

World History

War of American Independence

- The American Revolution (1775-1783) is also known as the American Revolutionary War and the American War of Independence. Following the **French-Indian War** (1754-1763) the British decided the colonies should pay more of the costs associated with them being a British colony, such as military protection. Britain imposed a series of taxes that proved to be very unpopular. The revolution did not start over night, but was a long series of events leading to the first shot being fired.
- The American Revolution started with the 13 colonies protesting against these taxes and other laws the colonists considered intolerable acts. The British were concerned to colonist protests might turn into revolt. They sent troops to Lexington and Concord to capture leaders of the revolt and a store of weapons. Paul Revere's Midnight Ride, the rebellion's leaders Samuel Adams and John Hancock escaped, and the colonial militia were assembled and waiting for the British troops. This led to the **Battle of Lexington and Concord**, and the **Siege of Boston**.
- Initially the fight was over rights as a British colony. Eventually the revolt evolved into a fight for independence with the goal of colonies to become a separate and independent United States of America. At the First Continental Congress the colonists issued a request that Britain revoke the contentious taxes and laws. Britain refused, which fuelled the cries for independence. Second Continental Congress was held, and on July 4, 1776 the colonies formally made their Declaration of Independence. A Constitutional convention was held to define the government through the Articles of Confederation of the newly formed United States of America.
- **The Battles of the American Revolution** started in Lexington on April 19, 1775. Declaring independence was one thing, achieving independence was much more difficult for the colonists. There were over 20 major battles during the revolution, spanning a period of 6 years. Initially the British held the advantage with more troops and a superior trained army. The Continental Army eventually grew in size, and through considerable training, became a powerful fighting force. With the help of France, General George Washington and his Continental Army defeated British General Cornwallis at the Battle of Yorktown on October 19, 1781. This led to the **Treaty of Paris**, officially ending the revolution on September 3, 1783.

- **SLOGAN** "No taxation without representation" originated during this revolution.

French Revolution (1789)

- The French Revolution took place between 1789 and 1799 (about 220 years ago). It ended in 1799 with the overthrow of the government (Council of 500 in Paris) by Napoleon Bonaparte. The French Revolution was an event of unparalleled twists and turns. It was also a period of brutal and bloody social upheaval.
- The French revolution paved the way for the secular system of governance that we now see governing most of the countries of the world. From the perspective of freeing the people from unjust monarchist regimes that committed all sorts of crimes under the banner of religion it can be seen as a successful and valiant effort on the part of the people. But the fact that the whole movement was tainted with a hatred for religion and a will to supersede the will of God has-as some would argue-made the revolution a stepping stone towards the moral degeneration of the people. What the revolutionaries failed to notice was that by abandoning the idea of God altogether they would in effect only be moving in circles only to end up as a system in which man rules over man.

Causes of Revolution

For the greater part of history the French revolution was believed to have been the product of social and economic unrest. The country was at the time facing a deteriorating economic condition coupled with a lag between the intellectual development and social political condition that was stagnant. In this situation it was the middle class, also known as the Bourgeoisie which was in the worst social position. This was the educated class which was heavily taxed whereas the ruling nobles and the clergy were exempted from taxation.

The Revolution

After the 'Tennis Court Oath' it was clear that the revolutionary movement was going to be a no holds barred movement which would stop at nothing to topple the monarchy. From here onwards began the civil disobediences

that would eventually pave the way for the revolutionary regime to get noticed and put the changes in effect. The storming of the Bastille prison in the East of Paris on the 14th of July is regarded as being the landmark event that led to the social disorder. This was done in the attempt to gain arms and ammunitions from the prison. Inspired by this event the peasants revolted against these feudal lords eventually freeing themselves of the unfair contracts that they were signed into.

After the French Revolution

In the events that were to follow the national assembly did frame a constitution which could restore the social unrest but differences within the assembly over whether to retain the monarchy or completely abolish it led to further mishaps. The Girondin led assembly declared war against Austria and Prussia due to the hostile stance that they took against France. The Girondin led National Party was overthrown by the Jacobins who were led by Robespierre who wreaked havoc over the next 7 weeks. This period is known as the reign of terror as many executions were held and all efforts were taken to curb any counter revolutionary activities. Robespierre was executed by his own men which paved the way for the Thermidorian Reaction which was eventually overthrown by means of a military coup under the leadership of Napoleon Bonaparte who put an end to the revolution by declaring himself the 'First Consul' of France.

