The Stamp Act Rebellion

George III (1738-1820)

From the "Encyclopedia of Virginia," this biographical profile offers an overview of the life and achievements of George III during his fifty-one-year reign as king of Great Britain and Ireland. The personal background on George William Frederick includes birth, childhood, education, and experiences growing up in the royal House of Hanover. King George’s responses to events during the Seven Years’ War, the Irish Rebellion, and the French Revolution are analyzed with the help of historical drawings and documents. A "Time Line" from 1663 through 1820 appears at the end.

Grade Level: 6-8, 9-12

URL: http://www.encyclopediavirginia.org

Stamp Act Crisis

In 1766, Benjamin Franklin testified to Parliament about the Stamp Act and a month later it was repealed. The Stamp Act sparked the first widespread eruption of anti-British resistance. The primary source documents at this web site will help you understand why Parliament passed the tax and why so many Americans opposed it. The documents show the colonists' first widespread resistance to British authority and how they responded to their first victory in the revolutionary era. Discussion questions are included.

Grade Level: 6-8, 9-12

URL: http://americainclass.org

American History Documents

The online presence of the Indiana University's Lilly Library includes the virtual exhibition American History Documents. Complemented by enlargeable images of items from the library's actual collection, this site includes two entries related to the Stamp Act of 1765: the cover pages from An Act for Granting and Applying Certain Stamp Duties and Other Duties, in the British Colonies and Plantations in America, London and New Jersey. Both documents are complemented by brief essays outlining the Act's effect on the colonists.

Grade Level: 6-8, 9-12

URL: http://www.indiana.edu
1764: Loyal Subjects?

The American colonies and Great Britain had enjoyed more than a decade of harmony, but that came to an end in 1764 with the Sugar Act. They had just experienced victory in a war, but wartime debt caused Britain to look to the colonies for revenue. Their demands for taxes on British goods quickly caused commercial relations to decline. Their loyal subjects wanted self-government, as well as the ability to buy from other countries and print currency. Imperial policy threatened the colonists' livelihoods. It was much like a parent trying to be strict with a teenager after having been lax.

Topic: Sugar Act

Language: English

Lexile: 1260

URL: http://americainclass.org

Making the Revolution: America, 1763-1791

Analyze the transformation from loyal British subjects to American patriots in the years leading up to the American Revolution. The livelihoods of colonial merchants were threatened by new British taxes and rules about trade. With the economy already suffering after the French and Indian War, the Stamp Act and Townshend Acts created a crisis. Colonists were angered by the Quartering Act. Bostonians began to riot, and the Coercive Acts were seen as a challenge. Resistance and a few deaths gave way to war.

Topic: American Revolution, 1775-1783 (Revolutionary War)

Language: English

Lexile: 1100

URL: http://americainclass.org

Culpeper's Rebellion

In order to fully understand Culpeper's Rebellion, this digital history chapter first tells you about the environment and the events that led up to the rebellion. The chapter begins with a discussion on the economic theory of the time and the English government's dependence on the colonies for revenue. It explains the Navigation Acts, the series of laws regulating trade within the British Empire. It also describes the circumstances surrounding the customs collector and the men who force him out of office, the aftermath of the rebellion, and the connections between the Navigation Acts, the rebellion, and the American Revolution.

Topic: Navigation acts, 1649-1696

Language: English

Lexile: 1260

URL: http://www.learnnc.org
The Road to Revolution (1763-1774)

Examine factors that led to the Revolutionary War between the American colonies and Britain. France was no longer a threat in North America, so King George III of England decided to tighten English control. He issued a proclamation forbidding the colonists from crossing the Appalachians. The area beyond was to be left to Native Americans. British debts caused them to look to the colonies for income. The debate over taxes wasn't about taxes being too expensive, but about the British right to levy any taxes. Riots, massacres, and boycotts ensued.

Topic: American Revolution, 1775-1783 (Revolutionary War)  
Language: English  
Lexile: BR

URL: http://www.theomahaproject.org

John Bull and Uncle Sam: Four Centuries of British-American Relations- The American Revolution

The American Revolution began in 1775 and concluded with a peace treaty in the fall of 1782. This war was three times more lethal, in the loss of life, than World War II. Most experts endorse the theory that the Revolution was a political conflict. One interesting link is the rough draft of the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Jefferson composed this draft and the corrections by Benjamin Franklin appear in the margin. One of the changes made to this document by Congress was the deletion of Jefferson's criticism of slavery.

Topic: American Revolution, 1775-1783 (Revolutionary War)  
Language: English  
Lexile: 1320

URL: http://www.loc.gov

1766-69: The Crisis Deepens

When the British Parliament asserted its authority to legislate for the colonies, they considered it a legitimate use of imperial authority to finance and secure the colonies. The colonists did not agree. A table provides an overview of the Townshend Acts passed in 1767. Find out why the Townshend Acts angered the colonists and learn why one historian believed that the union of the two countries might have lasted for ages. Primary source documents illustrate how the colonists responded to the Townshend Acts and what happened after. Discussion questions are included.

Topic: Townshend Acts (1767)  
Language: English  
Lexile: 1420

URL: http://americainclass.org
The Whiskey Rebellion: The Distilled Spirits Tax of 1791

The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau provides information on the Distilled Spirits Tax of 1791. In return for the federal government assuming Revolutionary War debts from the states, Congress was given authority to collect taxes and excises. The Distilled Spirit Tax was paid by producers. Small producers on the frontier depended on whiskey as a currency for trade. Those who failed to pay the tax might have to make a trip of hundreds of miles to the nearest federal courthouse. Tax collectors sometimes got tarred and feathered. Learn about the violence that broke out and the president's response.

Topic: Whiskey Rebellion, Pa., 1794  
Language: English  
Lexile: 1580

URL: http://www.ttb.gov

On This Day: American Patriots Carry Out Boston Tea Party

On the night of December 16, 1773, members of the Sons of Liberty destroyed the cargo of tea found on British ships in the Boston Harbor and this featured article tells you about the events that led to act of rebellion. You will learn about the taxes that were imposed on the American colonies, the repeal of all taxes but those on tea, and how the East India Company caused hostilities to grow. Additional details related to the Boston Tea Party are provided along with links to related information.

Topic: Boston Tea Party, 1773  
Language: English  
Lexile: 1390

URL: http://www.findingdulcinea.com

Faneuil Hall: The Meeting Place of the Patriots

Faneuil Hall in Boston was a place where people met to discuss important issues during Colonial times. The building was designed by John Smybert, a portrait artist who settled in Boston from Scotland. About half way into this article you can learn more about Smybert. Learn what he did before coming to America, where in Boston he lived, how he made his living and what the design of Faneuil Hall was based on.

