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Tender Heart High School,
Sector 33B, Chandigarh
Class VIII

Subject:- History and Civics

Teacher:- Mili Bhatnagar

Chapter 4
The American War of Independence

Good Morning Students!

In this chapter we will study about another important revolution. We know that the discovery of America led England, France, Spain and Holland to establish their colonies there. By the middle of the eighteenth century, there were thirteen British colonies along the east coast of North America.

The colonies were under the control of the British government but enjoyed freedom in internal matters. Every colony had a Governor and a Local Council. The British government controlled the economic matters as the colonies were forbidden to use non-British ships for trading purposes. Some products such as tobacco, sugar, could be exported to England only. The colonies were even forced to import goods from England. The colonies had no representation in the British Parliament. So the colonies opposed it and the unjust British policies.

The British Parliament passed a number of Acts which were opposed by the colonies. They demanded no taxation without representation. But this demand was turned down by the King. In order to protest against the increase in taxes, a group of

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people disguised as Native Indians raided British ships and dumped the crates of tea into the sea. This is famous in history as the Boston Tea Party. The colonists were further inspired by the writing of John Locke and John Milton.

In 1776, the colonists met at Philadelphia and adopted the Declaration of Independence. The declaration gave rights to the people. The colonies were led by George Washington. A number of battles were fought, after which the colonies emerged victorious. In 1783 Treaty of Paris was signed between the British government and the colonies. The independence of thirteen colonies was recognised and United States of America was formed with a new Constitution and more rights to people. George Washington became the first President of USA.

The British failed in this War of Independence by the colonies in America as they had planned and executed it well. The distance between America and England worked in the advantage of the colonies. Even the British soldiers did not get proper support from their king. Moreover the colonists got help from other European countries like Spain, Holland and France.

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American Revolution had a positive impact on the colonies as the principles of democracy were established. The War encouraged the growth of capitalist economy. Even the industries benefitted in America. The trade increased between the colonies and the European countries.

MCQ

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. New World | 4. France |
| 2. 13 | 5. American |
| 3. Wooden goods | |

State True or False

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. True | 4. True |
| 2. False | 5. False. |
| 3. False | |

Fill in the blanks

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. American War of Independence | 4. Philadelphia |
| 2. Navigation | 5. George Washington. |
| 3. Sugar Act | |

Home Assignment

1. Short Questions (Answer Type)
2. Long Questions (Answer Type)