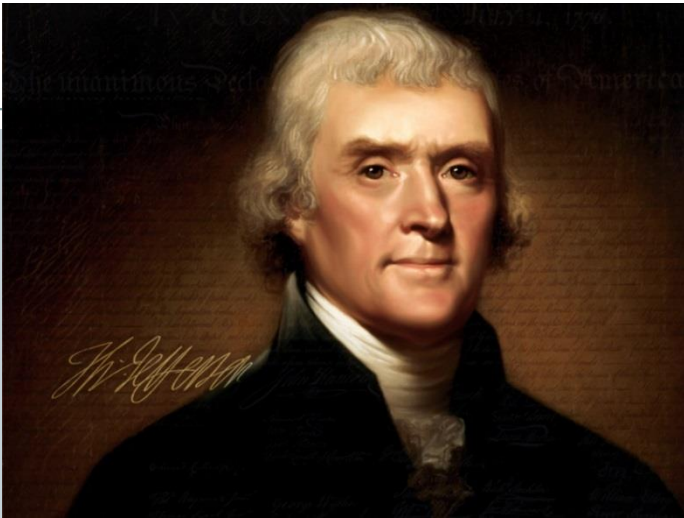


Thomas Jefferson & King George IIIcould they have been friends?



**A LESSON PLAN TO SIMULATE A SOCIAL
MEDIA DISCUSSION BETWEEN THOMAS
JEFFERSON AND KING GEORGE III**



Background – Jefferson in London in 1786



Thomas Jefferson's only visit to **London**, the largest city in the western world at the time, lasted from **March 12 to April 26, 1786**. He stayed in lodgings in Golden Square but must have spent a great deal of time at the residence of John and Abigail Adams in Grosvenor Square. During his five weeks in London, Jefferson explored bookshops in Piccadilly, viewed the Magna Carta at the British Museum Jefferson also visited St James' Palace was the site of Jefferson's "ungracious reception" by the King George.

<https://www.monticello.org/site/research-and-collections/london>

Learning Objectives



By the end of the lesson series you should understand:

- The shared interests of Thomas Jefferson and King George III.
- How they viewed their role in the American Revolution and events before and after.
- How they are portrayed in different primary and secondary sources.
- Improve skills in debate, interpretations in History and also responding to points raised.

Lesson 1 Overview



- Step 1 - Watch the introductory video
- Step 2 – Preparation and research on areas of agreement
- Step 3 – Complete first section of research sheet
- Step 4 – Prepare first tweets for lesson 2

