“Tyranny is Tyranny”
Howard Zinn --- Chapter 4

Answer the following questions with detail and specific examples after reading Chapter 4.

1. According to Zinn, what was the essence of the conflict between Britain and the American colonies?

2. Zinn refers to the 1760’s and the post–French and Indian War period as a time in which colonial social and political elites turned their “rebellious energy” against England. He stated that this was “not a conscience conspiracy, but an accumulation of tactical responses”.

   List and explain three such “tactical responses” in the American colonies after the French and Indian War.

3. What does Gary Nash’s study of city tax lists reveal about the changing nature of wealth in the colonies by the 1770’s?

4. a) What was the “Regulator Movement” in North Carolina 1766-1771?
   b) Was the Regulator Movement a class war? Explain.
   c) What was the result?

5. What elements of the Stamp Act crisis made colonial elites “frightened”?

6. What were “Impressments”? Define.

7. What did the “Coercive Acts” do?
8. a) What groups made up most of the membership of the “Sons of Liberty” early on? 
b) What role does Zinn suggest Patrick Henry played in opening up membership to the Sons of Liberty to the “lower orders”?

9. What is Paine’s argument for Separation from Great Britain? 
What are Adams’ concerns?

10. Zinn suggests that the Declaration of Independence contributed to the “myth of the Revolution—that it was on behalf of a united people”. What key elements in the Declaration of Independence might support Zinn’s assertion?

11. One theme in Chapter 4 is that the Revolution is a “rich man’s war and a poor man’s fight”. What example does Zinn provide near the end of the Chapter that suggests this might be true?

12. How can we achieve a balance between rich and poor in our society today? Should we try? Why? How?

13. Whom should our government represent? Whom does our government really represent? Explain your opinion with examples.

14. Are Zinn’s ideas relevant today in light of the quotation from the Declaration of Independence… “We hold these truths to be self-evident,”? Justify your answer.