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THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE 1775-1783
Program Three from The American Revolution:
From Colonies to Constitution
Grades 5-8
Viewing Time: 14 minutes with a one-minute, five-question Video Quiz

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF THE SERIES

Four fifteen-minute programs make up this series. It examines the creation of the United States of America from the founding of the thirteen colonies up through the writing of the constitution and the formation of the federal government. The programs in this series are:

1. The American Colonies
2. The Road to Revolution
3. The War of Independence
4. Shaping the New Nation

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF PROGRAM THREE

This program traces key battles, troop movements, and political events that occurred during America’s War for Independence (1775-1783).

LINKS TO CURRICULUM STANDARDS

The design for this program was guided by the curriculum standards of the States of Texas, California and Illinois as well as the National Center for History in Schools (U.C.L.A.). In accordance with these guidelines we have attempted to help students:

1. Understand how the Revolutionary War began, learn how it developed and how it was won.
2. Understand the content and significance of the Declaration of Independence.

3. Learn the roles played by various important persons during the Revolutionary War.

4. Develop improved concepts of time, and chronology, and improved verbal skills.

5. Recognize and investigate problems and proposed solutions based on reason and evidence.

6. Express and interpret information and ideas.

7. Use computer networks to access information.

**TEACHER PREPARATION/INSTRUCTIONAL NOTES**

1. Before presenting this lesson to your students we suggest that you review history textbooks on the key historical events that occurred during the two decades before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. We also advise you to preview the program and review the guide and accompanying Blackline Masters in order to familiarize yourself with their content.

As you review the materials presented in this guide, you may find it necessary to make some changes, additions, or deletions to meet the specific needs of your class. We encourage you to do so, for only by tailoring this program to your class will they obtain the maximum instructional benefits afforded by the materials.

It is also suggested that the program presentation take place before the entire group under your supervision. The lesson activities grow out of the context of the program; therefore, the presentation should be a common experience for all students.
You should also duplicate selected "hand out" materials from the Blackline Masters included in this guide.

2. Set up a "Learning Center" with maps, pictures, artifacts, or other materials relevant to America's War for Independence.

**STUDENT PREPARATION**

Before viewing *The War for Independence*:

1. Have students explore the "Learning Center."

2. Introduce or review with your students the meaning of any words from Blackline Masters 2 and 3, Vocabulary List and Activity, with which they may need help.

**STUDENT OBJECTIVES**

After viewing the program and participating in the lesson activities, students should be able to:

1. Describe how the Revolutionary War began, developed, and ended.

2. Analyze the contributions various people made to the struggle for American Independence.

3. Discuss the meaning and content of the Declaration of Independence.

**INTRODUCING THE PROGRAM**

It would be useful to point out that this program presents a very "bare-bones" look at the Revolutionary War. The actual war was more complicated than the program might suggest. Talk about the fact that war was quite different back then.
During the Revolutionary War the prevailing techniques involved standing in rows, and firing at the same time, at similar standing enemy troops. The idea was to blanket the area with musket balls hoping that one might actually hit the target since muskets were so inaccurate. When Americans shot at the redcoats from behind trees this was considered to be unfair, a violation of the European etiquette of war.

Explain how the flintlock musket worked and all that was involved in loading and firing a cannon.

It was not unusual for generals from opposing sides to dine together after a battle.

After American forces captured 6000 enemy soldiers at Saratoga, they put them on a ship back to England and made them promise not to come back.

George Washington was a man of incredible ability and courage. He was said to have been the finest horseman of his time. He had tremendous personal presence and received overwhelming respect for those who served under him. It is very unlikely anyone else could have accomplished what he did in America's war for independence. After the war he accomplished even more. Washington's contribution to the creation of the United States was enormous.

Distribute Blackline Master 4, Crossword Puzzle, and Blackline Master 8, Video Quiz.