Preparatory Video Information



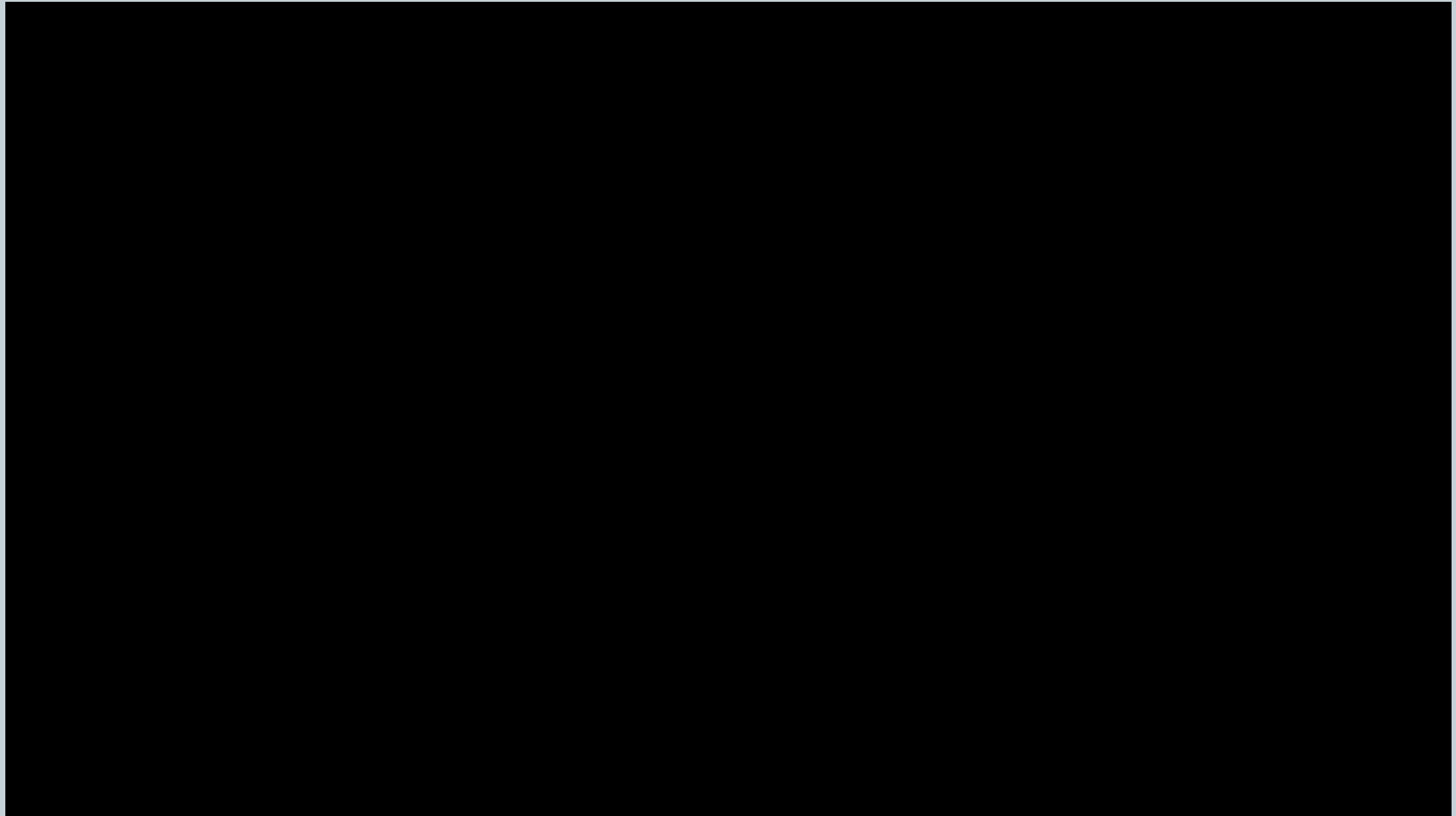
Thomas Jefferson and George III

On September 14, 2004, Dr Andrew J. O'Shaughnessy, the Saunders Director of Monticello's Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies, presented a talk on King George III's role in the American Revolution and Jefferson's view of his former sovereign.

This talk was sponsored by Monticello's donors

<http://www.monticello.org/site/multimedia/thomas-jefferson-and-george-iii>

Preparatory Video – “Thomas Jefferson and King George III”



