# Short answers



Defining Historical Terms: From Washington to Puritanism By Yuliya Your School Here Defining Historical Terms: From Washington to Puritanism Alexander Hamilton

Alexander Hamilton was a noted constitutional lawyer in the latter portion of the 1700s, who eventually rose to a position of considerable respect and affluence in the society of his time. Under General George Washington, Hamilton was both an advisor to the general and a troop leader. His courage and bravery during the period between the independence of America and the turn of the 19th century earned Hamilton a place in early government leadership. Hamilton eventually rose to the position of Secretary of the Treasury under President Washington, influencing Congressional action with his authorship of the Federalist Papers and his stern belief in a more balanced and financially fair system of government expenditures.

### George Washington

An early and notable military leader during the war for American independence, Washington eventually rose to become the first president of the United States. A devout American patriot, Washington was respected by many citizens in that time as both a strong military might and a fair potential president. Despite Washingtons retirement to Mount Vernon prior to being elected the first American president, he remained influential in many governmental matters until his death in 1797, supporting the idea that Congress should fund the debt of the nation.

## Anne Hutchinson

An early puritanical leader, Hutchinson maintained somewhat radical religious beliefs for that time, eventually establishing a bible study lesson for citizens who had migrated to the New World in the 1600s. Her viewpoints on religion eventually caused her to be banished from the early colonial society, however her progressive thinking in relation to religion serves, today, as a map for the evolution of religious beliefs in early colonial America.

The Boston Tea Party

Angry over Britains imposition of excessive taxation, colonial Americans opened up crates of tea, which was set for exportation to other nations, and dumped it into the harbor to prevent England from receiving profit and taxes on the tea. The colonists were also angry that imported tea distributors/manufacturers were not paying import taxes, which could have assisted the economy of early America. This act enraged England and is noted as the starting point for the Revolutionary War.

No Taxation without Representation

Angry over Britains constant imposition of taxes on the colonists without their approval, the term no taxation without representation involved the early colonial American belief that taxes cannot and should not be expected to be paid (or acknowledged) without some form of governmental representation that speaks on behalf of citizens. While England maintained its grip tightly on the colonists in the mid to late 1700s, colonists argued that they had no influence in the British Parliament, therefore they were merely victims of

Englands tyrannical imposition of excess taxes. This phrase represented the stern desire of the colonists to have governmental influence prior to accepting new taxation.

# Puritanism

This represents a religious movement by which individuals wished to become separate from the church of England, believing in a new sanctity of religious

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worship and religious scriptures. During this time period, the Catholic church in Europe was considerably strong and influential, and the Puritans believed in a different set of religious doctrine than the church of that time. In order to escape persecution for not accepting the English church, many of these brave individuals came to the New World to establish a more pure system of religious devotion. This movement built much of the beliefs of the early American colonists during the late 1600s and most of the 1700s.