Present the program. The running time of the program is 14 minutes followed by a short (1 minute) optional video quiz.
FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION

It is recommended that you involve students in a brief discussion after viewing the program and before beginning the Follow-Up Activities.

Discuss the importance of the Declaration of Independence.

Other topics worth discussing:
Keeping an army of thousands of men properly fed, clothed, sheltered, and shod was an enormous job no matter whether they were marching across the countryside or encamping for the winter. Generals, like Washington, had the authority to appropriate foodstuffs from nearby farmers (however, they always left them with enough food on which to survive).

There were no bridges across the big rivers so troops, horses, and supplies had to cross them in small boats.

Medical treatments were pretty basic. There were no anesthetics and no antibiotics. Amputation was quite common.

EXTENDED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

A. In order to express and communicate ideas and improve research skills use the Internet and other resources to prepare papers or oral reports on the following subjects:

1. The weapons used in the Revolutionary War
2. Battle tactics
3. Military Communications
4. How music was used by the military
5. The role of the French and Hessians in the Revolutionary War
6. The Declaration of Independence
7. The Second Continental Congress
8. Famous people of the Revolutionary War.

DESCRIPTION OF BLACKLINE MASTERS

Blackline Master 1 is a Pre-Test that, when compared to the Quiz results, will help you gauge student progress.

Blackline Masters 2 and 3, Vocabulary List and Activity, introduces students to unfamiliar words used in the program, or terms pertaining to the subject of the program they may encounter in outside reading.

Blackline Master 4 is a War for Independence Crossword Puzzle, the answer to each question pertains to events that occurred during the Revolutionary War.

Blackline Masters 5 and 6, Timeline and Activity, helps students develop improved concepts of time and chronology centering around America's War for Independence.

Blackline Master 7 is a Post-Test that may be used to evaluate student progress.

Blackline Master 8 is a printed version of the Video Quiz that appears at the end of this program. The video quiz encourages attentiveness and tests information retention.

ANSWER KEY

Blackline Master 1, Pre-Test
1. Massachusetts, Virginia
2. redcoats
3. Hessians, Great Britain
4. Pennsylvania
5. Benedict Arnold
Blackline Master 3, Vocabulary Activity
1. adequate
2. treason
3. campaign
4. alliance
5. mercenaries

Blackline Master 4, War for Independence Crossword Puzzle

Y
DEMOCRACY
R
K C
TREASON
O N
M W C
A JEFFERSON O
S E R
S D D
A C
C OF
PHILADELPHIA R
U T A
S WASHINGTON
E C
T E
T S

Blackline Master 6, Timeline Activity
1. I April 1775 6. D Dec. 1776
**Blackline Master 7, Post-Test**

1. B 6. H  
2. D 7. J  
3. C 8. I  
5. G 10. A  

**Essay answer:**
The purpose of the Declaration of Independence was to formally let Britain know that her American colonies intended to dissolve the political bonds and so become independent of British rule.  

Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of independence, it was then toned down and modified by other members of a special committee appointed by Congress that had been assigned the task of writing the document.  

The Declaration of Independence says that all men are created equal and are endowed with certain unalienable rights among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. A large part of the document is a list of specific grievances such unfair taxation, lack of parliamentary representation etc. It also explains the importance of having a government that exists by the consent of the governed, i.e., a democratic government.

**Blackline Master 8, Video Quiz**

1. True  
2. True  
3. False; It was written primarily by Thomas Jefferson working in a special committee appointed by the Second Continental Congress.  
4. True  
5. True
Introduction
America's War for Independence was tremendously important because it made it possible for a new form of government called democracy to come into the world at a time when almost everyone was still being ruled by kings and queens.

The War for Independence was a long, hard fought, struggle between the professional army of Britain, the most powerful country on Earth, and a raggedy collection of American colonists. It lasted for eight long years and by the time the war was over, twenty-seven thousand American and ten thousand British soldiers had lost their lives.

