Midcentury Challenge: War, Trade, and Social Conflict

1750-1763
The French and Indian War

- French and British claims in NA overlapped
- French maintained forts which helped maintain their relationship with the Indians
- Delawares and Shawnees got displaced from Pa b/c of Iroquois; moved to Ohio River Valley
- Iroquois confederacy partnered w/ British: 5 civilized tribes: Mohawk, Cayuga, Seneca, Onondaga, and Oneida
Conflict in the Ohio Valley

- Iroquois sent two kings to Ohio River Valley to maintain control
- French built a bunch of forts b/c they were worried about the English
- English asked French to leave Ohio Valley
- French refused....(Who was the Eng. officer who approached them?) bc most of the Indians had sided with them except the Iroquois kings
Albany Congress

- Iroquois were unhappy with British—felt that British were neglecting responsibility to Indians
- Ohio Indians, France and Britain were all acting in ORV without consulting Iroquois
- British try to mend relations with Iroquois by calling meeting in Albany in June 1754
- Mohawk leader—Hendrick Peters Theyanoguín challenged British to defend claims more vigorously
- Ben Franklin proposed Albany Plan of Union to counter French Expansion
- Proposes that one central government be formed in America including all of the colonies
Albany Congress

- Albany Plan of Union would have created continental assembly to manage
  1. Trade
  2. Indian policy
  3. Colonial defense
- Would have compromised the independence of colonial assemblies and authority of Parliament
The colonies are represented as divided parts of a snake. Some people thought Franklin chose a snake to reflect the winding eastern coastline.

JOIN, or DIE.

The slogan meant that the colonies should join together because they were on the verge of war with France.
War Hawks Win

– Parliament- fight for Ohio prompted debate over war with France
– Prime Minister urged calm b/c there was already a heavy burden of taxation
– Two Expansionist minded war hawks- Pitt and Halifax persuaded Parliament to launch an American War
– June 1755- British and New England troops captured Ft. Beausejour in Nova Scotia
War Hawks Win

- Puritan troops then force nearly 10,000 French from their lands claiming they were trespassing and did not have property rights
- Deported these French to France, the West Indies, and Louisiana where Acadians became Cajuns.
- English and Scottish Protestants took over the farms that French Catholics left behind.
War Hawks Win

- Fort Duquesne- Gen Braddock- Eng advanced on French Fort with 1500 Brit regulars and VA militiamen
- Braddock alienated allies by treating Nat. Ams poorly
- Also underestimated back country French and Indian Force. Braddock and his men were overwhelmed and Braddock was killed.
- Control of British surviving British troops was handed to aid de campe, George Washington
The Great War for Empire

– Pitt emerges as architect of British strategy
  – Planned to cripple France by seizing its colonies
  – British outnumbered the French by 14 to 1
  – Mobilized colonists by paying ½ the cost of the troops and paying for arms
  – Also committed a fleet of British ships and 30000 soldiers to British in America

– 1758- British and Indian allies forced French to abandon Ft. Duquesne then took forts on the St Lawrence River and into Quebec and then finally capturing Montreal.
The Great War for the Empire

British had kicked the following countries out of key areas:
- Cuba and the Philippines from Spain
- India and Senegal from the French
- Martinique and Guadalupe from France but then returned those islands at the insistence of the sugar lobby in 1763
- Treaty of Paris 1763 confirmed British success in French and Indian War
- Britain had gained so much territory that it worried the Native Americans
Pontiac’s Rebellion

- Ottawa Chief Pontiac declares that he wants the French to return
- Delaware prophet Neolin calls for expulsion of all white skinned invaders
- 1763 Pontiac leads uprising in Detroit inspired by Neolin’s vision
- Indians throughout Great Lakes and Ohio Valley seize nearby British military garrison west of Ft. Niagara, took Ft. Pitt and kill/capture more than 2000 settlers
Pontiac’s Rebellion

- British military expeditions defeated Delawares near Ft. Pitt and break siege of Detroit
- In peace settlement, Pontiac and his men accept British as “political fathers.”
- Leads to issuance of Proclamation of 1763 which confirms Indian control of trans Appalachian West
- Declares this area off limits to colonial settlement. Many colonists ignore it.
Chief Pontiac - leader of Pontiac’s Rebellion
Mystery Document Monday

On a sheet of paper write

1. Your name
2. Who wrote the document?
3. What was the context of the document?
4. Who is the intended audience of the document or who is the person writing to?
“Whereas, Most Christian, High, Excellent, and Powerful Princes, King and Queen and of the Islands of the Sea, our Sovereigns, this present year 1492, after your Highnesses had terminated the war with the Moors reigning in Europe, the same having been brought to an end in the great city of Granada.....Your Highnesses, as Catholic Christians, and princes who love and promote the holy Christian faith, and are enemies of the doctrine of Mahomet, and of all idolatry and heresy, determined to send me, to the above-mentioned countries of India, to see the said princes, people, and territories, and to learn their disposition and the proper method of converting them to our holy faith; and furthermore directed that I should not proceed by land to the East, as is customary, but by a Westerly route, in which direction we have hitherto no certain evidence that any one has gone. So after having expelled the Jews from your dominions, your Highnesses, in the same month of January, ordered me to proceed with a sufficient armament to the said regions of India, and for that purpose granted me great favors, and ennobled me that thenceforth I might call myself Don, and be High Admiral of the Sea, and perpetual Viceroy and Governor in all the islands and continents which I might discover and acquire...”
I being the first Christian this proud King and his grim attendants ever saw: and thus
in thrall ed in their barbarous power, I cannot say I felt the least occasion of want that
was in the power of those my mortall foes to prevent, notwithstanding al their
threats. After some six weeks fatting amongst those Salvage Courtiers, at the minute
of my execution, she hazarded the beating out of her owne brains to save mine; and
not only that, but so prevailed with her father, that I was safely conducted [home],
where I found about eight and thirtie miserable poore and sicke creatures, to keepe
possession of all those large territories of Virginia, such was the weaknesse of this
poore Commonwealth, as had the Salvages not fed us, we directly had starved.
Their reason for killing and destroying such an infinite number of souls is that the Christians have an ultimate aim, which is to acquire gold, and to swell themselves with riches in a very brief time and thus rise to a high estate disproportionate to their merits. It should be kept in mind that their insatiable greed and ambition, the greatest ever seen in the world, is the cause of their villainies. And also, those lands are so rich and felicitous, the native peoples so meek and patient, so easy to subject, that our Spaniards have no more consideration for them than beasts. And I say this from my own knowledge of the acts I witnessed. But I should not say "than beasts" for, thanks be to God, they have treated beasts with some respect; I should say instead like excrement on the public squares. And thus they have deprived the Indians of their lives and souls, for the millions I mentioned have died without the Faith and without the benefit of the sacraments. This is a well-known and proven fact which even the tyrant Governors, themselves killers, know and admit. And never have the Indians in all the Indies committed any act against the Spanish Christians, until those Christians have first and many times committed countless cruel aggressions against them or against neighboring nations. For in the beginning the Indians regarded the Spaniards as angels from Heaven. Only after the Spaniards had used violence against them, killing, robbing, torturing, did the Indians ever rise up against them....