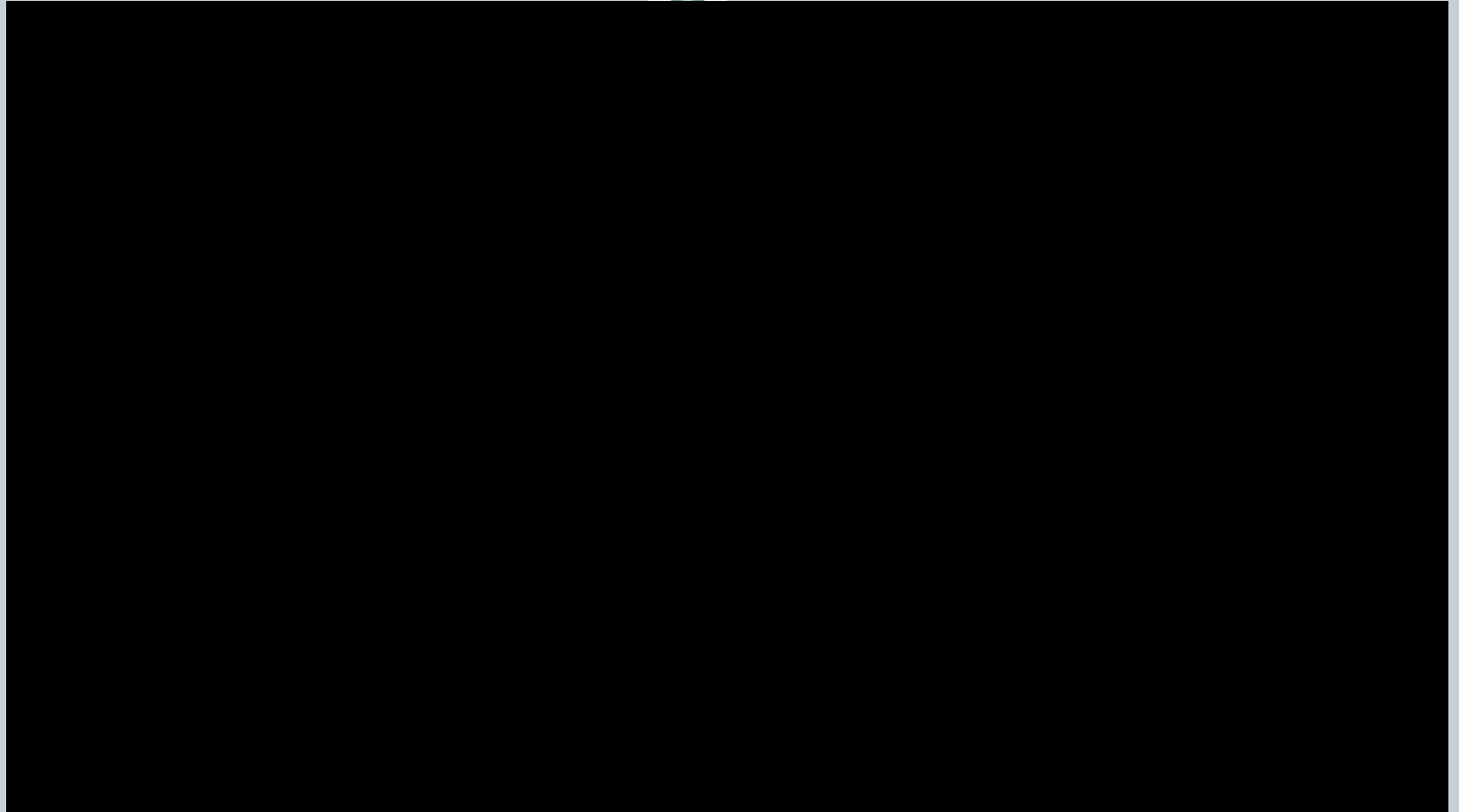
A historical re-enactment of a meeting



A simulated meeting and conversation between King George and Jefferson in 2011

- <http://teacupsinthegarden.blogspot.com/2011/05/meeting-king-george-iii-and-thomas.html>

How did King George view the lost of America? – A film interpretation



This is a clip from the film – ‘The Madness of King George’ – it is set in the mid 1790 - *How realistic do you think the dramatisation?*

Lesson 1 – Preparation and areas of agreement



- Student should work in pairs researching either Thomas Jefferson or King George III
- They should consider both the points they would agree on before starting to understand how they view certain events differently.
- To research they should look at the links provided in the table.
- *There will be an additional source sheet to use.*

These men should have been best friends – Look at what they gave to their National Libraries!



Jefferson's books at the Library of Congress



The King's Library at the British Library

They designed the similar buildings!



<http://www.monticello.org/site/jefferson/architecture-my-delight>



<http://britishlibrary.typepad.co.uk/untoldlives/2014/01/george-iii-and-architectural-drawing.html>

Areas of similar interest



Use the Monticello website and the links in the table below to research the following topics:

- Book collections
- Gardening
- Architecture
- Farming - Research one other topic on your own!
- Science and astronomy
- Music and Handel

- Consider – What comments could you discuss in the first part of your discussion?