OCT. 1774 - MARCH 1775 INTRODUCTION
As the leaves were just changing color in October of 1774, the colonies were experiencing a lot of trouble because of unfair taxation, lack of representation in the British Parliament, and the restriction of colonial freedoms; even so, less than one-third of the colonists really wanted independence from Britain.

Nevertheless, the First Continental Congress was meeting that October and was warning people to be prepared to fight if American liberties were not restored.

Early in the next year, in 1775, the situation grew worse when the king declared the colony of Massachusetts to be in open rebellion and commanded that Boston's main patriot leaders Samuel Adams and John Hancock be arrested for treason. A short time later, soldiers were ordered to seize American weapons and gunpowder being stored in the town of Concord, Massachusetts.
APRIL 19, 1775 LEXINGTON AND CONCORD:
Outbreak of the Revolutionary War
The night before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, the steeple of this Boston church glowed with the light of two lanterns. The lights were a signal to the patriots that British troops, known as "redcoats," were coming to search for weapons in Concord by secretly crossing the river to Charles Town. Once they knew which way the redcoats were coming, three riders, including a silversmith named Paul Revere, raced off to warn people along the way.

The next morning here in Lexington, Massachusetts seventy armed citizens, known as Minutemen, confronted the redcoats as they marched toward Concord. No one knows who fired the first shot, but when it was over eight minutemen lay dead.

The British troops continued on toward Concord but when they got here to the old North Bridge, more fighting erupted and they retreated back toward Boston. But all the way back, they were fired upon by rebels from behind trees and stone fences. By the time the battle of Lexington and Concord was over, 250 British soldiers and ninety Americans had been killed or wounded.

MAY 1775 THE SECOND CONTINENTAL CONGRESS BEGINS
A few weeks after the outbreak of war, representatives from the thirteen colonies formed the Second Continental Congress that would serve as an emergency government throughout the war. While The Second Congress was just getting underway here at the statehouse in Philadelphia, the war spread as American fighters in the colony of New York captured Fort Ticonderoga; at the same time, armed militias took up positions in the hills around Boston.
By the middle of June, Congress had authorized the formation of a "Continental" army and they selected George Washington to be its commander and chief.

**JUNE 17, 1775  THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL**
The Battle of Bunker Hill was the second, and the bloodiest, battle of the Revolutionary War. It started after American militiamen constructed a crude dirt fort at night atop a hill in Charles Town overlooking Boston's harbor. In the morning, the British began shelling the fort from ships in the harbor and from land batteries in Boston. Soon Charles Town was burning. Then wave after wave of redcoats attacked, but the poorly equipped Americans didn't start firing until they could see "the whites of the enemy's eyes."

The battle continued until the militiamen ran out of gunpowder. In the end the redcoats suffered twice as many casualties as the Americans but the British still managed to win the bloody battle of Bunker Hill.

**JULY 17, 1775  WASHINGTON TAKES COMMAND IN BOSTON**
A month after the American defeat at Bunker Hill, General Washington took command of the militias around Boston. His plan was to drive the redcoats from the city if Britain refused to accept America's offer of peace. When he learned the King had declared war on all the colonies, Washington went into action. He gave orders to have many cannons brought in from far-off Fort Ticonderoga. But the only way this could be done was to wait for snow in order to drag the heavy guns on sleds to Boston. As this was being done, American troops invaded British Canada but were defeated when they tried to capture the city of Quebec.

By March of 1776, the cannons were in Boston and were

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pointed directly at the enemy. Realizing their position was hopeless, the British dumped their own cannons into the harbor and sailed off to the safety of Canada. After that, American forces took control of the city.

SUMMER, 1776 THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
With the arrival of summer in 1776, Thomas Jefferson and other members of a special congressional committee were busy at work writing the Declaration of Independence, America's most famous historical document. They wrote that all men are born with certain god-given rights and are created equal. They describe all the ways that Britain had taken away the rights of the colonists and they declare that America must be independent to form a new, democratic, nation.

