a violent protest against a British Tea Tax by American colonists in Boston Harbor. They threw British tea in the water, destroying a great amount of property to protest the British governments insistence on raising new taxes on the colonies without their consent.

(2 pts: 1 pt for description; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

9. Why is Washington's crossing of the Delaware an important event in American history?

Late in 1776, George Washington crossed the Delaware with his American militia to launch a sneak attack. It would become the first important victory for America in the Revolutionary War. It was part of what convinced France to become America's ally. Without this crossing, it is possible there would be no United States of American today.

(3 pts: 2 for an explanation that focusses on the *importance* of Washington's crossing; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

10. What were three important reasons why, even after winning the Revolutionary War, the thirteen colonies might still not form a true *United States of America*?

Even after winning the Revolutionary War, the thirteen colonies were not a single, true *United States of America* for many reasons. They were distant from each other at a time when transportation and communication were poor; they had separate governments; they had separate religious traditions; they had competing land claims to the West; they had different rules for trade that would lead them to conflict; and above all, they had differing views on slavery.

(4 pts: 3 pts for three reasons from the above; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

Part 3: The Founding Era

11. What is the name for the additions made to the Constitution right after the United States was formed? Why did the Founding Fathers think such additions were necessary?

The name of the *amendments* to the Constitution of the United States created by the Founding Fathers is the "Bill of Rights." The Founding Fathers believed it was important to make a set of rules to strongly limit the future growth in power of the government in order to help protect individual rights.

(3 pts: 1 pt for "Bill of Rights"; 1 pt for rights; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

Total Points for this page: 12 points

12. What did George Washington and the rest of the Founding Fathers say American should do about European wars? What was James Monroe's famous statement of this idea called?

George Washington and the other Founders agreed that America should be neutral in European wars. James Monroe made the final important contribution to this idea, which is called "the Monroe Doctrine."

(3 pts: 1 pt for each of three from the above; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

Total Points for this page: 3 points

Part 4: Bonus Questions

13. What is the final line from Patrick Henry's most famous speech?

English lords force King John to sign the Magna Carta.

(1 bonus pt)

14. What were the promoters and opponents of the Constitution called during the Critical Period?

Promoters: Federalists Opponents: Anti-Federalists

(1 bonus pt)

15. Where was the final major battle of the Revolutionary War fought?

Battle of Yorktown

(1 bonus pt)

16. From whom did Jefferson purchase Louisiana?

Napoleon / France

(1 bonus pt)

17. What are the names of the two-part parliament (or "Congress") of the United States?

House of Representatives *and* Senate

(1 bonus pt)

Total Points on Test: 27 points

Total bonus points on Test: 5 points