Research - Links to information



Topic	Jefferson	King George
Gardening NB: Jefferson visited many Gardens in the UK in his 1786 visit	http://www.monticello.org/site/house-and-gardens/jefferson-scientist-and-gardener	http://www.telegraph.co.uk/gardening/8301243/A-history-of-Kew-Gardens.html
Books and Libraries	http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/jefferson/jefflib.html	http://www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhelprestype/prbooks/georgeiiicoll/george3kinglibrary.html
Architecture	http://www.monticello.org/site/jefferson/architecture-my-delight	http://britishlibrary.typepad.co.uk/untoldlives/2014/01/george-iii-and-architectural-drawing.html

Using Social Media for a discussion



- Its 1786 and we are imagining that Thomas Jefferson and King George have access to social media.
- Your task to explain and defend the position of either Thomas Jefferson or King George III
- As you work through your research you will use Tweets but also possibly SMS, Snapchat images to summarise the main points you want to make.
- If possible you should print off your text chat as the basis of a record

Use the website – TodaysMeet and set up a discussion forum – for example see over

<https://todaysmeet.com/TJandKingGeorge3>

Today'sMeet

TJandKingGeorge3

Listen

Hey your majesty.... Great party last night.
Nice book collection btw!
#cantlivewithoutbooks


3 minutes ago by ThomasJefferson

Talk

Message:

140

Say

 Room Tools

Use of Social Media – Start with....



- Thomas Jefferson should start the text chat focusing on **some** areas of similarity....
- *“Hey your majesty.... Great party last night. Nice book collection btw!”#cantlivewithoutbooks*
- NB – the # symbol is used to bring in any quotes or main ideas at the end of tweets



END OF LESSON 1

Lesson 2 Overview



- Step 1 – Review of Lesson 1
- Step 2 – Preparation and research on areas of disagreement
- Step 3 – Complete second section of research sheet
- Step 4 – Prepare first tweets for lesson 2

Areas of disagreement



Topics to research, prepare and then discuss

1. Declaration of Independence – **Why was the King mentioned in the text of the document?**
2. Impact of Magna Carta – **How did Jefferson use the Magna Carta?**
3. British actions in War in Independence – **How should the colonists behaved regarding taxes?**
4. Democracy in the UK – **What rights and responsibilities should colonists have?**
5. Role of French – **How should the colonists view the French?**
6. Potential Trade Agreements - **Why was Jefferson in London in 1786?**
7. Religion – **Should the state be in control of religion?**
8. Banking – **How should the Colonists raise finance?**
9. State Rights/Imperial rights (Federal system) – **What type of political system should countries operate under?**

In pairs choose 4 or 5 from the list above to discuss

Extension topic - Rights/Slavery – **Did they have different opinions on Slavery?**

Research for areas of disagreement



- 1. Declaration of Independence

<http://www.monticello.org/site/jefferson/declaration-independence>

- 2. Magna Carta

<http://www.bl.uk/magna-carta/articles/early-america-and-magna-carta>

- 3. British taxes

<http://www.monticello.org/site/jefferson/story-surrounding-jefferson-and-declaration>

- 4. Rights and Democracy

<http://www.monticello.org/slavery-at-monticello/liberty-slavery/enlightenment-influence-summary-view-rights-british-america>

- 5. Role of the French

<http://www.monticello.org/site/research-and-collections/french-revolution>

- 6. Trade agreements

<http://www.historytoday.com/ross-watson/thomas-jefferson%E2%80%99s-visit-england-1786>

- 7. Religion

<http://www.monticello.org/site/research-and-collections/jeffersons-religious-beliefs>

Social Media Discussion moves into disagreements



E.g. on the DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

- *“Hey Thomas... Heard about your comments about me Can you explain my “repeated injuries and usurpations” #notanabsolutetyrant*

King George sends this image to Jefferson



<http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/6764> - The King could tweet this image asking Jefferson to explain this 'insulting representation'

Thomas Jefferson sends this image to King George



<http://acmeofskill.com/2012/02/british-cartoons-during-the-american-revolution/> - Jefferson could tweet this image and ask for a comment from the King



**END OF
LESSON 2**

Lesson 3 – Student Feedback



- You should present your discussion to the rest of the class – or highlight a part of your discussion:

Consider the following:

1. What were the main reasons the leaders could not agree on all areas?
2. In your opinion, if Jefferson and King George III had met before 1776 would the same series of events have happened?