Topic: Smibert, John  
Language: English

URL: http://www.bostonteapartyship.com

Red River Resistance

Grade Level:
Nineteen unarmed riders confronted land surveyors to protest the arrival of settlers wanting to farm their land. The Metis opposed the Canadian government's plan to settle the West. Red River had previously been controlled by the Hudson Bay Company. It became a battle between the Red River Settlement and the government over land ownership. Louis Riel led the militia. Father Noel-Joseph Richot negotiated the Manitoba Act. Riel was forced into exile and executed for treason. Learn about the locations where the Red River Resistance took place.

**Topic:** Red River Rebellion, 1869-1870  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1450

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**Jose Maria Morelos Y Pavon (1765-1815)**

After working on a sugar cane farm, Jose Maria Morelos went to college and seminary to study Latin, philosophy, ethics, and theology. He became a priest and a teacher. Hearing the news of Hidalgo's rebellion, he joined the uprising and gathered troops in the south. He fought the royalists and published edicts against slavery and castes. Learn about his victories and defeats. After his victories, Congress named him Supreme Commander. After his defeats, he was dismissed. A city and state in Mexico were named after Morelos.

**Topic:** Morelos, Jose Maria  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1150

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**British Reforms and Colonial Resistance, 1763 - 1766**

The French and Indian War planted seeds for future conflict that no one yet saw coming. Did you know this war was also fought in Europe? The British won, but their national debt and even the interest on the debt was enormous. With peace between the settlers and Native Americans being unlikely, Britain felt it had to keep an army in America. That didn't go over well with either colonists or Native Americans. Britain wanted to tax the colonists for providing this defense, and the colonists used boycotts after the British cracked down on smuggling.

**Topic:** Proclamation of 1763  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1190

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**The Intolerable Acts**

One of the historic events leading to the Independence of America was the introduction of the Intolerable Acts. This article explains how the colonists had upset Parliament and what Parliament did in retaliation. It describes the Coercive Acts, otherwise known as the Intolerable Acts and the specific actions that were taken to punish the colonists. An excerpt of a letter from Samuel Adams is included along with details of the Quebec Act. A chart of the Intolerable Acts contains a description of each.
Top: Boston Tea Party, 1773

English

Lexile: 1240

URL: http://www.ushistory.org

John Bull and Uncle Sam

Baseball, considered by many to be an American invention, may have earlier roots in Great Britain, according to an 18th century British children's poem. This Library of Congress exhibit covers four centuries of the relationship and influence between Great Britain and the United States. The well-known American icon Uncle Sam bears striking resemblances to the British John Bull. From the time of the early explorers, the cultures of these two English-speaking nations have been intertwined, as they have taken parts in wars as enemies and allies, and shared reforms and technological development.

Topic: North America--Civilization--British influences

English

Lexile: 1460

URL: http://www.loc.gov

Art. X. – The Great Sepoy Rebellion

Travel back in time compliments of The Victorian Web. On this page, advanced researchers can get an in-depth look at the Great Sepoy Rebellion from a lengthy London Quarterly Review article, published in October 1857 (five months after the initial revolt). Learn about previous conflicts between Britain and India, what areas were affected, causes of the revolt (or disaffection) generally, as well as causes for revolt specific to the India militia, or Sepoy population. Furthermore, read accounts of the military maneuverings and discover how people perceived the outcomes of this rebellion at the time.

Topic: India--Sepoy Rebellion, 1857-1858

English

Lexile: 1320

URL: http://www.victorianweb.org

Tea, Taxes, and the American Revolution

After Britain went into debt during the Seven Years War, they decided to make the American colonies help pay for the war debt. Explore the Stamp Act and other controversial taxes and tariffs in the years leading up to the American Revolution. The colonists weren't big fans of British soldiers staying in the colonies or not having any representation in Parliament. Britain thought the colonists ungrateful and tried to enforce the rules. Five people were killed in the Boston Massacre, and $1 million worth of tea were dumped in the Boston Tea Party.

Topic: Tea tax (American colonies)

English

Lexile: 1180

URL: https://www.khanacademy.org
The Boxer Rebellion

The country of China has an extremely long and colorful history, and one part of this history was something called the Boxer Rebellion. On this web site you can read about this time in Chinese history. You will see who the Boxers were, what they believed in, and how their country used them to its advantage in the early twentieth century. There are a few pictures here for you to see, and several links that you can follow.

Topic: China--History--Boxer Rebellion, 1899-1901  Language: English  Lexile: 1010

URL:  http://www.smplanet.com

The Story of India: Freedom

Ninety years before India gained its independence, a mutiny occurred. Extreme disrespect by the British toward native culture and language caused a rebellion to rise up. Hindu and Muslim joined together against the British to fight for their freedom. The British embarked on a cruel frenzy of revenge. The Indian National Congress first met in 1885 to lobby for representation. The Quit India resolution demanded Indian independence in exchange for help with the war. Learn about the Amritsar Massacre and the contributions of Gandhi and the Muslim League to the independence movement.

Topic: India--Independence movements, India--Sepoy Rebellion, 1857-1858  Language: English  Lexile: 1340

URL:  http://www.pbs.org

War Bond Drives

War bond drives were campaigns to convince Americans to by U.S. Treasury bonds to help pay for World Wars I and II. The campaigns were successful because radio, newspapers, magazines, and posters everywhere publicized how important it was for everyone to support the war effort. The bond sales raised $5 billion in Liberty Bonds during WWI, but a whopping $150 billion was raised in WWII bonds. Propaganda slogans were instrumental in both wars, using slogans like “Buy Bonds Till It Hurts.” Children could buy stamps and paste them in a book until it added up to buy a $25 bond.

Topic: Savings bonds--History, Oklahoma, World War I, World War II--Economic  Language: English  Lexile: 1210

URL:  http://www.okhistory.org
Taxes have changed over the last 50-100 years. The Constitution allowed the federal government to collect taxes from the states based on population. The 16th Amendment allowed Congress to tax Americans personal income. Americans have been paying taxes since before the United States was a country. It wasn't until the late 1890s taxes became a popular debate issue. In 1913 Congress passed the 16th Amendment. Tax rates ranged from 1-7% based on income. Before the 16th Amendment the government had no idea how much money citizens made.

**Jun 5, 1723: Adam Smith, Author of The Wealth of Nations, Is Baptized in Scotland**

The son of a customs officer, Adam Smith was kidnapped when he was four but let go when villagers pursued the kidnappers. A decade later, he studied at the University of Glasgow and Oxford. His work in political economics influenced how Americans come to view commerce. It was also closely tied to that of David Hume. Smith tutored the stepson of Charles Townshend, author of the hated colonial Townshend Acts. These acts taxed tea and other goods that colonists were required to only import from England. Smith opposed those kinds of restrictions on trade.

