



STEPPING STONE
SCHOOL (HIGH)

CLASS : VIII

Subject: History & Civics

Topic: American War of Independence

Date: 02/06/2020

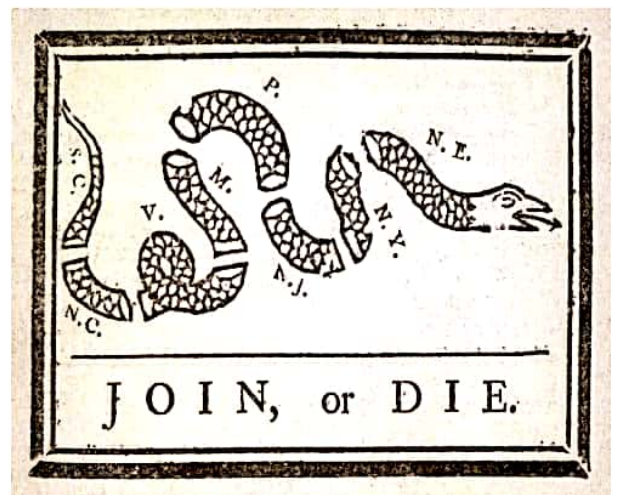
Time Limit: 15 Min.

Worksheet No. : 05

[Students, after finishing causes of American War, today we will start a new chapter the course and impact of this War of Independence. Hope you have gone through the previous portion. The remaining part will help you to understand the total phase of the war.]

❖ **Gradual Unity:**

Soon after the Boston Tea Party, the colonists assembled together in a meeting called the Continental Congress. They had realized that they had much in common and a spirit of unity developed. Gradually they began to think themselves as Americans, instead of belonging to different colonies. They realized that unless they broke away from Britain, they would never have complete freedom. A revolutionary writer called Thomas Paine helped spread the idea of independence.



Symbol of American War of
Independence

❖ War breaks out:

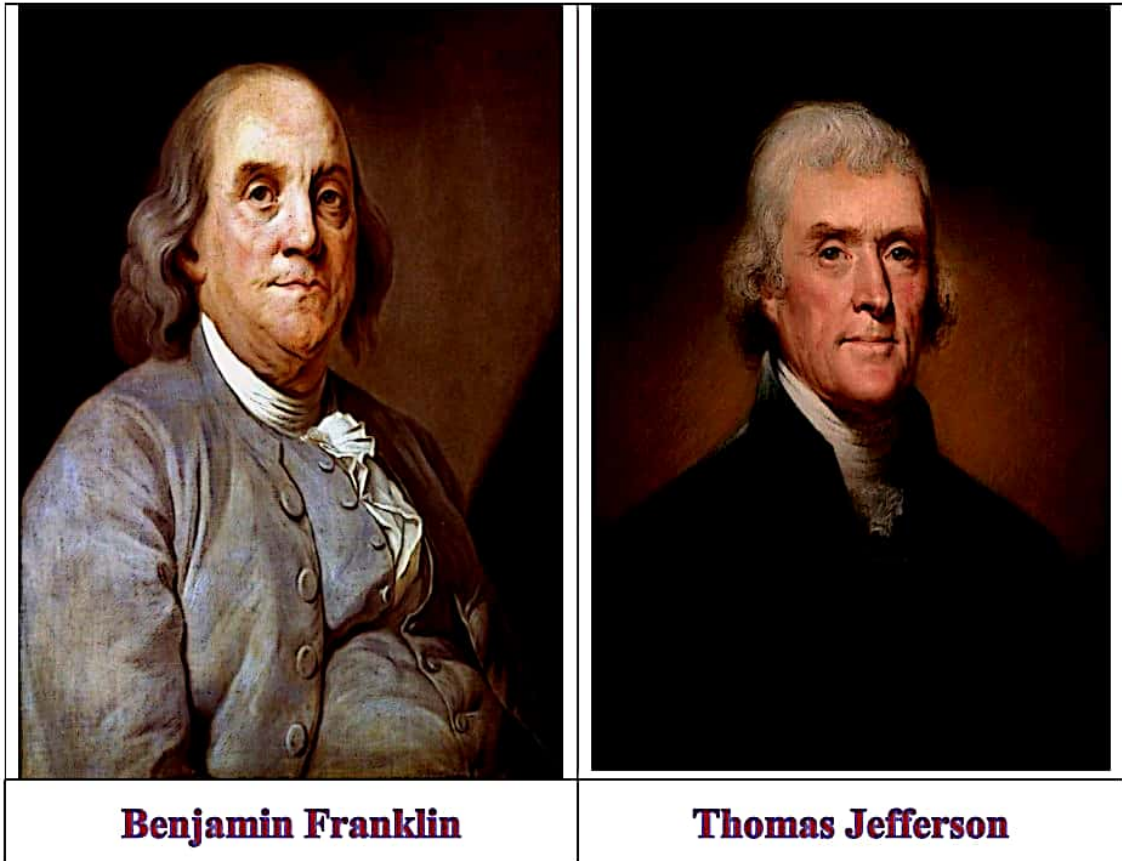
The colonies began to prepare for war against the British. The colonial assemblies gathered an army of volunteers consisting of farmers and labours who were then trained to fight. Several Americans gave speeches to convince people to volunteer. Both sides used spies extensively. British spies discovered that men who had participated in the Boston Tea Party were hiding in a little town called Lexington and were storing weapons there.

