

CAUSES OF THE WAR

The French and Indian War was fought between the English and the French. It took place in North American colonies, and lasted from 1754 to 1763. It was part of a bigger war known as the Seven Years' War. The Seven Years' War took place in many places around the world. British and French were fighting over colonies around the world. They were battles in Africa, India, and the West Indies.

On the American continent, the cause of the war was land. Many European nations had sent people to America to start settlements. Primarily, the French, the British, and the Spanish came. While France was fairly content with its land, the British wanted to expand west, and the French wanted to expand south. Eventually, the British and the French ran into each other in the Ohio River Valley. They wanted the same land.

France and England wanted more land because they wanted to trade with other nations. Trade was very important because countries made a lot of money trading. To be able to trade, they needed access to ports and resources. The French worried that the British would take over their colonies, and the British feared that the French would take over their colonies. Both countries were worried about losing their colonies in North America.

In the French and Indian War, the French and the British found allies with native groups. Most of the native groups wanted to join the French because the French had been nicer to the natives. They preferred the French for various reasons: (1) the French settled in smaller numbers because they primarily wanted to trade, (2) the French learned the culture, and (3) the French learned some of the native languages.

The first encounter between the British and the French during the French and Indian War took place in 1754. It is believed that a young lieutenant colonel was asked to defend a fort in Pittsburgh. He led an attack on some French soldiers, that lieutenant colonel was George Washington.

There were other small battles between the British and the French in 1754 and 1755, but the war became much more intense starting in 1756.

WORDS TO KNOW

Encounter - unexpectedly experience

Content - satisfied or pleased

Ports - a harbor where ships load and unload



CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. How many representatives met in Albany New York?
- 15 20 25
2. What did the colonies fear if the Albany Plan was passed?
- Loss of power Leadership No enforcement
3. During this time how many colonies were there?
- 13 15 17
4. The Albany Plan was never submitted to the king of _____?
- Spain France England

TRUE OR FALSE

A plan submitted by a representative from Ohio was chosen.

TRUE FALSE

Franklin would later play a crucial role in the Civil War.

TRUE FALSE

A group of twenty representatives came together in Albany, New York.

TRUE FALSE

The group of representatives was referred to as the House of Burgesses.

TRUE FALSE

A mission statement is a statement that tells the purpose of an organization.

TRUE FALSE

The reign of King George III caused some tension between the colonies and the many.

TRUE FALSE

THE WAR BEGINS

Around the world there was war between the French and the British. It was over colonies and trade. This included the colonies of North America. In North America, this war was called the French and Indian War.

There were many small skirmishes in the Ohio River Valley. The French built a fort, Fort Duquesne, in present-day Pittsburgh. This was an important area because it was where two rivers joined. This was perfect for transporting for trade. In 1754, a young man named George Washington was sent to deliver an ultimatum to the French. They either had to leave or they would be attacked. It was later an attack by George Washington that led to the war that spread around the world.

From 1754 to 1760 there were several small battles between the British and the French. At first, the French kept winning. Most of the British soldiers were colonists.

They weren't as involved in the war as the French. Also, the British were outnumbered by the French. Another factor was that the French had more money than the British, so they were able to afford more supplies for their soldiers.

Things began to change in 1758. William Pitt became the commander of the military. He felt that winning the French and Indian war would help England win a vast empire. He borrowed a lot of money from Parliament to pay for the war. They used some of the money to pay the soldiers.

The British started winning battles in 1758. They won the Battle of Louisburg. The British captured Fort Duquesne. The British built a fort on it called Fort Pitt.

The Battle of Quebec was one of the most important battles. It took place in 1759. The British climbed the cliffs around the city of Quebec and then attacked the French troops.

The war was ended with the Treaty of Paris in 1763, which showed much clearer land boundaries. The French lost most of their land overseas, and Spain surrendered Florida to the British.

WORDS TO KNOW

Skirmishes - smaller, unplanned fighting

Ultimatum - a final demand

Vast - large or immense space



CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. Which direction did the British push the natives?

- West East South

2. How did the colonists feel about the taxes?

- Content Happy Excited

3. What were the people from the north, pushed south, called?

- Taigas Cajuns Cherokee

4. Eventually, the colonists wanted to be free from what country?

- Ireland England France

TRUE OR FALSE

There are parts of Louisiana that are still very French.

TRUE FALSE

The Italians moved to Canada.

TRUE FALSE

England became the most powerful military in the world.

TRUE FALSE

George Washington had led soldiers in the Civil War.

TRUE FALSE

John Adams became the first president of the United States.

TRUE FALSE

Britain got money by taxing the colonies.

TRUE FALSE