The United States of America was born here, within the walls of the State House of the Colony of Pennsylvania, on the fourth of July 1776, when the Declaration of Independence was presented to Congress. This room was unusually quiet that day as men stepped forward to sign their names to the document; for all of them realized the great importance, and danger, of what they were doing.

SLAVERY AND THE NEW NATION
Among the signers of the Declaration of Independence, slavery was a very controversial and confusing issue; for while some hated slavery, others were slave owners, still others were slave owners who also hated slavery. Thomas Jefferson, for example, had called slavery "a cruel war against human nature." Yet both he and George Washington, who also held anti-slavery views, possessed large Virginia plantations and owned hundreds of slaves. The Continental Congress believed that the problem of slavery had to be solved at a later time because right then the war had to be won and a strong union of states created.
July 1776-October 1777  WAR IN NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, AND PENNSYLVANIA
Many Americans were just learning that Independence had been declared when war broke out in New York and spread to New Jersey and Pennsylvania. It began when British soldiers and hired German troops called Hessians assembled to attack New York City. After a lot of fighting, British forces took control of the city and chased Washington's army across New Jersey into Pennsylvania.

But near here, on Christmas night in 1776, Washington and his men went on the offensive. They crossed the icy Delaware River and slipped back into New Jersey. With the element of surprise on their side, American forces went on to win important battles at Trenton and nearby Princeton.

The next summer, a huge enemy force invaded New York from Canada. At the same time, a second British force attacked from the opposite direction and defeated Washington's Army in Pennsylvania in a Battle at Brandywine Creek. From there, the British marched on and took Philadelphia, America's capital city.

But up north in New York near the town of Saratoga, things went much better for the United States because forces led by General Horatio Gates beat the British twice and captured a large number of enemy soldiers. The Saratoga victories were very important. In fact, because of them, France decided to enter the war on the side of the United States.

WINTER OF 1777-1778  ENCAMPMENT AT VALLEY FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA
Two months after the fighting at Saratoga, Washington began to set up his winter encampment here at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, about a day's ride from Philadelphia. Soldiers built rows of log cabins like these and in a
short time the Valley Forge encampment became the second largest city in the United States, with a population of twelve thousand men. Although the cabins were very crowded inside, they provided shelter from the snow and wind. But Washington's men still suffered severe hardships most of that winter because they lacked adequate food, shoes, and clothing, and by spring, two thousand soldiers had died.

However, some good happened at Valley Forge as well. For a German officer named Baron Von Stueben drilled and trained the American troops until they became a much more disciplined and determined fighting force.

1778-1781 THE CAMPAIGN IN THE SOUTHERN STATES
In 1778, the summer after Valley Forge, the British undertook a major military campaign in the southern states where a lot of people were against independence. So the British abandoned Philadelphia and soon warfare ended in the North. Late in December of 1778, the king's forces seized Savannah, Georgia and soon took control of the whole state.

The year of 1779, as well as most of 1780, were very bad for the United States because they suffered a string of bitter defeats in the south. Eventually the Americans started to win again, but they could not stop the British from invading Virginia.

1781 YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA: The Last Battle of the Revolutionary War
By October of 1781, a large force of British troops led by General Cornwallis had reached Yorktown, Virginia, an old tobacco port near the Chesapeake Bay, where the last battle of the Revolutionary War was to be fought. On the outskirts of Yorktown, the British set up an encampment, positioned their weapons, and built walls and trenches
while they waited for more supplies and troops to arrive in ships from New York. While this was going on, Washington's army and five thousand French troops marched south to Virginia.

When Washington reached Yorktown, he learned some very good news. A French fleet had battled the ships coming to help the enemy's army and had forced them to turn back. This meant the British were trapped and outnumbered. Besides that, relentless shelling by American and French troops was causing them very heavy casualties. It was such a hopeless situation for the British that on October 19, 1781 the shooting stopped and they surrendered.