American volunteers gathered in Lexington. When the British arrived in the morning, fighting started. This was the beginning of the war. The Continental Congress appointed George Washington as the Commander of its army.

❖ The Declaration of Independence:

Congress asked Thomas Jefferson, a lawyer from Virginia and some others including Benjamin Franklin, a man of many talents, to write a statement of Independence. This was the Declaration of Independence, dated 4th July, 1776. It contains the line:

“We hold these truths to be self- evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness”



❖ **The Course of War:**

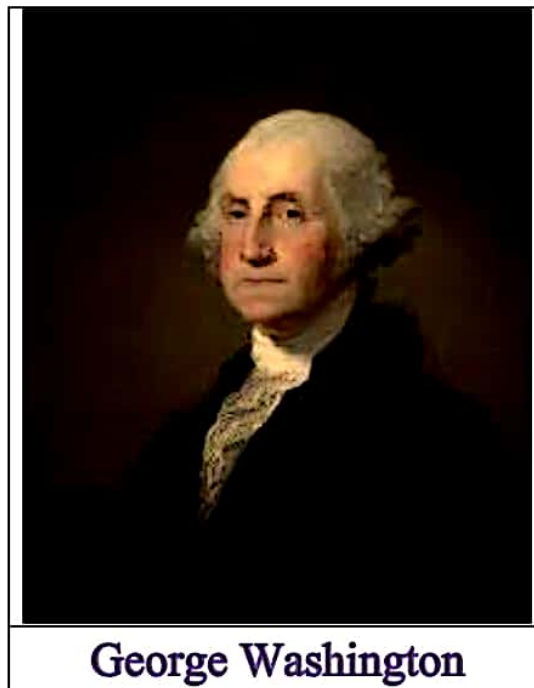
- Though the Americans had declared Independence, they had to fight for it. The American army fought hard but suffered many losses.
- However the colonists had some advantages. They knew the land well.
- They received money, supplies and soldiers from France and Spain, who were Britain's enemies.
- They also had excellent leaders. Though the army experienced hardships such as starvation, disease and freezing condition without proper coats and boots, George Washington's strong leadership inspired the soldiers to fight harder.

- After several years of hard fighting, the Colonists defeated the British and peace was declared by the Treaty of Paris in 1783. The United States of America was recognized as a free and independent Nation.

❖ **Forming a country:**

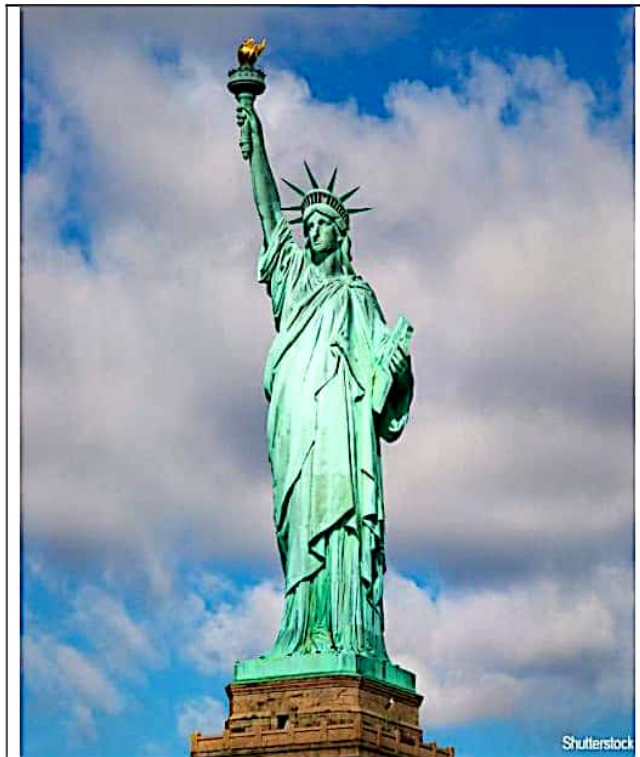
After the war, a constitution was written. When people complained that the constitution did not give enough importance to their rights, ten amendments were added to the constitution. These are collectively known as the Bill of Rights.

A parliament, known as Congress, was created with two houses---The House of Representatives and the Senate. Each colony was now a state in the new country and was represented in Congress. The head of the Government was the President. The first President was George Washington.



❖ Heritage and Impact:

- The American Revolution had a deeper significance. The ideas of the Enlightenment were first put into practice in America.
- The Declaration of Independence was the first document to clearly explain the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy.
- The ideas of Natural Rights became firmly accepted during the Revolution. These are certain Rights such as the Right to Live and be free.
- Another idea became widely accepted during this time—the idea that Governments exist to serve the people and protect their rights.



The famous Statue of Liberty in New York was a gift from France to USA to commemorate the centenary of the American Revolution.

[Copy the questions and solve them on a sheet of paper date wise. Keep the worksheets ready in a file to be submitted on the opening day.]

- 1. Which Rights were granted by Bill of Rights to The American Citizens?**
- 2. Who prepared the Declaration of Independence of America and Why?**
- 3. By which Treaty The peace was established in America and why?**
- 4. What kind of hardships did the American soldiers suffer during the War?**
- 5. Which new idea about the Government arose after the American War?**
- 6. What was the name of American Parliament and name its two Houses**