**A Tax Revolt or Revolting Taxes?**

Contrary to popular belief, the tea tax, imposed by Great Britain on the American colonies, wasn't a revenue-building measure. Instead, the tax, and the famous revolt that resulted from it, was largely an issue of principle between the mother country and the newly established colonies. Learn about the tea tax and how it culminated in the Boston Tea Party of 1773. The historical ramifications of this particular tax are also discussed, along with a short discussion of the possible motivations behind the Boston Tea Party.
Magna Carta: Cornerstone of the U.S. Constitution

A crisis had been building between the English king and the feudal barons ever since King John gained the throne. It led to a 13th-century document that served as the foundation for due process, democratic rights, and curbs on the monarchy. To pay for wars against France, the English king raised taxes. Seizing church properties deprived the poor of a place where they might find relief for rising rents. He restricted privileges that the nobles and merchants had previously enjoyed. Find out more about his tyrannical behavior and the rebellion that broke out against him.

Topic: John, King of England, Magna Carta

URL: http://edsitement.neh.gov

Income Tax Records of the Civil War Years

The Constitution originally didn’t allow for the federal government to levy taxes directly on individual citizens, so the 16 Amendment was proposed and ratified in 1913 giving Congress the power to tax individual incomes. Most people think that was the first income tax levied on Americans, but it wasn’t. The first income tax happened over fifty years earlier by an act of Congress during Lincoln’s administration. An income tax was initiated during the Civil War, passed as an emergency measure to finance the Union’s side. This tax wasn’t repealed until 1872, and then resurrected in 1913 with the 16th Amendment.

Topic: United States income tax--History, 16th Amendment

URL: http://www.archives.gov

Fair Housing Laws

A historical essay on the development of fair housing laws in the United States from the Economic History Association Encyclopedia. Author Williams Collins examines the barriers to African-American mobility outside of segregated areas, including the economic impact of discrimination in the housing market. Detailed information on the ways enforcement of local, state, and federal housing laws helped reduce discriminatory practices against members of minority groups, particularly African-Americans, is also available. Included are summaries of the legislation outlined in the Fair Housing Act proposed by Congress in 1968 and the Fair Housing Amendments of 1988.

Topic: Civil rights, African Americans--Housing

URL: http://eh.net
Pollock v. Farmers' Loan and Trust Company

Congress tried to tax incomes throughout the United States in a uniform manner. The Supreme Court called this direct tax unconstitutional according to Article 1, Sec. 2 and Sec. 9 of the Constitution. The law was also found invalid due to the lack of uniformity in which the law applied. The law also imposed tax upon income received from state and municipal bonds which made it invalid. This case forced lawmakers to create the 16th amendment.

American Revolution

The history of the United States began with the American Revolution. When the thirteen colonies became united and drafted the Declaration of Independence, the battle began to defend their country and win their separation from Great Britain. Readers will learn about where the American Revolution began and where key battles were fought. There are many videos on this site that contain reenactments and general overviews of the American Revolution. They will also learn about the founding fathers, and what part they played in the United States gaining independence.

Eyre, Edward John

As a magistrate in Australia, Edward Eyre cared about the Aborigines. As governor of Jamaica, he killed more than 400 Jamaicans while trying to stop a rebellion. Recalled to England, some wanted him to be tried for murder. Other people defended his actions. A royal commission said he wasn't guilty of murder but criticized his actions. The debate over Eyre's actions played a role in Lord John Russell losing government power. Eyre is also remembered as an Australian explorer and writer.

Timeline

**Topic:** Civics  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1450

**URL:** [http://www.matrix.msu.edu](http://www.matrix.msu.edu)

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**Denmark Vesey**

Historians have used the court’s Official Report and abolitionist Thomas W. Higginson’s 1861 writing in the Atlantic Monthly to frame their analysis of the plot Vesey was involved in to cause freed and enslaved blacks to revolt in Charleston back in 1822. But in 1964 Richard Wade suggested that the court’s Official Report wasn’t a trustworthy document and that “no conspiracy in fact existed.” Scholars rejected Wade’s conclusions at that time, but in 2001 Michael Johnson has raised serious questions about whether the conspiracy was real or not. The real heroes were those blacks who refused to provide false testimony.

**Topic:** Vesey, Denmark, approximately 1767-1822  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1550

**URL:** [http://teachinghistory.org](http://teachinghistory.org)

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**Eliza Lucas Pinckney: Production and Consumption in the Atlantic World**

The economic, political and social contributions of Eliza Lucas Pinckney to South Carolina and to the world are discussed in this article from World History Connected. Find out the reasons her family moved to a plantation in South Carolina and see why Pinckney had to assume management of the family’s three plantations. Pinckney's experiments with agriculture and especially with the indigo plant are described. Also included in the article are details about Pinckney's use of slave labor.

**Topic:** Pinckney, Eliza Lucas  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1710

**URL:** [http://worldhistoryconnected.press.illinois.edu](http://worldhistoryconnected.press.illinois.edu)

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**Native Americans**

The Native American and the Great plains have a deep connection that is examined in this encyclopedia article. You will find detailed discussions on the longevity of the Plains Indians, the necessary environmental adaptations, the role of migration, and the introduction and impact of horses, guns, and
disease. Information on the Plains Indians and Europeans is included as well as the affect of American expansion. Related treaties, resistance, and wars are all discussed as well as reservations, assimilation, and political adaptations.

**Topic:** Native Americans--Great Plains  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1370

**URL:** [http://plainshumanities.unl.edu](http://plainshumanities.unl.edu)

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**Peyton Randolph**

This featured profile provides you with some interesting information on Peyton Randolph, the man who was the first to be called the father of America. It explains how he was involved in the Revolution and describes his early life in chronological order. You will learn about his involvement in the study of law, his public duties, the actions that almost removed him from office, and his part in the French and Indian War. There is also information on Randolph's conflict with Patrick Henry, the end of the House of Burgesses, and the Continental Congress.

**Topic:** Randolph, Peyton,--1721-1775  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1290

**URL:** [http://www.history.org](http://www.history.org)

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**Macdonald, Sir John Alexander**

A lawyer and politician, Sir John Alexander Macdonald played an important role in Canadian Confederation. Born in Scotland in 1815, he moved with his parents to Upper Canada when he was five years old. His father was a merchant who became a magistrate. As a defense lawyer, he didn't hesitate to take on controversial and difficult cases. He didn't always win, but showed his ingenuity in the court. Macdonald was also a land speculator and served as attorney general. Learn about his personal struggles and his political accomplishments.