The battlefield here at Yorktown witnessed the last big conflict of the Revolutionary War, but the war did not officially end until 1783, when a peace treaty was approved in which Great Britain formally recognized the independence of the United States of America.

**VIDEO QUIZ**

1. TRUE OR FALSE? The first battle of the Revolutionary War was fought in Massachusetts.

2. TRUE OR FALSE? In 1774 most Americans didn't want independence from Great Britain.

3. TRUE OR FALSE? The Declaration of Independence was written by George Washington.

4. TRUE OR FALSE? Soldiers from both Germany and France fought in the Revolutionary War.

5. TRUE OR FALSE? The Battle of Bunker Hill was the bloodiest of the entire Revolutionary War.
THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE
Pre-Test

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct answers.

1. The first battle of the Revolutionary War was fought in the state of _______________ and its last battle was fought in ______________.

2. British soldiers in the Revolutionary War were sometimes called ________________.

3. Soldiers called ____________ from Germany were paid to fight for the country of ______________ during the Revolutionary War.

4. The capital of the United States was located in the state of ________________ during the Revolutionary War.

5. ________________ was the U.S. general who went over to the British side in the middle of the Revolutionary War.
Adams, Samuel 1722-1803 Leader of Massachusetts Patriots and cousin of John Adams.

Adams, John 1735-1826 Second U.S. President cousin of Sam Adams.

adequate To have an adequate supply means to have enough but not too much.

alliance Usually a union between states or nations. But can also refer to a union between people or businesses.

allies Nations united for a special purpose. The United States and France were allies in the Revolutionary War, with the purpose of defeating Britain.

Arnold, Benedict A famous American general who switched to the British side during the Revolutionary War. In America his name has become synonymous with "traitor."

bayonette A blade that can be attached to a rifle, turning it into a spear-like weapon.

campaign A series of military operations.

colonial system In government the pattern of relationships between a dominant "mother" nation and its dependent territories. Together, a ruling country and it's colonies constitute an empire.

colony An overseas possession or territory ruled by its mother country.

Continental Members of the Continental Army. The Army formed by the Second Continental Congress.

controversial Something that is a subject of strong opposing points of view, opinions, beliefs etc.

Cornwallis, Charles The British general whose troops were defeated at Yorktown.

Crown Point A British Fort near Lake Champlain in New York.

Declaration of Independence - The document whose purpose was to declare to Great Britain, that her American colonies intended to form a new nation, free of British control.

democracy Government by the people.

document A document is something written to provide information of an official nature.

draw A draw in warfare, is a battle that ends without a clear victory for either side.

document A temporary settlement, often in tents or makeshift shelters.

evacuation To withdraw from a place as a large group usually under emergency conditions, (an emptying out).

First Continental Congress A meeting of the colonies held in the fall of 1774 in Philadelphia. The congress was called to try to solve the problems created by the Intolerable Acts.

Fort Ticonderoga A fort on the southern end of Lake Champlain in New York.

fleet A group of ships.

flintlock A gun that requires a piece of flint to make a spark to ignite gunpowder. The muskets and pistols used during the Revolutionary War era were both flintlocks.

Gates, Horatio The American general who was victorious at Saratoga, N.Y.

George the Third King of Great Britain from 1760-1820.

Green Mountain Boys Citizen soldiers from Vermont.

Greene, Nathaniel Great American general in the Revolutionary War usually ranked second in ability after Washington.

Great Britain The nation formed when the kingdom of Scotland joined up with the kingdom of England and Wales in 1707.

hardships Things that make life difficult.

Hale, Nathan A patriot hanged for being an American spy. He is famous for saying, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

Henry, Patrick A man from Virginia who served in both the First and Second Continental Congresses, and became the governor of Virginia. He is famous for having said, "Give me liberty or give me death."