Industrial Revolution

The modern economy is industrial economy. Its foundation was laid in the middle of the 18th century (around 1733) with the advent of Industrial Revolution. It is the process of change from an agrarian handicraft economy to one dominated by industry & machine manufacture.

Russian Revolution (1917)

The 1917 Russian Revolution was not, as many people suppose, one well organised event in which Tsar Nicholas II was overthrown and Lenin and the Bolsheviks took power. It was a series of events that took place during 1917, which entailed two separate revolutions in February and October (with a great deal of political wranglings in between) and which eventually plunged the country into Civil War before leading to the founding of the Communist State.

Growing Unrest

- The first major event of the Russian Revolution was the February Revolution, which was a chaotic affair and the culmination of over a century of civil and military unrest. The causes of this unrest of the common people towards the Tsar and aristocratic landowners are too many and complicated to neatly summarise, but key-factors to consider were ongoing resentment at the cruel treatment of peasants by patricians, poor working conditions experienced by city workers in the fledgling industrial economy and a growing sense of political and social awareness of the lower orders in general (democratic ideas were reaching Russia from the West and being touted by political activists).

Dissatisfaction of the proletarian lot was further compounded by food shortages and military failures. In 1905, Russia experienced humiliating losses in the Russo-Japanese War and during a demonstration against the war in the same year, Tsarist troops fired upon an unarmed crowd-further dividing Nicholas II from his people. Widespread strikes, riots and the famous mutiny on the Battleship Potemkin ensued.

- Such was the climate in 1905 in fact that Tsar Nicholas saw fit, against his will, to cede the people their wishes. In his October Manifesto, Nicholas created Russia's first constitution and the State Duma, an elected parliamentary body. However Nicholas's belief in his divine right to rule Russia meant that he spent much of the following years fighting to undermine or strip the Duma of its powers and to retain as much autocracy as possible. (Modern historians might note that Russian rulers haven't come a long way in the last hundred years!).

World War I

In many ways Russia's disastrous participation in World War I was the final blow to Tsarist rule. In the very first engagement with the Germans (who had sided with the Austro-Hungarian Empire), the Battle of Tannenberg the Russian army was comprehensively beaten suffering 120,000 casualties to Germany's 20,000.

The February Revolution (1917)

- On 23 February 1917 the International Women's Day Festival in St. Petersburg turned into a city-wide demonstration, as exasperated women workers left factories to protest against food shortages. Men soon joined them, and on the following day-encouraged by political and social activists-the crowds had swelled and virtually every industry, shop and enterprise had ceased to function as almost the entire populace went on strike.
- Nicholas ordered the police and military to intervene however the military was no longer loyal to the Tsar and many mutinied or joined the people in demonstrations. Fights broke out and the whole city was in chaos. On October 28th over 80,000 troops mutinied from the army and looting and rioting was widespread.
- Faced with this untenable situation Tsar Nicholas abdicated his throne, handing power to his brother Michael. However Michael would not accept leadership unless he was elected by the Duma. He resigned the following day, leaving Russia without a head of state.

Lenin Returns to Russia

One person keen to take advantage of the chaotic state of affairs in St. Petersburg was Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov - aka Lenin. Lenin had spent most of the 20th Century travelling and working and campaigning in Europe - partly out of fear for his own safety, as he was known Socialist and enemy of the Tsarist regime. However with the Tsar under arrest and Russian politics in chaos, Lenin saw the opportunity to lead his party, the Bolsheviks, to power. From his home in Switzerland he negotiated a return to Russia with the help of German authorities.

Summer of 1917

During the summer of 1917 Lenin made several attempts to invoke another revolution the likes of which had taken place in February, with the aim of overthrowing the Provisional Government. When the Machine Gun Regiment refused to leave Petrograd (as St. Petersburg was then known) for the frontline Lenin sought to manoeuvre them instead into making a putsch. However Kerensky, arguably the most important figure of the time - a member of both the Provisional Government and Petrograd Soviet - adeptly thwarted the coup. Experienced troops arrived in the city to quell any dissidents and the Bolsheviks were accused of being in collusion with the Germans. Many were arrested whilst Lenin escaped to Finland.

Despite this PR disaster Lenin continued plotting and scheming. Meanwhile Kerensky suffered his own political setbacks and even had to appeal to the Bolsheviks for military aid when he feared his Minister of War, Kornilov, was aiming for a military dictatorship. By autumn the Bolsheviks were climbing into the ascendancy, winning majority votes within the Petrograd and Moscow Soviets. Leon Trotsky was elected as president of the former.

