**Taxes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Tax (Act)** | **What was taxed** | **Reaction (colonist’s/British)** |
| Sugar Act (1764) | Sugar, coffee, cloth, many other imported goods | Merchants smuggled goods to avoid paying the tax. |
| Stamp Act (1765) | Anything printed on paper: newspapers, calendars, playing cards, etc. | Colonists were upset because they couldn’t take part in passing the tax laws. They didn’t feel that Parliament should pass tax laws for the colonies.  Patrick Henry – gave angry speech against the Stamp Act.  Sons of Liberty formed – protested the taxes; used violence  1765 – Stamp Act Congress (New York) – decided that only the colonial governments could tax the colonists.  Merchants held a boycott of British goods.  1766 – Stamp Act repealed by Parliament |
| The Townshend Acts (1767) | To pay for the services of British governors and soldiers in the colonies  Put tax on: tea, glass, lead, paints, and paper that the colonies imported. | Colonists in Boston threatened violence against tax officials.  Angry mob injured several people – British soldiers were sent to protect tax officials.  Colonists held another boycott of British goods – began making their own.  Daughters of Liberty formed – groups of women wove cloth to make clothing  Parliament decided to remove taxes from glass, lead, paints, and paper – but keep the one on tea. |
| The Tea Act (1773) | This act passed allowing the East India Trading Company (British) to sell tea in America at a price lower than the smuggled tea. Allowed the East India Trading Company to control the tea trade. | Boston merchants refused to sell the tea.  British refused to let the tea go back to Britain.  Tea sat on boats in the harbor.  Colonists threw the tea overboard (Boston Tea Party – December 16, 1773) |
| Coercive Acts  (Intolerable Acts) | Passed to punish the colonists in Massachusetts.  Stopped trade between Boston and Britain, ended most town meetings, gave Britain more control over the colony’s government. Bostonians had to quarter (give food and shelter) British soldiers. | Committees of correspondence were used to spread the news about the acts.  Anger with Britain grew throughout the colonies.  Colonial delegates (representatives) met in Philadelphia in 1774 (First Continental Congress)  They wrote a letter to Parliament – said that colonists should have the same freedoms as other British citizens; asked Parliament and King to stop taxing colonists without their agreement and to repeal the Intolerable Acts.  Colonists stopped trade with Britain (again).  Colonists began to train for battle in case of war.  King George III declared that the colonists had begun a rebellion and made plans to send more troops to Boston. |