

Sovereign

“It was made up of five sovereign nations that had joined together as one larger group.”

Independent; having self-government.

Independence

“France, a former threat, would later help the colonies achieve independence.”

The state of being self-governing and not under the authority of another country.

Land speculator

“This went against the wishes of American land speculators, who wanted to own and then sell thousands of hectares of arable land in the Ohio Valley.”

A person who buys and sells land for a profit.

Smuggler

“This meant that smugglers, who avoided taxes and other payments on imports, could make a handy profit.”

Someone who imports and exports goods illegally.

Protest

“Some Boston merchants protested by refusing to buy British goods, but at the time the protest was fairly low key.”

A public demonstration of objection, often to a government policy.

Tar and feather

“Officials sent out to enforce the Stamp Act were often attacked. Some were tared and feathered, a painful and humiliating experience.”

Covering a person with hot tar and feathers.

Repeal

“Few officials were brave enough to force people to use the stamps. The Act was a disaster, and everyone knew it. It was repealed in 1766.”

To take back.

Sons of Liberty

“The Sons of Liberty were dedicated to resisting British taxes and trade restrictions, and were willing to resort to violence, including harassing British tax officers”

A political group of activists.

Patriot

“Led by colonial leaders, and... encouraged by the Sons of Liberty, which were organized groups of American patriots, people challenged the British government”

A person devoted to the interests of his or her country.

Intolerable Acts

“Parliament then passed a series of Acts that were meant to punish Boston and assert British authority. These became known as the Intolerable Acts.”

Acts passed by British parliament, considered by American colonists to violate their natural and constitutional rights.

Boycott

“Leaders demanded a boycott of goods from England, and began cutting economic ties to the home country.”

Refuse to buy goods from a particular source.