The October Revolution

With Russian politics still in a state of constant flux Lenin realised that now was the time to capitalise on his party's popularity. He planned a coup that would overthrow the increasingly ineffective Provisional Government and replace them with the Bolsheviks. On October 10th he held a famous meeting with twelve party leaders, and tried to persuade them that a revolution was required. Despite receiving the backing of only 10 of them plotting went ahead.

October 24th was the date decided upon, and on that day troops loyal to the Bolsheviks took up crucial positions in the city, and major bridges. Guards commissioned by the Provisional Government, who had got wind of the plot, fled or surrendered without a fight. By the 25th October every key building in St. Petersburg was under Bolshevik control, except the Winter Palace where Kerensky and the other Ministers were holed up with a small guard.

Panchsheel

Panchsheel is an important basis of India's foreign policy. Panchsheel consists of two Sanskrit words 'Panch' means 'five' and 'Sheel' means 'Rule of conduct'. So, Panchsheel means five rules of conduct.

Panchsheel was first embodied in a treaty signed by India & China on the issue of Tibet on 29th May, 1954. The five principles mentioned in the treaty are as follows:

- Mutual Respect for each others territorial integrity and sovereignty.
- Non aggression.
- Non intervention in each others internal affairs.
- Mutual benefit & equality.
- Peaceful co-existence.

- Global acceptance of Panchsheel as the basic code of conduct among states lays a solid foundation for world peace.

Democracy

Democracy is a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised directly by them or by their elected agents under a free electoral system. It is a system in which government is for the people and by the people. For example of states having democratic governments are : USA, Canada, India etc.

Socialism

- Socialism is an economic system in which the means of production are publicly or commonly owned and controlled cooperatively i.e., in the hands of government.
- Socialist economies are based upon production for use and the direct allocation of economic inputs to satisfy economic demands and human needs.

Capitalism

It is opposite of Socialism, Capitalism is an economic system in which the means of production are privately owned and operated for profit.

Communism

Communism is the political and economic doctrine that aims to replace private property and a profit based economy with public ownership and communal control of at least the major means of production (e.g., mines, mills, factories) and natural resources of society. Communism is thus a higher and more advanced form of Socialism.

Important Discoveries & Explorations

- 1486—Diaz, a Portuguese discovered the cape of good Hope (Africa).
- 1492—Columbus discovered America.
- 1609—Invention of Telescope by Galileo.
- 1642—Abel Jans 2 Tasman discovered Australia.
- 1774—James Cook of England discovered New Zealand.
- 1789-1793—Alexander Mackenzie of Scotland explored Canada by boat.
- 1799-1804—Alexander Von Humboldt of Germany travelled widely in Cuba, Mexico & South America.
- 1831-1836—Darwin of Britain gave his theory of evolution.
- 1860-1861—Robert Burke and William John of Australia first to cross Australia from South to North.
- 1903-1906—Roald Amundsen of Norway sail through the Northwest Passage.
- 1911—Roald Amundsen reach the South Pole.
- 1961—Yuri Gagarin of Russia, first man in space.
- 1979-1981—Ranulph Fiennes, first to travel around the world via poles.

Exercise (World History)

