



The Tax Crisis: Advisor to the King

Mission: Britain is broke after the French and Indian War. As advisor to the king, you must raise money from the colonies without sparking a revolution. Make each decision, watch the meters, and compare your choices with history.

Big question: How did British actions after 1763 lead the colonies toward revolution?

★ Warm-up: Fair or not?

Thumbs up (fair) or down (unfair)?

A new school rule made with a class vote ✓ **Up.**

A fee charged to students who had no say ✓ **Down.**

Key vocabulary

Parliament	Britain's lawmaking body.
Repeal	To cancel a law.
Boycott	Refusing to buy goods as a protest.
Representation	Having people who speak and vote for you in government.

1 Box 1

Advise the king

In the simulator: Make all six decisions and read the ending.

What did you notice?

2 Box 2

Read the meters

Which kind of decision made the anger meter rise the most?

☐ New taxes or punishments passed without colonists' consent ☐ Repealing taxes ☐ Asking colonial assemblies

✓ **New taxes or punishments passed without colonists' consent**

3 Box 3

Chain of events

Put these in order.

Put in order: Boston Tea Party • Fighting at Lexington and Concord • French and Indian War leaves Britain in debt • Intolerable Acts • Stamp Act • Townshend Acts

1. **French and Indian War leaves Britain in debt**
2. **Stamp Act**
3. **Townshend Acts**
4. **Boston Tea Party**
5. **Intolerable Acts**
6. **Fighting at Lexington and Concord**

4 Box 4

Patriots and Loyalists

Who would say each statement?

Sort: "No taxation without representation!" · "The king protects us; we owe him loyalty." · "Boycott British tea!" · "Britain paid to defend us in the war." · "We should govern ourselves."

Patriot	Loyalist
"No taxation without representation!" "Boycott British tea!" "We should govern ourselves."	"The king protects us; we owe him loyalty." "Britain paid to defend us in the war."

5 Box 5

Could it have been avoided?

Could Britain have avoided the Revolution? Use results from your simulation.

Claim

Look for: Takes a position; at least 8 words

Evidence

Look for: Names a specific act; Uses the meters; at least 16 words

Reasoning

Look for: at least 12 words

6 Box 6

Legend: Britain's side Legend only

Write a short argument from Parliament's point of view explaining why the taxes were fair.

Look for: Uses Britain's reasons; at least 25 words

Exit ticket: answer the big question in your own words

How did British actions after 1763 lead the colonies toward revolution?

Look for: Britain's debt from the French and Indian War led to new laws and taxes. Colonists protested "no taxation without representation." Each British response (Stamp Act, Townshend Acts, Tea Act, Intolerable Acts) increased anger until fighting broke out in 1775.

Completion codes

Students see a code like **ABC-I3** when they finish. The first part must match below. The letter is the level (E = Explorer, I = Investigator, L = Legend), and the number at the end is how many stars they earned.

Level	Code starts with
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 Explorer	E5Q-E
 Investigator	1A1-I
 Legend	11C-L

 Watch for these misconceptions

- "The war started with the Declaration of Independence." Fighting began at Lexington and Concord more than a year earlier.
- "All colonists wanted independence." Many were Loyalists or neutral.
- "The colonists won alone." French money, troops, and navy were essential.