Extended Notes:

Unit 1: Founding a New Nation

Period 2: 1607-1754 | Period 3: 1754-1800

“The American Pageant” Chapter 6

Underlined terms indicate previous vocabulary; **bolded** terms indicate new vocabulary.

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| Chapter 6: “This is America, Not Europe.” | Look here for extras! |
| RECAP:  “British North American by 1775 looked like a patchwork quilt—each part slightly different but stitched together by common origins, common ways of life, and common beliefs in toleration, economic development, and above all, self-rule. Fatefully, all the colonies were also separated from the seat of imperial authority by a vast oceanic moat some three thousand miles wide. These simple facts of shared history, culture, and geography set the stage for the colonists’ struggle to unite as an independent people.”  As previously noted, the British were not the only ones with colonies in the New World. Portugal had set up a large colony in South America on their side of the Treaty of Tordesillas. The Netherlands and Sweden had tried their hands at colonies in the area as well. Spain was exploring South and Central America, as well as the southwestern portions of North America. Spanish Florida even bumped up against British North America to the south.  To the north of the British colonies lay French territory. France, like Britain, had to take care of internal affairs before exploring the New World. Their most notable internal struggle being the conflict between the Catholic population and the Protestant **Huguenots**. The **Edict of Nantes** settled the larger tensions by granting limited toleration to Protestants.1  With religious wars done for the time being, France and one of its most famous rulers, Louis XIV, turned to establishing colonies in the New World. The first successful French colony was founded around the same time as Jamestown. The Quebec settlement was lead by Samuel de Champlain, and the colony marked the start of “New France.” The French at Quebec made reluctant enemies of the Iroquois, who hindered French movement south into the Ohio River Valley.  The government of New France fell directly under the king, and was completely controlled by him. There were no representative assemblies or trial by jury as in the British colonies.2 The majority of the population was Catholic and grew steadily on its own. Migration from France was low, as there was little economic motive to move and the Huguenots (and other Protestants) were denied religious refuge in New France. Colonies in the French Caribbean remained the favorites over New France and its snow.  New France flourished in the fur trade. The numerous **coureurs de bois** traded and sold beaver pelts and other furs. They were responsible for naming the places they visited: Baton Rouge, Terre Haute, Grand Teton, Des Moines. French **voyageurs** also joined with Native Americans in the fur trade. They hunted relentlessly and traversed large portions of North America in the process.  Not everyone was a fan of the fur-trappers though. Their incessant slaughtering of animals went against the beliefs of many Native Americans, and French missionaries worked to not only convert Native Americans to Christianity but to keep them away from the trappers. The French Jesuits gained moderate success as missionaries, but played a large role in exploring the new territory and noting its geography.  An ulterior motive to colonization in the New World was to create an empire. This would help France keep up with Britain and other parts of Europe. Antoine Cadillac founded Detroit to stop the British from going into the Ohio River Valley, and Robert de La Salle traveled the Mississippi to found Louisiana and keep the Spanish from going further north. This led to the creation of France’s most important post and port in the New World, New Orleans3 in 1718. Other settlements along the Mississippi, Cahokia and Vincennes, helped supply grain to the French West Indies.  Because Britain, France, and Spain all held colonies in the North America, there was bound to be conflict between them. The earlier affairs, **King William’s War (1689-1697)** and **Queen Anne’s War (1702-1713)** were mainly fought between British colonists and French coureurs de bois, with each side bringing in their Native American allies. Neither France nor Britain saw their new colonies as worthy of regular troops who would need to sail from the home country to fight. Spain joined the side of France and poked at the British from Florida until peace terms were reached in 1713. Britain was awarded the French territory of Acadia, which they renamed Nova Scotia4, and Newfoundland. They were also granted trading rights in Spanish America.  These trading rights created friction over smuggling. The **War of Jenkin’s Ear** fought between the British and Spanish to settle the matter. It led both powers into the War of Austrian Succession, known to colonist’s as **King George’s War**. France sided with Spain, and New Englanders invaded New France while James Oglethorpe and buffer colony Georgia fought the Spanish. New Englanders managed to capture Fort Louisbourg, which guarded the St. Lawrence River—the starting point of the lucrative French fur trade. When peace was reached in 1748, the fort was handed back to the French to the anger of New England.  