- During middle age in Europe which of the following class was socially and politically most important?
(a) Persian class (b) Noble class
(c) Artisan class (d) Farmers
- In which of the following countries industrial revolution started at first?
(a) America (b) England (c) France (d) Russia
- When revolution started in France and Germany?
(a) During 14th century (b) During 16th century
(c) During 18th century (d) During 19th century
- What is suffrage?
(a) Right to vote
(b) Departure to another country
(c) Right to believe in any religion
(d) Right to freedom to marry
- When was held the Vienna Congress?
(a) 1805 A.D. (b) 1810 A.D.
(c) 1815 A.D. (d) 1825 A.D.
- In 1782 in France which of the following assemblies was elected?
(a) Convention (b) General Assembly
(c) Directory (d) National Assembly
- Which of the following periods is called the 'Reign of Terror' in France?
(a) 1791-92 (b) 1792-92
(c) 1793-94 (d) 1794-95
- Which of the following is considered the greatest commander of France?
(a) Washington (b) Louis Philips
(c) Napoleon Bonaparte (d) Hitler
- Which of the following is the author of the book 'The Social Contract'?
(a) Voltaire (b) Rousseau
(c) Tolstoy (d) Martin Luther
- Which of the following is the author of the book 'What is the Third State'?
(a) Mirabeau (b) Abe Sieyes
(c) Rousseau (d) Karl Marx
- On which of following date insurgents of France attacked on Bastille Jail?
(a) 15th December, 1791 (b) 14th July, 1789
(c) 2nd October, 1891 (d) 1st May, 1800
- Which of the following was the editor of the newspaper 'L'ami Du Peuple'?
(a) Abe Sieyes (b) Jean-Paul Marat
(c) Mellabeau (d) Voltaire
- In which of the following year the French Revolution happened?
(a) 1914 A.D. (b) 1939 A.D.
(c) 1789 A.D. (d) 1835 A.D.
- Which of the following has credit to give the idea of liberty, equality and fraternity?
(a) Russian Revolution
(b) French Revolution
(c) American Revolution
(d) Glorious Revolution
- During the French Revolution in 1789, France was ruled over by which of the following Dynasty?
(a) Tudor dynasty (b) Bourbon dynasty
(c) Mughal dynasty (d) Czar dynasty
- Which of the following was the ruler of France in 1789?
(a) Louis XIV (b) Louis XV
(c) Louis XVI (d) Louis XVII
- The regeneration of the idea of nationalism is related with which of the following incidents?
(a) Glorious Revolution, 1688
(b) French Revolution, 1789
(c) American Revolution, 1775
(d) Russian Revolution, 1917
- On which of the following countries the army of France did not attack during the decade of 1790?
(a) Holland (b) Belgium
(c) Switzerland (d) England
- The Civil Code of 1804 is known as
(a) French Code (b) Napoleon Code
(c) Paris Code (d) Merabo Code
- Which of the following regions was under the empire of Habsburg?
(a) Denmark (b) Sweden
(c) Belgium-Holland (d) Austria-Hungry
- Which of the following was the leader of Bolshevik Revolution, 1917 of Russia?
(a) Lenin (b) Stalin
(c) Bulganin (d) Rousseau
- In first world war which of the following country was not a member of central power countries?
(a) Britain (b) France (c) Japan (d) Russia
- Which of the following is attached with the birth of 'United Nations'?
(a) Jawaharlal Nehru (b) Franklin Roosevelt
(c) Charles de Gaul (d) Woodrow Wilson
- Consider the following statements about United Nations
1. There are 24 member countries in Economic Social Council (ECOSOC) of United Nations.
2. It is elected for the period of three years by the two-third majority of General Assembly.
Which among the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) Only 1 (b) Only 2
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

- Which of the following organizations is not related with United Nations Organization?
- (a) ILO (b) WHO
(c) FAO (d) ASEAN
- Where is the headquarters of Universal Postal Union?
- (a) Vienna (b) Bern
(c) Geneva (d) Washington
- The tenure of the judges of International Judiciary or Court is
- (a) 3 years (b) 5 years
(c) 6 years (d) 9 years
- World Trade Organization was established in
- (a) 1993 (b) 1994
(c) 1995 (d) 1996
- Consider the following statements
1. Switzerland became the member of UNO in 2002.
 2. Year 2003 was announced 'International Fresh Water Year' by UNO.
 3. The headquarters of International Civil Aviation Organization is in Montreal.
- Which among the statements given above are correct?
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 3
- Which of the following languages is not an official language of UNO?
- (a) Arabian (b) Russian (c) Chinese (d) German
- Which of the following is not a prime organ of UNO?
- (a) International Court
(b) Economic and Social Council
(c) Trusteeship
(d) Food and Agriculture Organization
- Where is the headquarters of United Nations Organization?
- (a) Chicago (b) New York
(c) San Francisco (d) Washington D.C.
33. United Nations Organization was established in
- (a) 1945 (b) 1950 (c) 1946 (d) 1947
34. Where is the headquarters of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)?
- (a) New York (b) London (c) Rome (d) Paris
35. Where is the headquarters of UNESCO?
- (a) New York (b) The Hague (c) Paris (d) Moscow
36. Where is the headquarters of UNICEF?
- (a) Paris (b) Geneva
(c) Washington D.C. (d) New York
37. Which is the 191th member country of UNO?
- (a) Switzerland (b) East Timor
(c) Holland (d) Taiwan
38. International Court is in
- (a) Geneva (b) The Hague
(c) Chicago (d) Switzerland
39. When was Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) established?
- (a) 1964 (b) 1956 (c) 1947 (d) 1946
40. According to the United Nations Convention on Child Rights, which of the following is not a right?
- (a) Social Protection
(b) Employment
(c) Protection from exploitation
(d) Education
41. Which of the following leaders have started Non-Aligned Movement?
- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru, Anwar Sadat, Sukarno
(b) Jawaharlal Nehru, Fidel Castro, Marshal Tito
(c) Jawaharlal Nehru, Chou-En-Li, N. Krooma
(d) Jawaharlal Nehru, Abdul Nassir, Marshal Tito
42. Where is the headquarters of SAARC?
- (a) New Delhi (b) Colombo (c) Dhaka (d) Kathmandu
43. Which of the following is not a member of SAARC?
- (a) Bangladesh (b) Pakistan
(c) Malaysia (d) Bhutan