**Topic:** Macdonald, John Alexander, Sir  
**Language:** English, French  
**Lexile:** 1300

**URL:** [http://www.biographi.ca](http://www.biographi.ca)

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**The Relativity of Humanitarian Neutrality and Impartiality**

The twin principles of neutrality and impartiality can be hard to maintain even in the realm of humanitarian assistance. In the midst of one belligerent party trying to deprive another of items necessary for survival, providing aid does jeopardize impartiality. Using force against one party to try to protect safe zones or civilians may be perceived as taking sides. How can the United Nations help while remaining a non-combatant? Technically, peacekeeping should not change the balance of the war or use force to assure the safe passage of humanitarian aid.

**Grade Level:**
Summaries and Interpretations : Animal Farm

This in-depth discussion explains and interprets the symbolism found in George Orwell's novel, Animal Farm. It begins with a very detailed summary of the book that includes the pig's seven commandments. The interpretations include a list of the characters and objects in the story and what each represents. Each interpretation of a character is very descriptive and long in length. The interpretations of objects are brief, yet you will discover that the symbolism is not as obvious as that of the characters.

Boeing Commercial Airplanes

Content about Boeing Commercial Airplanes.

The British Empire - Initial Contacts With the British

An article on the history of India begins its focus in a section that tells of its initial contact with British. The section entitled, Establishment of Formal Relations describes how the appointment of Joseph Dupleix began making local Indian affairs his own business, which was more than any other European power ever had dared. You will learn about the chain of events that were caused by Dupleix's involvement in Indian business. This article also documents the role that Robert Clive played in India's history and how he and Dupleix were connected.

Buster Keaton: Tempest in a Flat Hat

Like many silent film stars, Buster Keaton experienced a downturn in the late 1920s. However, Keaton's experience is different from those actors who had good faces but bad voices. As pointed out in this book review, Keaton's career was stifled when he joined a major film studio, MGM, which meant he could no longer exercise complete creative control over his films. Discover the complete trajectory of Buster Keaton's career here, including his childhood stage performances, his ingenious films of the 1920s, and his rediscovery by later audiences.
The Church of England in the Sixteenth Century

The Church of England in the sixteenth century was affected by the population's fatalities from the Black Death. Many more people were educated, profitable exports surfaced, and noblemen were becoming wealthy. The changes endured by the population paralleled those of the Church of England. Each change found in society and government caused some kind of change in the Church. Discover how the Church evolved according to the population and the major influences on its dawn and downfall.

Topic: Church of England--History  Language: English  Lexile: 1290

George Clymer

A profile on George Clymer tells you all about the man who represented Pennsylvania at the Continental Congress. It begins with a list of his vital statistics and educational and work background. You will learn about his childhood as an orphan, the influence of his uncle, and his role as a leader and patriot partisan. Information on his participation in the Continental Congress is provided along with information on the duties he performed and the important people he knew. The many posts he held after retirement are described in the profile as well.

Topic: Clymer, George  Language: English  Lexile: 1120

Revolutionary Period and New Nation

More than 150 years after Jamestown was founded, the conflict that led to the American Revolution began. The colonial economy and culture had grown in independence and resented British attempts to add taxes to support the British Empire. The revolution was successful, but the new nation needed a new government. The Articles of Confederation were quickly replaced by the Constitution to establish a stronger federal government with three branches. This allowed the government to collect taxes, manage foreign affairs, and regulate commerce.

Topic: United States, Constitutional period, 1789-1809, American Revolution, 1775-1783 (Revolutionary War)  Language: English  Lexile: 1300

URLs:
- http://www.tcm.com
- http://www.nps.gov
- http://www.ushistory.org
- http://usa.usembassy.de
The Spanish-American War: Remember the Maine

Grade Level: 9-12

This is an excellent narrative of the sinking of the battleship Maine off the coast of Cuba, an act which precipitated the beginning of the War of 1898 or the Spanish-American War. The description includes a first-hand account of the explosion by the captain aboard the ship. It also elaborates the role played by the press in the development of war. The site includes interactive maps as well as many photos and drawings.

Topic: Spanish-American War, 1898, Maine (Battleship No. 10)  
Language: English  
Lexile: 1010

URL: http://www.smplanet.com

The Age of Imperialism

Grade Level: 6-8

The Age of Imperialism refers to the period of time when the United States exhibited aggressive policies of expansion. These policies extended the political and economic influence of the United States around the world. Learn more about this period by visiting this web site. Read about the expansion in the Pacific, as well as the Spanish-American War and the Boxer Rebellion. Furthermore, learn about the Panama Canal and the United States interventions in Latin America.

Topic: United States--Territorial expansion  
Language: English  
Lexile: 1040

URL: http://www.smplanet.com

Enslaved Women and Slavery Before and After 1807

Grade Level: 9-12

People like Thomas Clarkson and William Wilberforce are remembered for their efforts against slavery and the lucrative slave industry, which led to abolishing slavery in Britain. But this author examines the enslaved people and their everyday lives, focusing on the issues of labor and reproduction. Women slaves were a minority in the American colonies, but they didn’t remain a minority. Women slaves struggled with their difficult roles of slave work, while also taking care of their own children. Caribbean slave women had an unusually small number of children, possibly due to the strenuous workloads.

Topic: Women slaves  
Language: English  
Lexile: 1610

URL: http://www.history.ac.uk
Virgin Islands History

This report gives the history of the Virgin Islands. The United States Virgin Islands are a group of islands in the Caribbean. The United States Virgin Islands are made up of the four main islands of St. Thomas, St. John, St. Croix, and Water Island. The first residents of these islands were the Ciboney, Caribs, and Arawaks. Explorers up to 1587 reported evidence of Indian habitation. Settlers reported not finding Indians in 1625. The Danish West Indian Company purchased St. Croix from the French in 1733.

African Americans in Slavery

A terrible ocean journey took millions of Africans thousands of miles from their homes to the Americas. Enslaved from many different African cultures, slaves formed a portion of the triangular trade between Europe, Africa, and North America. Discover the other products exchanged on the trade route and how the cotton crop fueled the growth of slavery, making it economically viable. Read about slave groups being marched South tied with ropes and chains, as well as the constant threat of families being separated by an impeding sale.

America's Founding Fathers, Delegates to the Constitutional Convention: The Founding Fathers, Virginia

Based on the National Archives and Records Administration exhibition, The Charters of Freedom, the biography series America's Founding Fathers describes the contributions made by delegates to the Federal Convention of 1787. This page section features biographies of Convention delegates John Blair, James Madison, George Mason, James McClurg, Edmund Randolph, George Washington, and George Wythe. The biographical essays contain basic information such as dates of birth and death, childhood, family, education, social and professional life, and significant accomplishments.
1962-1971: Post Independence

A ceremony in Kingston celebrated Jamaica becoming an independent nation in 1962. About 35,000 people attended, included Princess Margaret representing the British queen and Sir Alexander Bustamante as Jamaica's first prime minister. At midnight, the British flag was lowered and the new Jamaican flag was raised. Choirs sang the new national anthem and fireworks lit up the sky. The island rejoiced and there was dancing in the streets. Goals for the new country included expanding agriculture, industry, and education. A new Parliament was established. Jamaica hosted a competition with athletes from 14 countries and joined the United Nations.