While New England and French Canada were now heavily wary of each other5, a new point of contention came between French and British colonists: the Ohio Country. The fertile river valley connected French Canada to southern holdings along the Mississippi, but was also vital to westward expansion of British colonies. Because they were now clearly colonial enemies, tensions for the area came to blows when Virginia militiamen, led by George Washington6, were sent to survey the area to secure local claims to the land. The group encountered French troops some forty miles away from the formidable French Fort Duquesne7. After a short skirmish, Washington and his troops quickly constructed their own fortifications, the aptly named Fort Necessity8, against French reinforcements. Washington was forced to surrender, but allowed to march away since he and his troops had put up a good fight.  Another point of trouble was the new British colony of Nova Scotia. French **Acadians** who were conquered in the colonial switch, were later deported from the area in 1755. They traveled all over New France, and south to Louisiana where their descendants are now part of the Cajun population.  The only struggle between Britain and France to begin in North America was the **Seven Year’s War**, or the **French and Indian War**. Partially started by Washington’s foray into the Ohio Valley in 1754, it remained an undeclared conflict until 1756. Battles were fought all over the world for supreme imperial power. Luckily for the British colonists, France concentrated its efforts in Europe rather than the New World.  The beginning conflict at Fort Necessity shone an obnoxious light on colonial disunity for Britain that would be harmful in full-scale war. In 1754, the British government summoned representatives from each colony to Albany. This **Albany Congress** served two purposes:   1. Keep the local Iroquois tribes on the side of the British so they could help fight the French if needed. 2. Achieve greater colonial unity and increase the common defense against France.   Representative from Pennsylvania Benjamin Franklin made large contributions to the meeting, including penning a “well-devised but premature plan scheme for colonial self-rule.” The plan was adopted but hated by pretty much everyone: the colonists thought it did not grant enough independence and the British officials thought it gave too much.  The beginning of the French and Indian War did not go well for the British colonists. General Edward Braddock’s attempt to take Fort Duquesne with a group of British **regulars** was slow and nearly shot to pieces. Their defeat left an opening in colonial defense from Pennsylvania to North Carolina. Britain then launched a massive invasion of French Canada, but focused all efforts on the numerous small frontier posts instead of large and powerful Quebec and Montreal, who supplied the outposts.9  A change in strategy was needed and came under the leadership of the much-loved William Pitt. Pitt decided to let go of much of the fighting the West Indies and go over the strongholds of Canada. His first victory in the siege of Fort Louisbourg was a significant and the first victory for the British in the war. He then turned to Quebec. The **Battle of Quebec** resulted in British victory, and paved the way for the fall of Montreal in 1760.  The peace treaty signed in Paris in 1763 ended the French and Indian War. It effectively kicked the French out of North America: France was now a British colony, Louisiana and the port of New Orleans was granted to the Spanish. Spain, who had switched sides in the middle of the war, was still punished by the British. Spain gave up Florida in exchange for continued possession of Cuba, which had been taken by the British during the war. Britain was now the dominant imperial power.  The British victory in the French and Indian War bolstered colonial confidence. After all, they had played a role in that victory. It also proved on some level, that the British were not invincible since things did not start off well. Colonial soldiers had also seen an ugly show of snobbery by British regulars, and were often denied the credit they were due. They feeling was largely mutual, as British official resented the colonists for whole-heartedly supporting the war. American shippers still traveled to and supplied enemy ports. Some colonists, too distant from the actual fighting, refused to fund the war or supply troops.  On the upside, the colonies now had substantial room to grow. France was gone from North America10, Spain was busy fostering a Spanish New Orleans, and the Native Americans had lost the important diplomatic tool of pitting the European powers against each other. This precarious position for the Native Americans prompted **Pontiac’s Uprising** in the Ohio Country. The Ottawa, along with some of the remaining French traders, laid siege to Detroit in 1763, and overran all but three British posts west of the Appalachians. Though using early biological warfare to achieve victory, the British saw this as a need to be on better terms with the Native Americans.  To help in the matter, the British government issued the **Proclamation of 1763**, which forbid settlement west of the Appalachians. The colonists felt blindsided. The war had been won, Pontiac’s Uprising had been quashed; there was no reason they should not be allowed to continue west. Colonists actively defied the Proclamation. They felt no need to be restrained, having paid for the territory from the French with blood and continuing to grow as a population.  But Britain was just as, if not more, confident in themselves as the colonists were by recent victories. The colonial back talk had gotten annoying, and they were in no mood for it. | If at any point I have typed “Franch” and didn’t catch it, I apologize. You enjoy that though.  **Huguenots:** French Protestant dissenters.  **Edict of Nantes (1598):** decree issued by the French crown granting limited toleration to French Protestants, ended religious wars in France, and inaugurated a period of French preeminence in Europe and in the New World.  1. France was largely Catholic. They saw Henry VIII’s break from the Catholic Church as distasteful in a number of ways. Protestantism in France was literally battled against. These battles needed to end so France could quit fighting each other to make the country powerful enough to compete with others, like Great Britain. The Edict of Nantes would be repealed by Louis XIV in 1685, driving any remaining Huguenots out of France for good.  2. This kept the French colonies completely dependent on France itself, unlike the British colonies who had the opportunity to do things on their own and grow democratic thought.  **Coureurs de bois:** “runners of the woods”; French fur-trappers also known as voyageurs, who established trading posts throughout North America.  **Voyageurs:** the same as above, except this word translates to “travelers”.  3. New Orleans granted access to the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico, putting whoever controlled it in the heart of a major trade route. Once France showed they could use the port to easily trade with the West Indies, as well as transport goods to and from New France, it became one of the most envied colonial takes.  **King William’s War (1689-1697):** war fought largely between French fur-trappers, British colonists, and their respective Native American allies; represented the colonial theater of the larger War of the League of Augsburg in Europe.  **Queen Anne’s War (1702-1713):** second in a series of conflicts between the European powers for control of North America, fought between British and French colonists in the north, and the British and Spanish in the south. Per peace terms, France ceded Acadia, Newfoundland, and Hudson Bay to Britain.  4. Nova Scotia means “New Scotland.”  **War of Jenkin’s Ear (1739):** small-scale clash between Britain and Spain in the Caribbean and in Georgia; merged with the much larger War of Austrian Succession in 1742.  **King George’s War (1744-1748):** North American theater of Europe’s War of Austrian Succession that once again pitted the British colonists against their French counterparts; resulting peace did not lead to territorial realignment leading to conflict between British colonists and the British government.  5. If you haven’t noticed Britain and France don’t really get along. They are, as I call them, best frenemies.  6. THIS GUY.  7. Fort Duquesne is near present-day Pittsburg.  8. Literally, they built the fort out of necessity because they knew the French would come back with reinforcements. Fort Necessity is basically some logs thrown together well enough to be called a fort.  **Acadians:** French residents of Nova Scotia, many of whom were uprooted by British control in 1755 and scattered as far south as Louisiana, where their descendant became known as Cajuns.  **Seven Year’s War/French and Indian War (1756-1763):** Nine year was between the British and French in North America; resulted in the expulsion of the French from North American mainland and helped spark a war between Britain and France in Europe.  **Albany Congress (1754):** intercolonial congress put together by the British government to foster colonial unity and assure Iroquois support in the escalating conflict with French Canada.  BRITAIN AT THE ALBANY CONGRESS:   1. “You have to make sure the Iroquois help us and not France so give them a stern talking to and then present them with all these gifts.” 2. “You can’t fight us or each other if the day comes that we have to fight France over here (again). Get your act together.”   **Regulars:** trained professional soldiers, as distinct from militia (relatively untrained) or conscripts (forced into service).  9. Taking over Quebec and Montreal would have meant the British could have starved these other outposts into surrender from afar.  **Battle of Quebec (1759):** historic British victory over French forces on the outskirts of Quebec; the surrender of Quebec marked the beginning of the end of French rule in North America.  RESULTS OF THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR:   * British victory; increases British and colonial confidence but also colonial dissatisfaction with British rule and British dissatisfaction with colonial grumblings about British rule. * Canada becomes a British colony; France no longer holds colonies in North America, just a couple islands in the West Indies. * Louisiana and New Orleans go to Spain, but Spain has to give Florida to Britain.   10. Poor France. But on some level they knew that their undoing in North America would also Britain’s. \*MORE FORESHADOWING\*  **Pontiac’s Uprising (1763):**  bloody campaign waged by Ottawa chief Pontiac to drive the British out of Ohio Country; brutally crushed by the British used blankets infected with smallpox to put down the rebellion.  **Proclamation of 1763:** decree issued by Parliament in the wake of Pontiac’s Uprising that prohibited settlement beyond the Appalachian Mountains; contributed to rising resentment of British rule in the American colonies.  THE PROCLAMATION OF 1763, A SUMMARY:  Britain: Don’t move here ‘cause we haven’t made nice with the Native Americans yet.  Colonies: \*sticks fingers in ears\* Lalalalala I can’t hear you… \*boards wagon heading west\* |