French and Indian war

takes place over land

Proclamation of 1763 stops

colonists from moving past the

mountains to keep Native

American land protected

French and Indian War leaves

Great Britain in debt

Britain taxes the colonists

(stamp, tea, sugar)

Colonists boycott British goods

British send troops to Boston

Colonists become upset that

the soldiers are in Boston

and protest

Boston Massacre occurs

British repeal all the taxes

except tea

Colonists respond with the

British Tea party

British parliament and king

pass the Intolerable Acts

1st Continental congress writes

up a list of grievances (problems)

they have with the King

Battles of Lexington and Concord.

Neither the Americans or British

win but colonists say it was the

“shot heard around the world”.

Battle at Fort Ticonderoga occurs.

Americans capture the fort and

cut of British support from Canada.

Battle of Bunker Hill happens.

British win, but more than

1,000 British soldiers were

killed showing the colonists

were going to put up a strong fight.

The Olive Branch Petition

was drafted by the Second

Continental Congress.

It was the Congress' last

attempt to get King

George III of [Great Britain](http://wiki.answers.com/Q/What_was_the_date_of_the_Olive_Branch_Petition) to

reason with the colonists.

The King refused to read it.  
  
Common Sense by Thomas

Paine said it makes “common

sense” for America

to be free from England

2nd Continental congress

votes to be independent

from England

Continental congress signs

the Declaration of

Independence

General George Washington

reads the Declaration of

Independence to his troops