Directions (Q. Nos. 44 to 47) The next four (04) items are based on the following table

Match List I with List II, List III and List IV and select the correct answer using the code given below

List I (Historical Movements)	List II (Time)	List III (Related Person)	List IV (Role)
A. Renaissance	1. 1871 A.D.	I. George Washington	i. Precursor
B. American Revolution	2. 1350-1550 A.D.	II. Count of Cavour	ii. Hero
C. French Revolution	3. 1776 A.D.	III. Dante	iii. Maladministration
D. Unification of Italy	4. 1789 A.D.	IV. Karl Marx	iv. Main role
E. Russian Revolution	5. 1917 A.D.	V. Louis XVI	v. Writer
F. Unification of Germany	6. 1870 A.D.	VI. Bismarck	vi. Father
G. Glorious Revolution	7. 1688 A.D.	VII. Ferdinand	vii. Ruler of England
H. First World War	8. 1914 A.D.	VIII. James II	viii. Prince of Austria

44.

	List I	List II	List III	List IV
(a)	A	2	III	iv
(b)	B	3	I	ii
(c)	A	3	IV	iii
(d)	B	4	III	ii

45.

	List I	List II	List III	List IV
(a)	B	2	II	iv
(b)	C	3	III	ii
(c)	B	1	IV	iii
(d)	C	4	V	iii

46.

	List I	List II	List III	List IV
(a)	E	4	III	ii
(b)	F	1	II	i
(c)	E	5	IV	v
(d)	F	2	II	ii

47.

	List I	List II	List III	List IV
(a)	G	8	VII	vi
(b)	H	7	III	ii
(c)	G	7	VII	iv
(d)	H	8	VII	viii

Directions (Q. Nos. 48 to 51) The next four (04) items are based on the following table
Match List I with List II, List III and List IV and select the correct answer using the code given below

List I (Historical Movement)	List II (Time)	List III (Related Person)	List IV (Related Event/Time)
A. Renaissance	1. 1776 A.D.	I. Louis XVI	i. The Capture of the Bastille Jail
B. American Revolution	2. 1350-1550 A.D.	II. Lenin	ii. Scientific progress
C. French Revolution	3. 1917 A.D.	III. Leonardo da vinci	iii. Boston Tea-party
D. Russian Revolution	4. 1789 A.D.	IV. George Washington	iv. Abdication of Czar

48.

	List I	List II	List III	List IV
(a)	A	2	III	iv
(b)	B	2	III	i
(c)	A	3	IV	iii
(d)	B	4	III	ii

50.

	List I	List II	List III	List IV
(a)	C	4	III	ii
(b)	D	1	II	i
(c)	C	4	I	i
(d)	D	2	II	ii

49.

	List I	List II	List III	List IV
(a)	B	2	II	iv
(b)	C	3	III	ii
(c)	B	1	IV	iii
(d)	C	4	IV	iv

51.

	List I	List II	List III	List IV
(a)	A	4	II	i
(b)	D	3	III	ii
(c)	A	3	II	i
(d)	D	3	II	iv

Answers

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (b) | 3. (c) | 4. (a) | 5. (c) | 6. (a) | 7. (c) | 8. (c) | 9. (b) | 10. (b) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (b) | 13. (c) | 14. (b) | 15. (b) | 16. (c) | 17. (b) | 18. (d) | 19. (b) | 20. (d) |
| 21. (a) | 22. (c) | 23. (b) | 24. (b) | 25. (d) | 26. (b) | 27. (d) | 28. (c) | 29. (a) | 30. (d) |
| 31. (d) | 32. (b) | 33. (a) | 34. (c) | 35. (c) | 36. (d) | 37. (a) | 38. (b) | 39. (d) | 40. (b) |
| 41. (d) | 42. (d) | 43. (c) | 44. (b) | 45. (d) | 46. (c) | 47. (d) | 48. (a) | 49. (b) | 50. (c) |