Understanding Words in Context

To achieve independence from Great Britain, the British colonists in America fought many battles. Collectively known as the American Revolutionary War, those battles occurred between 1775 and 1783. The primary thing that precipitated the war against Great Britain was the lack of colonial representation in the British government. The British government made laws that the British colonists in America were expected to obey, but they had no say in what those new laws were or how they were applied. Before this disagreement manifested as an all-out war, the colonists in America argued with Great Britain. They also held protests. Over time, small skirmishes occurred between the colonists and the British soldiers in America. As these violent encounters grew more serious and more frequent, the colonies and Great Britain eventually considered themselves to be at war. The first shot fired in the American Revolution, known as the “shot heard round the world,” transpired on April 19, 1775.

1. What does collectively mean?
   a. something that you can collect
   b. individually
   c. all together

2. To precipitate something means to _____ it.
   a. start
   b. be part of
   c. end

3. What is a synonym for lack?
   a. excess
   b. absence
   c. abundance

4. Manifested means:
   a. disappeared
   b. became clear to see
   c. failed

5. A skirmish is a:
   a. law
   b. small, irregular, or spontaneous fight
   c. unfair tax

6. Transpired means:
   a. ended
   b. happened
   c. started

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