Topic: Jamaica--History--1962- (Independence)  Language: English  Lexile: 1320
URL: http://www.discoverjamaica.com

Martin Luther

The son of a miner, Martin Luther went to the monastery and became a professor. Angered by the church's practice of selling the forgiveness of sins, he wrote about it and nailed his writings to the church door. When the pope tried to silence Luther, he only spoke out more. Think about what Luther hoped to accomplish through the Bible being available in German instead of just Latin and Greek. Discover how Henry VIII supported the Pope. In spite of the efforts of the Pope and the government, Luther's ideas spread throughout Europe.

Topic: Luther, Martin  Language: English  Lexile: 1320
URL: http://spartacus-educational.com

Eyre, Edward John (1815 - 1901)

An Australian governor and explorer, Edward John Eyre grew up in England. His father suggested that he emigrate to Australia instead of joining the army. Eyre learned about sheep and cattle management, transporting his stock overland to profitable markets. Time and time again he set off on explorations, often being turned back by lack of water as he sought new routes. His expeditions sometimes traveled hundreds of miles without seeing a lake or stream. Cold and thirsty, they were abandoned by their guides without provisions or weapons. Find out why the governor was later court martialed.

Topic: Eyre, Edward John  Language: English  Lexile: 1470
URL: http://adb.anu.edu.au
Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor

Holy Roman emperor and Spanish king, Charles V controlled the Netherlands, Spain, and the Habsburgs. His election as emperor occurred amidst corruption in spite of the opposition of the Pope and Francis I of France. Explore the complexity of interests created by the aggregate of territories he ruled, each with a separate constitution and administrative system. This site deals with his career chronologically. Charles V first serves in a background role until his involvement in the Reformation. Read about his role in war, his sacrifices for peace, and his fame throughout Europe.

URL:  [http://www.luminarium.org](http://www.luminarium.org)

Module 18: Land Rights

The importance of land to life and livelihood is explained in depth in this online module that focuses on land rights. Understand why land rights, especially in developing countries, are linked to other human rights. One case study describes a land tenure situation in the Philippines and its affect on the Filipino people. There is an explanation of the history of land rights. Read international and regional laws pertaining to land rights, and understand land rights in domestic law.

URL:  [http://www1.umn.edu](http://www1.umn.edu)

Sep 5, 1957: On the Road is Published

In September of 1957, Jack Kerouac's instant classic On the Road was published. This featured article celebrates the publishing of the book and offers you interesting facts about the book, its author, and its creation. You will learn about the topics addressed in the book, the amount of time it took to be completed, and the connection between Kerouac, his book, and the Beat movement. Background information on Kerouac's childhood and education can also be found as well as other major events in his life.

URL:  [http://www.history.com](http://www.history.com)
Cuba

Cuba is located in an island between the Caribbean Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean, south of Florida. Illicit migration is a continuing problem for the country as people attempt to depart the island and enter the U.S. using homemade rafts, alien smugglers, direct flights, or falsified visas. Find out about Cuba, its people, geography, government, economy, communications, transportation, military and transnational issues at this CIA--World Factbook site.

Topic: Cuba Language: English Lexile: 1530
URL: https://www.cia.gov

Women in Power 1870-1900

You will read brief biographies and see pictures of dozens of women from around the world who had political power during the last part of the 19th century. Four of the five Chieftains of the Cook Islands were women, and one of their political allies was Queen Victoria. Queen Supayalat of Burma, was so fierce that her maid said they'd rather face a tigress than the Queen when she was angry. Or you can read about Malia Jennings of Swain Island, who wanted her 3.25 square kilometer ring of land declared its own country.

Topic: Women--History--19th century, Women in politics Language: English Lexile: 1280
URL: http://www.guide2womenleaders.com

History of Portland, Maine

Take a glimpse back into history with this gazetteer entry from 1886. Portland, Maine was home to the nearest port to the St. Lawrence, providing a safe winter harbor and supplying access to eastern Canada and several states. Railways connected Portland with the rest of the continent, and steamboats provide frequent access to Boston and New York. Read a description of the peninsula on which the city is located, called Machigonne by Native Americans. Hotels, banks, post office, library, railway depot, government buildings, and newspapers are all described, along with historical background about the city and events that occurred there.

Topic: Portland (Me.) Language: English Lexile: 1190
URL: http://history.rays-place.com
The Spanish-American War: A Splendid Little War

This page describes the aftermath of the sinking of the battleship Maine as Commodore Dewey quickly moved to attack the Spanish in the Philippine Islands. Included are many first-hand accounts, some of which are by Teddy Roosevelt who, with his Rough Riders, emerged as the heroes of the war. Many links are provided to valuable visuals such as photos, maps, and paintings. There are also links to biographies of Roosevelt.

Topic: Spanish-American War, 1898
Language: English
Lexile: 1010

URL: [http://www.smplanet.com](http://www.smplanet.com)

Roosevelt and The Panama Canal

An interesting black and white picture shows the Panama Canal. This article gives some information about President Teddy Roosevelt and his part in the making of the Panama Canal. A long believer in the theory of sea power, Roosevelt began to revitalize the navy. In 1878 Ferinand de Lesseps, began to dig a canal across the Isthmus of Panama. Read about the events that halted construction on the canal. Learn how Roosevelt dealt with the country of Columbia for control of the land.

Topic: Panama Canal
Language: English
Lexile: 1010

URL: [http://www.smplanet.com](http://www.smplanet.com)


The day Jack Kerouac's book, On the Road, was given raving reviews is highlighted in this automotive history featured article. Only Kerouac's second novel, On the Road was the title that made his name famous. The book's plot and details related to the characters are provided along with facts that clear up a myth about the writing and publishing of the book. The reviewer's prediction about the book is also presented and you will learn about the book's fans.

Topic: Kerouac, Jack
Language: English
Lexile: 1310

URL: [http://www.history.com](http://www.history.com)

The Black Legend
The discovery of America by the Europeans brought oppressive labor practices, disease, and extermination. Study how English, French, German, Dutch, and Italian propagandists vilified the Spanish with an ideology known as the Black Legend. In their view, the cruelty of the Spanish in the New World outweighed any barbarities committed by others. Investigate the role of a Spanish bishop in starting the Black Legend in an attempt to protect Native people. Appallingly, he suggested relying on African slaves instead, a decision he later regretted.

