

SHORT ANSWER

10 minutes for these 10 questions (4 points each)

1. The French and Indian War was fought in 1754-63. This war broke out in America and then spread to Europe in 1756. It was called the Seven Years' War in Europe and Canada.
2. What was the Treaty of Paris?
In 1763, the Treaty of Paris ended the French and Indian War and any significant French presence in North America.
3. What was the Proclamation Line of 1763?
In response to Pontiac's War, the proclamation established through the Appalachian Mountains a western border that British colonists were not allowed to cross.

Briefly describe who these men were and what they were known for before or during the French and Indian War.

4. Major George Washington: *George Washington was commissioned as a major in 1752 and sent to train militia in southern Virginia. He served as a messenger to the French in 1753, was promoted to lieutenant colonel, and it was his men who fired the first shots of the French and Indian War in 1754. In 1758, Washington returned to Virginia as the most famous living American soldier.*
5. General Edward Braddock: *Edward Braddock was an English general who was made commander of the British soldiers in America in 1754. He led colonial and British forces in a futile attack on Fort Duquesne during the French and Indian War.*
6. Marquis de Montcalm: *The Marquis de Montcalm was a French general. Montcalm overpowered the British in the opening scenes of the French and Indian War, but he died in one of the last great battles of the war, on the Plains of Abraham during a struggle for the city of Quebec.*
7. William Pitt: *William Pitt was a British statesman remembered most for helping to achieve victory in the Seven Years' War, for his role in building the British Empire, and for his strong defense of American colonists and their rights.*
8. King George III: *George III of Britain was king from 1760 to 1820, one of the most important periods in British history. He was on the throne during part of the French and Indian War and during the American Revolution.*
9. General James Wolfe: *A British commanding general selected by William Pitt, Wolfe successfully led his men to attack and subdue the strongest French fort in Quebec, gaining a decisive victory for the British and crippling the French war effort.*
10. General John Forbes: *A British commanding general who, with wise and careful advanced planning, led an expedition that captured the French outpost at Fort Duquesne.*

ESSAY QUESTION

20 minutes for one of these questions. (60 points)

1. “The attitude of the colonists towards their mother country was radically altered by the French and Indian War.” Assess this statement by comparing and contrasting the colonists’ attitudes before and after this war, especially with regard to their military confidence, their opinion of the British, and their sense of unity.

Points an Excellent Answer Might Include

- Colonists fought alongside British regulars and played a crucial part in winning the war, boosting their military confidence.
- Colonists were not as dependent on the British as they had thought; in many battles, the British were dependent on them.
- Disillusionment with British regulars, who were often left helpless by Indian tactics of fighting from ambush and behind trees
- Sense of unity among the colonies, for first time, in coming together against a common enemy
- Began thinking of themselves as distinct from Britain
- Recognition of ability to stand on their own
- In light of all this, resentment for Britain’s patronizing, imperialistic attitude after the war

Sample Answer

The attitude of the colonists towards their mother country was radically altered by the French and Indian War. Their sense of military confidence, their opinion of British strength, and their sense of unity all changed dramatically during this crucial time.

The French and Indian War did much to strengthen the colonists’ military confidence. In this war, colonial militia fought alongside trained British regulars against the French and Indians. They discovered that, in many battles, they were better at fighting than the British, since they were familiar with the terrain and with Indian ambush techniques. It became apparent that the colonists were not depending on the British to protect them. This greatly increased the colonists’ sense of confidence in their ability to stand without the British.

Another lesson that the colonists learned in the French and Indian War was that the British forces were not as invincible as they seemed. True, the British army was a well-trained, well-disciplined, professional fighting force. In the wilderness, however, their disciplined method of fighting in orderly rows was useless against Indians who attacked from behind trees. The colonists saw that they themselves, with their rough wilderness fighting tactics, often fought more successfully than the British. This fact further served to boost the colonists’ sense of confidence and independence from the mother country.

One of the greatest effects of the war on colonial attitudes was the way that it gave them a sense of national unity. Previously, the colonies had all been independent states that bickered and competed as often as they cooperated. In the French and Indian War, however, they came together against a common enemy. This experience of cooperation helped the American colonists to think in terms of unity for the first time.

The French and Indian War was a great turning point in colonial history. Previously, the colonists had thought of themselves as Englishmen separated from the mother country but still dependent upon her. Now they saw themselves for the first time as a group of American states that, united, could be strong enough to stand alone.

2. Was the Proclamation Line of 1763 a good idea? Argue for or against the Proclamation by explaining the reason for the creation of the line and whether it was beneficial for each of the groups involved: European powers, colonists, and Indians.

Points an Excellent Answer Might Include

- The Proclamation Line was created in response to Pontiac’s War, an uprising of the Indians of the Ohio Valley and Great Lakes who resisted British military occupation of that region.
- British wished to avoid future, costly conflicts with the Indians.

Arguments for the Proclamation

- Lasted for many years because it separated two different cultures using the natural barrier of the Appalachian Mountains
- British policymakers were happy because they wished to control and regulate their colonies, which was easier if they remained on the seaboard.
- Spanish and French were pleased, because it kept English settlers out of the interior of the continent, which they wanted to control themselves.
- Pleased the Indians because it kept settlers from overrunning their land
- Colonists were mostly content to remain east of the mountains, where they had access to supplies and defenses and where the mountains could protect their backs.

Arguments against the Proclamation

- Did not ultimately keep the colonists east of the Appalachians
- Was only a temporary fix to problems
- Some colonists paid no attention to the Proclamation.
- The Proclamation caused some colonists to resent the British for these restrictions.
- The British were unwise to allow the French and Spanish to increase their foothold in the center of North America.

Sample Answer

In 1763, the British announced that colonists would no longer be allowed to settle on the western side of the Appalachian Mountains. The Proclamation Line of 1763, as this announcement was called, was a response to Pontiac’s War, in which the Indians of the Ohio Valley and Great Lakes had risen against the British presence in that region. Hoping to avoid future, costly wars, the British issued the Proclamation, and as events would show, it was indeed a good idea, for it benefited the Indians, European powers, and colonists alike.

Although the line did not last permanently, it was a workable solution to the problem at hand. Creating a natural barrier between the very different Indian and colonial cultures, it allowed both peoples to live in relative peace. The Indians felt that their lands were being protected from further encroachment. Those who had believed the French when they said that the British would settle Indian lands and drive the Indians out had some of their fears relieved.

For the British, the line was an immediate success. After years of Indian wars, they were able to achieve a measure of peace. Additionally, colonists remained on the eastern seaboard where the British could continue to regulate and control them. The Proclamation Line also pleased the French and Spanish, who hoped to gain control of North America’s interior—a task much easier to do without British settlers living there.

For the most part, colonists were content to obey the Proclamation. Crossing the Appalachians meant leaving behind their defenses, supplies, and homes. By staying in the east, the colonists felt more protected, having the mountains at their backs and ready-made defenses around them.

Thus, the Proclamation Line of 1763 was a success. It prevented wars with the Indians—a benefit to all involved—and kept the colonists in a protected region where they could continue to grow and develop. Although settlers would eventually push past the boundaries established by the Proclamation, it was a good solution for the problems of that time.