Hessians People from the region of Germany known as Hesse. Professional soldiers from Hesse were hired by Britain to fight against the American rebels.
Lafayette, Marquis de  A French soldier who persuaded his nation to send military aid to the Americans. He fought in the Revolutionary War as a major general in the American army.

Loyalists  People who stayed loyal to Great Britain during the Revolutionary War.

Mercenaries  Hired soldiers. The Hessians were mercenaries during the Revolutionary War.

Minutemen  Citizen soldiers in the Revolutionary War. They took the name because they could be ready to fight in a minute.

Militia  An army of citizens rather than professional soldiers.

Militiamen  Members of a militia

Mortar  A short cannon used to fire shells at a steep angle. Mortars were used in the Revolutionary War.

Musket  A smooth bored gun. A rifle has grooves called "rifling" inside the barrel to help the bullet spin. This makes a rifle more accurate than a musket.

Occupation  In military terms this means to take possession or control of. So when the British occupied Philadelphia it meant that they took possession of the city.

Offensive  In military terms, it means to go on the attack; to be aggressive.

Outbreak  The beginning of a war or battle.

Patriot  A person loyal to a particular country.

Ratify  To officially accept a treaty.

Restore  To bring something back to its original condition.

Redcoats  British soldiers of the Revolutionary War period.

Revere, Paul  A Boston silversmith and American patriot. He was one of three riders that warned people along the route to Concord, Massachusetts that the redcoats were coming immediately before fighting broke out at Lexington.

Rochambeau, Comte de  A French general who came to America in 1780 to serve under General Washington. He helped plan the battle of Yorktown.

Second Continental Congress  Formed in May of 1775 immediately after the Battle of Lexington and Concord. It served as the American government throughout the Revolutionary War.

Siege  Surrounding and blockading a fortified place. The battles at Charleston and Yorktown were both sieges.

Skirmish  Unimportant fighting among outlying bodies of troops.

Traitor  A person who betrays his country, a disloyal person.

Treason  The crime of betraying one's country.

Trench  A deep ditch.

Valley Forge  An area about 20 miles outside of Philadelphia where Washington's army encamped for the winter of 1777-78.

Vocabulary List Activities
Using the Vocabulary List, find the correct word to fill in the blanks:

1. Washington's men did not have ___________ food, shoes, or clothing at Valley Forge.

2. The redcoats were ordered to arrest Samuel Adams and John Hancock for ________________, because they had betrayed Great Britain.

3. After the French entered the war, the British began a ___________ in the southern states, and fighting eventually stopped in the north.

4. The United States and France formed an ___________ during the Revolutionary War.

5. Soldiers, like the Hessians, who can be hired to fight are known as ________________.

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THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Because of America's war for independence, a new type of government called __________, came into being at a time when most people were still being ruled by kings and queens.

2. The British King wanted patriot leaders in Massa- setts arrested for the crime of ____________.

3. Thomas _____________ was the main author of the Declaration of Independence.

4. For most of the Revolutionary War, the city of _____________ was the capital city of the United States.

5. The commander of the U.S. forces during the Revolu- tionary War had the last name _____________.

DOWN
1. The battle of Bunker Hill took place in the state of _____________ in 1775.

2. British soldiers were also called _____________ because of the color of their uniforms.

3. The last battle of the Revolutionary War was fought near the town of _____________ Virginia.

4. After the victories at Saratoga, New York the country of _____________ entered the war on the side of the Americans.

5. The Revolutionary War began shortly after British troops marched toward _____________, Massachusetts to search for weapons and gunpowder.
1759 England captures Quebec in New France.

1760 England captures Montreal, thus winning its long running war with France.

1763 The Proclamation of 1763 by King George the Third forbids colonial expansion west of the Appalachians.

1764 Sugar Act: England taxes sugar, molasses, wine, and coffee coming into the colonies to help pay for colonial military costs.

1765 The Stamp Act requires England's American colonists to pay for a tax stamp on printed material. A group called the "Sons of Liberty" forms to fight taxation without representation.