**Topic:** Black Legend (Spanish history)  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1530

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**Excerpts From Swann's Prison Life At Fort Delaware**

Captain John S. Swann was a lawyer who became a sharpshooter, fought for the Confederacy and was imprisoned at Fort Delaware, an island off the coast of West Virginia. West Virginia became a state during the Civil War. Swann was also an editor of the Kanawha Valley Star newspaper and used this position to voice his strongly pro-Southern views. After the John Brown raid, he believed it was time to sever economic ties with the North. He was captured at the Battle of Winchester in September 1864. You can read what life was like in this island prison.

**Topic:** American Civil War, 1861-1865, Prisoners  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1140

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**Burrhus Frederic Skinner: March 20, 1904 August 18, 1990**

B. F. Skinner was an American psychologist. He was a psychologist that was interested in human behavior and the inner man. This biography on Skinner contains interesting stories about his life. You will read tales of his inventions as a child, stories about his teaching life, and stories about his research. This article about Skinner is a Biographical Memoir presented by the National Academy of Science, a society of distinguished scientific and engineering research scholars.

**Topic:** Skinner, B. F.--(Burrhus Frederic),--1904-1990  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1310

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**Sep 5, 1847: Outlaw Jesse James Is Born in Missouri**

Some legends portray Jesse James as a 19th century Robin Hood, but others consider him a murderer and thief. Jesse Woodson James was born in 1847. His father abandoned the family to seek his fortune in the California gold rush. Some believe a cruel stepfather drove the boys into their life of crime. The
James boys learned to kill in the Civil War, attacking unarmed soldiers with a guerilla force. Robbing banks, trains, and stagecoaches seemed more exciting and adventurous than farming. The parallel to Robin Hood came from people's dislike of rich railroad barons.

**Topic:** James, Jesse  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1400

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**Toussaint Defender and Martyr**

This display of information details the many sides of Toussaint Louverture (1744-1803) as a defender and martyr of African Independence in the Americas. Toussaint was a self-educated slave that joined the black rebellion to liberate the slaves. He rose to power and became the leader of the Haitian independence movement during the French Revolution. Additional reports are available in these sections, literature and the arts, historical essays, western Imperialism, John Maxwell on Haiti, and a poem by Wordsworth.

**Topic:** Toussaint, Louverture,--1743?-1803  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1380

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**September 16, 1810: Mexican War of Independence Begins**

The Mexican War of Independence began on September 16, 1810. The Mexican revolutionaries were fighting to end 300 years of Spanish rule in Mexico and for land redistribution and racial equality. Find out about the leaders of the Mexican War of Independence and the many setbacks they suffered in their fight for freedom from Spain. You will find out how Mexico became an independent constitutional monarchy with Agustin de Iturbide as emperor in 1821 and then changed to a republic with a president two years later.

**Topic:** Mexico--History--Wars of Independence, 1810-1821  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1350

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**Ireland**

A sea separates Ireland from Britain, and the island consists of just two countries. Ireland is smaller than the state of Arkansas. Geographically, a plain is surrounded by mountains. During the Stone Ages, Picts and the Erainn occupied the islands. The Celts invaded and started a Gaelic civilization. Two thousand years ago, Ireland consisted of five kingdoms. St. Patrick introduced Christianity, and monasteries became universities. For more than two
centuries, the Norse tried to invade. The pope gave Ireland to England, but it took England 500 years to gain control. Many Irish left for North America in the 19th century.

**Topic:** Ireland--Civilization, Ireland, Ireland--History  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1250  
**URL:** [http://www.factmonster.com](http://www.factmonster.com)

**Francisco Franco**

Francisco Franco went to military school. His courage helped him to rise quickly through military ranks. He was second in command under a lieutenant colonel who told new recruits that they would all die in battle. They were encouraged to kill and mutilate prisoners of war. Eventually, Franco took over and was honored for his military strategy. In the 1930s, the government of Spain changed. Fearing a military uprising, the government sent away Franco and other military leaders. Franco began to take over, using some of the same tactics as Hitler. Political prisoners were executed, starved, or worked to death.

**Topic:** Franco, Francisco  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1130  
**URL:** [http://spartacus-educational.com](http://spartacus-educational.com)

**History Spotlight: 100 Years for Canada's Navy**

Canada officially launched its navy on May 4, 1910 and in 2010 Canada celebrated its history and its legacy. This article describes how Canada celebrated and tells you about the commemorative items that were developed in honor of the celebration. In addition to this information, you will find an audio clip of a Navy captain talking about the Naval Centennial and also a timeline of events that are significant to one hundred years of Canada's history.

**Topic:** Canada.--Royal Canadian Navy  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1150  
**URL:** [http://www.canadashistory.ca](http://www.canadashistory.ca)

**Graphic Art and Design**

Part of the applied arts, graphics arts are used for commercial art and book illustration. The art is secondary to the message being portrayed or the product being sold. Graphic arts can include letters and designs put together to convey an idea usually for the purpose of advertising. Lithography, engraving, lettering, and illustration are all included in the graphic arts. Graphic artists create such works as signs, product labels, advertisements,
posters, and government propaganda. Explore the history of the graphic arts in Canada, notable Canadian graphic artists, and the challenges of this field of art.

**Topic:** Graphic arts  
**Language:** English, French  
**Lexile:** 1630  
**URL:** [http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca](http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca)

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**Communist Party of the United States**

Here, you will find a concise, yet thorough, history of the Communist Party of America beginning with its origins and leading to its place in modern politics. It starts from the beginning in 1919 when the American Communist Party was formed after many members left the Socialist Party of America. It follows through the Red Scare, the origin of the Daily Worker, a newspaper founded in 1924, and many excerpts from speeches given by some influential people of the time. It concludes with a review of an article entitled, The Secret World of American Communism.

**Topic:** Communist Party of the United States of America  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1330  
**URL:** [http://spartacus-educational.com](http://spartacus-educational.com)

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**Plutarch's Consolatory Letter to His Wife - Plutarch, The Morals, vol. 5 [1878]**

Plutarch was a popular philosopher in Ancient Rome who was well-known by the emperors and wrote over 200 biographies and works about moral topics. This particular work was translated in 1878 by William Goodwin. Plutarch's Consolatory Letter to His Wife was written after the death of his only daughter, a child who was precious to his wife after several sons. Discover how he comforts her from afar. Investigate the attitudes about death and grief in Ancient Rome, comparing them to those of modern culture and evaluating whether such words would bring comfort today.