Lesson Evaluation and Assessment

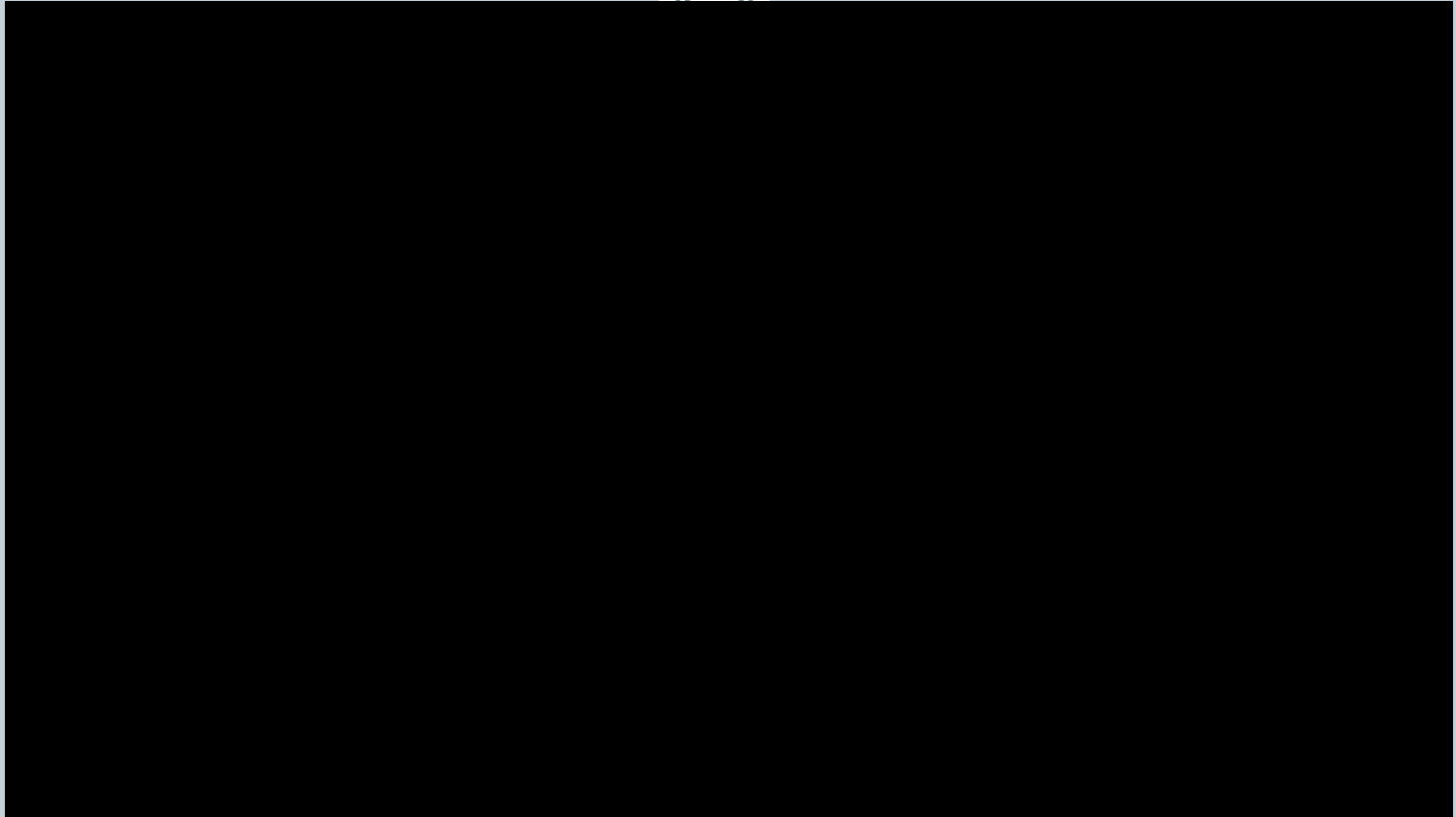


- **Discuss the series of lessons and consider;**

Has your research changed your opinion of the two leaders?

- **You should plan and write ONE the following essays:**
 1. “There was nothing King George could have done to change the outcome of the American Revolution” Discuss.
 2. Why did Thomas Jefferson blame King George rather than Parliament in the Declaration of Independence?
 3. To what extent was the American Revolution caused by a failure in political communications between Britain and America?
 4. When was the American Revolution inevitable?
 5. *Would the availability of modern technology and travel have affected the outcome of the American Revolution?*

And for a bit of fun.....



Watch the music video and consider – When Jefferson and King George met in 1786 - Was it too late to apologise?