DBQ: American Revolution

Directions: This task is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Look at each document and answer the questions after each one. Use these answers to help you write your essay.

Historical Background:

In 1763, the French and Indian War ended. French colonies became British colonies. Great Britain had more land to protect. The British Parliament decided that the American colonies should help pay for this protection. What the British government did caused a reaction in the colonies. These actions and reactions lead to the creation of the United States.

Task:

Using information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to these questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to:

- Explain two actions of the British government that angered the American colonists.

- Describe two different reactions of the colonists that showed they were unhappy with the British.

As you review the documents, if you recall information that is not included in the documents, jot it down here! You need outside information in your DBQ Essay.
1a. What was created to restrict British colonists from moving west from the 13 Colonies?


1b. What physical landform separated the 13 Colonies from the frontier?


1c. How did British colonists react to this action by the British?
Document 2:
In October 1765, representatives from nine colonies met in New York about the Stamp Act. Their meeting was called the Stamp Act Congress. They wrote the Declaration of Rights and sent it to the king and to Parliament. Here is part of what they sent.

The Declaration of Rights

The members of this congress . . . duty to make [known] . . . our humble opinions, respecting the most essential rights and liberties of the colonists, and of the grievances under which they labor . . .

. . . that no taxes should be imposed [forced] on them, but with their own consent, given personally or by their representatives.

. . . That the people of these colonies are not, and . . . cannot be, represented in the House of Commons in Great Britain.

. . . Lastly, that it is the . . . duty of these colonists . . . to procure the repeal of the act . . . for certain stamp duties, . . . and of the other . . . acts for the restriction of the American commerce [trade].

2a. What British Act upset the colonists who wrote the Declaration of Rights [1]

____________________________________

2b. What upset the colonists about the taxes passed by the British Parliament? [2]

____________________________________  

____________________________________

2c. According to this document, what did the colonists want Parliament to do? [2]

____________________________________  

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3a. What event does this picture illustrate? [1] ___________________________________________________________________

3b. What are the British soldiers doing? [1] ___________________________________________________________________

3c. How did the people of Boston feel about this event? [2] ___________________________________________________________________

The Bloody Massacre perpetrated in King Street, Boston, on March 5, 1770 by a party of the 29th Regiment.
4a. In what city did this event take place? __________________________ (1)

4b. Identify the group of people throwing the cargo overboard? __________________________ (2)

4c. Explain what motivated this group of people to act. __________________________ (2)
From a letter written by Captain John Peters. He titled it: The Narrative of John Peters, Lieutenant Colonel of the Queens Loyal Ranters, in Canada . . . to a Friend in London

1774 - . . . a Congress was forming through the Colonies. The Counties . . . desired me to attend the Congress to meet at Philadelphia in 1774 . . . I accepted . . . on my way to Philadelphia I was mobbed with my Uncles . . . by Governor Trumbell’s Liberty-boys because we were accused of Loyalty . . . I was liberated (freed) after suffering much . . . My Uncle advised me to meet the Congress to find out what their aim was. I did so, and being certainly convinced that nothing short of Independence would satisfy them, I refused to take the Oath of Secresy in Congress . . .

5a. What experience did Captain Peters have that showed the colonists were unhappy with Loyalists? [1]

5b. What did Captain Peters believe that Congress would decide to do? [2]

5c. What is a Loyalist? [2]
Document 6:

-George Washington at the reading of the Declaration of Independence to his troops, New York City, 1776, drawn in 1870.

When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

-Declaration of Independence

6a. What document is being read to the soldiers? [1]

6b. What army was present at this event? [2]

6c. Why was this an important event in American History? [2]
### DBQ: American Revolution – Graphic Organizer

**Topic Sentence (Use information from Task and Historical Context – do not include any specific actions or reactions)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st British action that angered colonists</th>
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<th>2nd British action that angered colonists</th>
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<th>1 colonial reaction</th>
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<th>Another colonial reaction</th>
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**Conclusion (reword task and add why this is important in history, SO WHAT?)**

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In your essay, be sure to: (check off each item below as you accomplish or complete it)

- address all aspects of the Task (two British actions and two colonial reactions)
- stay on task and on topic, refer to Historical Context and Task on first page
- use information from ⅔ of the documents, plus 1. (3 + 1 = 4 documents)
- incorporate information from the documents in the body of the essay
- incorporate relevant outside information into the body and conclusion of the essay
- support the task with relevant facts, examples and details
- use clear organization (write about British action first, then colonial response)
- proofread when you are done writing. Capitalize first word in sentence and proper nouns. End sentences with a period. Use proper grammar and always write a complete sentence, not a phrase.

ESSAY

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