**What was the Northwest Passage and why was the Corps of Discovery sent in search of it?**

The Northwest Passage was essentially a sought-after westward path leading from Europe to Asia that would allow much less expensive trade between the continents. Columbus tried to find this path for Queen Isabella in 1492 when he set sail westward discovering the Americas. This passage was still sought 300 years later when Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark across the newly purchased land in search of a waterway to allow efficient trade in 1804. All hope to find a waterway leading from the colonies to the Pacific Ocean left the party when the Rocky Mountains were discovered, but they still finished the trek to the ocean making reports all the way.

**What was the Proclamation line of 1763 and why did it upset British Colonists?**

The Proclamation line was a border drawn across the Appalachian Mountains by the British after the Seven Years’ war as a means to protect their people from the danger and themselves from the trial of feuding colonist settlers and French and Indian inhabitants of the newly acquired Ohio Valley. Though an imaginary line it was, it only stood as long as British control of the American colonists. The colonists had fought a battle on their fronts for the sake of Great Britain and expected their reward to be allowance to settle the Ohio Valley, but the line and the subsequent British occupation limited their (up till now) almost complete independence and freedom of expansion.

**What was the Stamp Act and how did it create colonial unity?**

The Stamp Act was a tax announced by the British in 1765 that stated that virtually all paper used in all the colonies would be stamped paper made in Britain as a means to create revenue from the colonies. The outrage generated by this extreme and pervasive act guided many colonists to the formations of political groups such as the Sons of Liberty who made public demonstrations of their outrage across the colonies. This was not a fair tax to the colonists who had lived in near complete freedom from taxation by parliament. Through each of the colony’s opposition to the tax, they became of one mind and arm against their “taxation without representation” and for their own self-government and freedom of religion and opportunity.