**Topic:** Plutarch  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1470  
**URL:** [http://oll.libertyfund.org](http://oll.libertyfund.org)

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**No. 10 Downing Street: A House in History**

Even before No. 10 Downing Street became the best-known address in the world, its occupants illustrated the changing tides of history. As a little boy Charles I played in this house, and later it became the residence of Oliver Cromwell, his archenemy. The first prime minister of Britain, Sir Robert Walpole, moved into No. 10 in the early 18th century, and prime ministers have occupied it ever since. Originally a part of three houses joined together, the Cabinet room occupies a part of the oldest house, which was built three centuries ago. This book chronicles it all.
Autobiography by Thomas Jefferson

Students will be fascinated by Thomas Jefferson's account of the writing of the Declaration of Independence. After a brief summary of his childhood and entry into government service, Jefferson offers his interpretation of the events which resulted in the American Revolution. He then describes the process of the drafting and eventual signing of the Declaration, including a list of the arguments made by each side in the debate. A transcript of the Declaration is then provided, with both the original text and the changes which eventually became part of the document.

Who Were the Normans?

This web site introduces you to the Norman civilization. The web page discusses who these people were and what significance they had in history. It discusses some of the major events and battles that the Normans faced. There are links to related articles that discuss the history of the Normans and includes details on the first Viking settlers to the conquest of England along with facts about their social organization and feudalism.

Central Intelligence Agency

The Office of Strategic Services was responsible for espionage during the Second World War with 16,000 agents in Europe. It was replaced by the CIA, Central Intelligence Agency, in 1947, by those who feared it might become an American gestapo or compete with the FBI, Federal Bureau of Investigations. The CIA embarked on its goal of gathering intelligence reports to protect national security. Read about the leaders and activities of the CIA, the Black Operations to depose of foreign leaders, and the role of the CIA in Castro's Cuba.
Tokugawa Period and Meiji Restoration

The Tokugawa shogunate fell and the emperor took control in the Meiji Restoration. This chapter in Japanese history involved vast political and economic changes and the Westernization and modernization of Japan. Under threat of foreign domination, young samurai transformed Japan into a country that could stand up to other world powers. The feudal system was abolished and universal conscription created a national army. During this time, a constitution was written, railroads and telegraph lines were built, and other Western cultural elements were adopted as Japan became a modern industrial nation.

Topic: Japan--History--Meiji period, 1868-1912, Meiji Restoration, Japan, 1853-1870

Grade Level: 9-12

Language: English  Lexile: 1720

URL: http://www.history.com

1637: The Pequot War

Native American peoples have often had a very harsh and difficult life because of Europeans who settled on their land. Misunderstandings and culture conflict between these two groups would sometimes lead to full scale physical conflict. On this web site you will be able to read about the Pequot War in 1637 between the settlers of Massachusetts and the Native Americans of the Pequot tribe. Though this page is long it is an especially helpful site for learning about the conflict that lead to the dissolution of the Pequot Indians.

Topic: Pequot Indians

Language: English  Lexile: 1230

URL: http://www.colonialwarsct.org

Hunger Strikes

As you learn about Marion Wallace-Dunlop's role in the Women's Suffrage movement in this article that uses quotes as well as descriptive facts you will discover that she started a trend that would become synonymous with this movement. This article on hunger strikes describes the use of not eating while imprisoned to protest and how this behavior was followed by force-feeding. Firsthand accounts of force-feeding are presented in the article along with the effects of this practice on the Suffragettes and legislation. Excerpts from primary documents conclude the article.

Topic: Suffragists, Women--Suffrage--Great Britain, Hunger strikes

Language: English  Lexile: 1190

URL: http://spartacus-educational.com
The New Russian State

By November, 1991, all of the Soviet Union’s republics had declared independence, with Boris Yeltsin’s blessings. In 1990 Yeltsin was elected president of Russia, replacing Mikhail Gorbachev, as he championed the economic and political freedom of all the union republics. Changing over to a new economic system, a huge task for a country used to the government controlling everything about producing goods, caused great economic hardship. In 1997 Russia signed an agreement with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which allowed other post-Soviet Union countries to join. In 1999 Yeltsin handed over the reigns to Vladimir Putin.

Topic: Yeltsin, Boris Nikolayevich, 1931-2007

Language: English

Lexile: 1110

URL: http://history.howstuffworks.com

Elizabeth I

Elizabeth’s father, King Henry VIII, was furious at having another daughter when she was born. When her mother, Anne Boleyn, had a stillborn son, he had her executed for adultery. Elizabeth inherited the throne in 1558 after her brother Edward VI and her sister Mary. England became Protestant during her reign. Mary, the Queen of Scotland, came to Elizabeth for protection. Elizabeth, knowing that Mary had tried to claim the English throne, had her imprisoned. Elizabeth remained queen until she died in 1603.

Topic: Elizabeth I, Queen of England, Elizabethan Era, 1558-1603

Language: English

Lexile: 1400

URL: http://spartacus-educational.com

Alexander Kerensky

Alexander Kerensky was born the son of a headmaster in Simbirsk, Russia, in April of 1881. He studied law at the University of St. Petersburg. In 1905 he joined the Socialist Revolutionary Party and the Russian Labour Party in 1912. Working his way up through the provisional government which was formed when the Tsar abdicated, Kerensky became the Prime Minister of Russia. The report on this web site is heavily linked to related references and offers a detailed account of the activities of Kerensky.

Topic: Kerensky, Aleksandr Fyodorovich

Language: English

Lexile: 1080

URL: http://spartacus-educational.com
The Rise and Spread of Civilization in India and China, c. 2500 BC-AD 535

Three great civilizations developed along the Indus River thousands of years ago. The last of the three collapsed shortly after an Aryan invasion of India. The two cultures combined and the Hindu and Buddhist religions were born. Explore India's main geographic features. Cities were first built on the flood plains of the river valley. The Harappan civilization had grid-like cities with houses made of baked bricks. They also had a citadel and complex sewers. The Aryans were semi-nomadic warriors and had a rural way of life with a caste system.

I Now Walk Into the Wild

Jon Krakauer brought international fame to Chris McCandless with his book 'Into the Wild', but he wasn’t the only author researching McCandless after his tragic death in the Alaskan wild. Author Chip Brown visited the bus McCandless lived in for 113 days until he succumbed. A river he had crossed earlier had become impassable with the snowmelt. Brown traveled with Butch Killian, a miner who had spent many nights in the bus on other hunting trips and later discovered the body. McCandless had walked away from the world, wanting to be free of everything, and met his end in Alaska.

Haiti

You can learn all about one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere at this United States Central Intelligence Agency site. The World Factbook provides geographical, economical, and governmental statistics, along with transportation and military information about this country that has been plagued by political violence and unrest for most of its history.

Toussaint L'Ouverture: A Biography and Autobiography
The National Endowment for Humanities supports this electronic edition of the Biography and Autobiography of Toussaint L'Ouverture. This information is used to explain history as part of the Documenting the American South project. Toussaint Louverture (1743-1803) started as a slave and became the leader of the Haitian independence movement during the French Revolution. He was able to emancipate the slaves. The biography was first published in London, as The Life of Toussaint L'Ouverture, the Negro Patriot of Haiti: by the Reverend John R. Beard.

