

English exercises.

American Revolution / The Boston Tea Party. (boys)

Document 1

- 1 The group of colonists boarded the ships and destroyed the tea by throwing it into Boston Harbor.

Document 2

- 2 Unalienable rights are fundamental rights, including liberty, the pursuit of happiness and equality, that cannot be transferred to another nor surrendered except by the person possessing them.

(voc: "nor"= ni).

- 3 The purpose of government was to protect the "inalienable rights" that man received from "their Creator." In this view, if government became "destructive," it was the right of the citizens to "alter or abolish" that form of government and replace it with a better one. Jefferson (the author) believed that governments derived their power "from the consent of the governed." In other words, the citizens of the nation permitted the government to rule.
- 4 The Bill of Rights established in law the rights of Parliament and the birth of a constitutional system. On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was adopted, drawing its inspiration from the Bill of Rights (1787 the American Constitution was created).
- 5 When drawing up the Declaration of The Rights of Man in 1789, the French revolutionaries were to bear in mind the principles set out by the American Declaration of Independence.

- 6 The American Constitution created a federal republic based on national representation and the separation of powers between the three branches: executive, legislative and judicial. But it was not a real democracy: the white working class, women, Blacks and Indians were still “non voters”.
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The Glorious Revolution. (girls part)

Document “Habeas Corpus”.

- 2 In 1679 the Habeas Corpus Amendment Act added that the king or queen cannot detain a person unless Parliament (the law-making body of Great Britain) or the courts agree : this act limited the royal prerogative.

Document “Bill of rights”.

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- In 1689, Parliament presented the new King William and Queen Mary with a Bill of Rights, described as “An Act Declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject.” The Bill of Rights established that Parliament, not the king, had ultimate authority to make or repeal laws.
- Freedom of speech and debate in Parliament.

2 The Bill of Rights also asserted “certain ancient rights and liberties” of English subjects, including:

- The right to petition the king and his government.
- Rights of English subjects to keep arms for their defense.
- Rights to trial (juger) by jury.
- Prohibitions on excessive bail, excessive fines, and cruel and unusual punishments.