

Countdown to Independence Timeline Project

Overview: You're going to create a Google Slides presentation primarily focused on the two decades before the American Colonies declared independence from Mother England. Your timeline will include major events, appropriate visuals, and enough information to make us all feel quite educated and enlightened by the time we're done reading through it - which we will, because these are going to be peer evaluated (anonymously) before final grading by ME.

You may work alone or with ONE other person. *If you choose to work with a partner and they suck or don't do their part, then you made a poor choice and it's on you.*

Requirements: Your Google Slideshow should have 12-15 slides. Each slide must contain text IN YOUR OWN WORDS and in a font NO SMALLER THAN 16, plus relevant visuals to help us better understand the events or issues covered on that slide. You have some discretion what you include, but here's a SUGGESTED breakdown for those of you who do better with structure and clear expectations:

- ★ **Slide #0:** Intro Slide w/ Title of Assignment, Your Name(s) and Class Period
- ★ **Slides #1-4:** Overview of each major region of the colonies prior to 1754 (New England, Middle Colonies, Chesapeake, and Lower South) - a map or other helpful visuals plus a few key points about each region's economy, culture, and political structures.
- ★ **Slide #5:** The Seven Years War / French & Indian War - what it was and how it impacted the American Colonies
- ★ **Slides #6-13:** Major events which helped stir the colonies to declare independence and key people we should remember. Most of this is stuff we should kinda know already - the Stamp Act, Townshend Acts, Sons of Liberty, Boston Massacre, Boston Tea Party, Coercive Acts (the "Intolerable Acts"), Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Patrick Henry, Paul Revere, First Continental Congress, Thomas Paine, etc. - since you can't go into all of them in great detail, you'll have to decide what to focus on and what to summarize.
- ★ **Slide #14:** Lexington & Concord - "The Shot Heard 'Round the World"
- ★ **Slide #15:** The Second Continental Congress / The Declaration of Independence

Given that "Timeline" is literally in the title, it hopefully goes without saying that events should be in chronological order and dates (at least the YEARS) should be clearly indicated.

Resources

You may use any resources at your disposal, but if you have no idea where to start, consider these...

- ★ Your Textbooks (duh) and any other hard copy materials available in the classroom
- ★ <https://www.history.com/news/american-revolution-causes>
- ★ <https://www.britannica.com/list/timeline-of-the-american-revolution>
- ★ <https://www.thoughtco.com/timeline-events-leading-to-american-revolution-104296>
- ★ <https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/era.cfm?eraID=2&smtID=2> (“18th Century” section near bottom of page)
- ★ <https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/era.cfm?eraID=3&smtid=2>

Due Dates & Grading

_____ - Initial Check: _____ Points (I’ll call you up individually (or w/ your partner) to see your notes, outlines, initial work, or something that looks like you’ve done some reading and thinking about the project.)

_____ - Progress Check: _____ Points (You should have at least half of your slides finished or mostly finished OR have a very detailed rough drafts w/ notes for the entire project.

_____ - Final Product: _____ Points (Due by the BEGINNING of Class Today. I’ll make copies of the assignment minus your name(s) to share with the class for Peer Evaluations. I’ll consider Peer Evaluations seriously, but the final grading will be up to me.

YOUR Name(s): _____

Countdown to Independence - Peer Evaluation of Presentation #_____ (from first slide)

Briefly explain THREE specific things you think this presentation does WELL:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

Briefly explain TWO specific things it could have done BETTER:

4) _____

5) _____

6) What ONE event or issue does this presentation cover BEST? Explain. _____

What are TWO things this presentation SHOULD have covered or explained (but didn't)?

7) _____ 8) _____

9) How convinced are you that the text is in the student's (or students') own words? (circle one)

Absolutely
(all of it)

Some Parts Are,
Some Parts Aren't

Most Of It Sounds Copied
From Somewhere Else

10) How effective / useful are the visuals chosen? Explain what works and what doesn't visually.

YOUR Name(s): _____

Countdown to Independence - Peer Evaluation of Presentation # _____ (from first slide)

Effectively summarizes the geography, culture, economies, and politics of all 4 regions of colonies prior to the Seven Years War

0 2 4 6 8 10

Effectively explains the Seven Years War and how the New World was impacted

0 2 4 6 8 10

Circle any of the following which are effectively explained in context of a push towards independence:

Treaty of Paris Pontiac's Rebellion Proclamation of 1763 Grenville Acts
Stamp Act Townshend Acts Sons of Liberty Boston Massacre
East India Company Boston Tea Party Intolerable (Coercive) Acts Paul Revere
Crispus Attucks Thomas Paine Common Sense Patrick Henry
Benjamin Franklin Quartering Act Sam Adams John Hancock
Falmouth (MA) & Norfolk (VA) Committees of Correspondence King George III
First Continental Congress George Washington General Thomas Gage
Battle of Bunker Hill Thomas Jefferson John Dickinson

For each event or person you circled, award 4 (FOUR) points (maximum of 60): _____

Effectively explains what happened at Lexington & Concord and impact on the colonies

0 2 4 6 8 10

Effectively summarizes the Second Continental Congress and the Declaration of Independence

0 2 4 6 8 10

What are 2-3 SPECIFIC strengths of this presentation? (Come on - use a little detail here...)

What's the ONE biggest thing you'd like to see improved in this presentation? (Be specific!)

Add together point total from rubric above: _____ / 100