**Topic:** Toussaint, Louverture,--1743?-1803  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1210

**URL:** [http://docsouth.unc.edu](http://docsouth.unc.edu)

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**Timeline: US-Cuba Relations**

Take a look at a timeline of the United States’ relations with Cuba, even during the years when diplomatic ties were severed. It began back in 1898 when the US declared war on Spain, which resulted in Spain’s defeat and giving up its claims to Cuba. The US allowed Cuba to become an independent country, but retained its right to intervene. Castro took over in 1959, nationalized all businesses without compensation, and aligned Cuba with the USSR. Soviet missiles in Cuba almost led to a nuclear war in 1962. Learn about Guantanamo Bay and other historic events with Cuba.

**Topic:** United States--Cuba relations  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1100

**URL:** [http://www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com)

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**Maxim Machine Guns**

The first to produce an automatic machine gun, Hiram Stevens Maxim Invented a gun that would load, fire, extract, and eject with the pull of a trigger. He hadn't been trained as an engineer and didn't have any of the misconceptions popular in his time. His simple mechanism was used for more than sixty years. Maxim came from a family of French Huguenots who immigrated to Massachusetts and Maine. This biography details his childhood, early work experiences, and activities as an inventor.

**Topic:** Maxim, Hiram Stevens  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** BR

**URL:** [http://www.ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org)

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**Canada's National Symbols**

Looking for information on the history of Canadian emblems? Check this site out. From an online text of the book The Flags of Canada by Alistar B. Fraser comes this chapter entitled Canada's National Symbols. How did the Canadian flag come to be adorned with a maple leaf as its symbol? What is the
The history behind the Canadian flag? Students should read over this chapter to find out. Another topic covered with detail is the story and history of the Arms of Canada.

**Topic:** National emblems--Canada  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1300

**URL:** [http://www.fraser.cc](http://www.fraser.cc)

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**The Memoirs of Babur**

"The Baburnama or The Memoirs of Babur" was written over five hundred years ago. Babur was a famous conqueror of India and founder of the Mogul dynasty, and until recent times, his memoirs are considered the only true autobiography in Islamic literature. Links divide the manuscript into the descriptions of Fergana- the state Babur started ruling as a 12-year-old and Samarkand, Babur’s taking of Samarkand, his defeat and leaving Samarkand, his time in Dikhkat, and his poverty in Tashkent. Click on the thumbnails to enlarge the exquisite illustrations.

**Topic:** Babur, Emperor of Hindustan  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1040

**URL:** [http://depts.washington.edu](http://depts.washington.edu)

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**The Battle of Hastings**

The purpose of this Web site, Regia Anglorum, is to give an account of Anglo-Saxon, Viking, Norman and British Living History. Most people of England know of the Battle of Hastings. Why did this battle take place? Who were the men that felt they were entitled to be king? Here you will read about the claimants to the English throne. You will also read about King Harald Hardrada of Norway. Finally, a descriptive story of the Battle of Hastings will give you a historical insight to this time in English history.

**Topic:** Battle of Hastings, 1066  
**Language:** English  
**Lexile:** 1190

**URL:** [http://www.regia.org](http://www.regia.org)

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**The Bounty Mutiny**

The most famous mutiny in naval history took place in 1789 with a ship called Bounty, commanded by William Bligh. The ship had spent five months growing and preparing breadfruit plants to take to Jamaica, and the crew adopted local Tahitian wives during that time. Three weeks and 1,000 miles away from Tahiti, first officer Fletcher Christian led a mutiny to take over the ship and return to Tahiti. They put Bligh and 18 loyal crewmen adrift in a longboat, and they survived 47 days on the ocean. Learn what happened to Bligh and the mutineers after that.

**Grade Level:** 6-8, 9-12
John Locke

One of the greatest philosophers in Europe at the end of the seventeenth century was John Locke. Understand the history behind the time in which Locke lived and see why it was considered one of the most extraordinary centuries of English political and intellectual history. Read about his monumental work called An Essay Concerning Human Understanding and see when and why he wrote the Two Treaties of Government. A bibliography of Locke's works is included.

Henry II

Henry II, became very active in ruling the land of England at a very young age. By the age of 17 he became the Duke of Normandy. In recent events that followed and were influenced by his marriage to Eleanor of Aquitaine he acquired rulership over the Angevin Empire. This empire stretched across much of Western Europe. Much of his purpose in his ruling was to restore the land and the privileges his grandfather had lost. Unfortunately his personal vendetta resulted in a ruthless ruler for those under him.

A Conversation Among Five Travelers Concerning Life's True Happiness

This work by Ukranian philosopher and poet Hryhorii (Gregory) Skovoroda, was first published in the 1965 publication Russian Philosophy, Volume I, The Beginnings of Russian Philosophy: The Slavophiles: The Westernizers. Translated by George L. Kline from Razgovor pyati putnikov o istinnom shchasti v zhizni, which appeared in the 1961 publication Gregory Skovoroda, Tvori v dvokh tomakh, this entry comprises a transcription of the work into hypertext. The text is made accessible to contemporary readers through the substitution of colloquial English expressions for archaic English pronouns and verbs.
Nast, Thomas (1840-1902)

Thomas Nast is the Father of the American political cartoon, he is not however American born. Nast was actually born in Germany and moved to America at the age of six along with his mother and sister. He developed his artistic abilities at a young age and eventually landed a job doing what he loved. It was not until around the time of the Civil War that Thomas gained notoriety for his drawings. Today he is hailed as one of the most influential illustrators of all time.

Topic: Nast, Thomas
Language: English
Lexile: 1040

Choctaws in Alabama

Millions of acres of land in Mississippi and Alabama once belonged to the Choctaw Indians. One of the largest Native American groups in the South, more than 15,000 Choctaw lived there at the beginning of the 19th century. Also known as Chahta, they established a number of independent yet confederated communities and societies. They had good relations with the Alabama Indians as well as the French, but their villages were sometimes RAIDED by the Creek and Chicksaws for slaves to sell to British planters. A civil war broke out in the 18th century over trade with the French and British.

Topic: Choctaw Indians
Language: English
Lexile: 1470

Emily Dickinson

This 19th century poet sought to free poetry from conventional restraints. Emily Dickinson created keen observers to narrate the poems from first person and describe the limitations of society. She understood that poetry could be liberating, but many of the things she expressed had not yet been realized in society. Her great success didn't come until after her death. Dickinson's father was a lawyer, and she delighted in a school curriculum focused on science. Investigate how she got interested in poetry and what she hoped to accomplish. Read dozens of her poems, including Because I Could Not Stop for Death.

Topic: Dickinson, Emily
Language: English
Lexile: 1140