The Quartering Act requires colonial communities to provide food and shelter for British troops.

The Declaratory Act tells the colonists that King and parliament have the right to tax the colonies even though they are not allowed to have parliamentary representation.

The "Stamp Act Congress": a meeting of representatives from nine colonies discuss problems of unfair taxation.

1766 Repeal of Stamp Act.

1767 Townshend Acts tax tea, glass, lead, paint and other items imported into the colonies.

1769 Padre Junipero Serra finds the first Spanish Mission in California (San Diego). This is the beginning of Spanish colonization of the area.

1770 Two million people are living in England's American colonies.

Five Americans are killed by British soldiers in the "Boston Massacre."

1773 Boston Tea Party, a protest against taxation.

1774 The Coercive Acts, known to Americans as the Intolerable Acts, are enacted. As a result, Boston harbor is blockaded shutting down trade and the activities of the Massachusetts legislature are restricted.

Meeting of the First Continental Congress; in which members of 12 of the 13 colonies meet as a single body to petition the king about unfair taxation.

1775 APRIL 18 (night) Paul Revere's ride APRIL 19 Battle of Lexington and Concord MAY Second Continental Congress begins. Americans capture Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point. JUNE 15 Washington is selected to be commander and chief of the Continental Army. JUNE 17 Battle of Bunker Hill. JULY 17 Washington takes command of militias around Boston. DEC. 31 American forces lose at Quebec in Canada.


(Continued on Blackline Master 6)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCT. 4</td>
<td>Washington is defeated at Germantown, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT. 7</td>
<td>Second patriot victory at Saratoga, N.Y. (Second Battle of Freeman's Farm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC. 14</td>
<td>Washington's army is at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, for the winter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1778</td>
<td>FEB. 6 France and the United States form an alliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPRING</td>
<td>Britain decides to abandon Philadelphia and bring the war to the south.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 28</td>
<td>The last battle of the north at Monmouth, N.J. ends in a draw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC. 29</td>
<td>British capture Savannah, Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1779</td>
<td>FEB. 25 British surrender a fort at Vincennes, Indiana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 21</td>
<td>Spain declares war on Great Britain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT. 23</td>
<td>John Paul Jones captures a British warship near England.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During 1779, Britain gains control of Georgia.

| 1780   | MAY 12 British take Charleston, S.C. after a siege.                  |
| AUG. 16| British give the U.S. its worst defeat of the war at Camden, S.C.     |
| OCT. 7 | Patriot frontiersmen beat the British at King's Mountain in South Carolina. |

| 1781   | JAN. 17 American victory at Cowpens, S.C.                           |
| MAR. 15| Fighting at Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina.                  |
| SEPT. 5| French fleet severely damages British supply ships headed to Yorktown and forces them back to New York. |
| OCT. 19| British surrender at Yorktown, Va.                                  |

| 1782   | NOV. 30 Preliminary Peace agreement is signed.                       |

| 1783   | APR. 15 Congress accepts the preliminary treaty.                    |
| SEPT. 3| Final peace treaty is signed in Paris.                              |

**Timeline Activity**

**Directions:**
Using the number one as the oldest and ten as the most recent, number the following events from one to ten. Write the date(s) after each number.

A. American French alliance is signed.
B. Battle of Bunker Hill
C. Winter encampment begins at Valley Forge.
D. Battle at Trenton, N.J.
E. Washington crosses the Delaware.
F. Battle at the city of Quebec in Canada
G. U.S. final victory at Saratoga, N.Y.
H. U.S. captures a fort in Indiana.
I. Battle of Lexington and Concord
J. Declaration of Independence is adopted.
THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE

Post-Test

Matching

1. Horatio Gates                  A. Important British General
2. George Washington            B. Led Americans to Victory at Saratoga, N.Y.
3. John Hancock                       C. Boston patriot leader
4. Fort Ticonderoga              D. U.S. Commander and Chief
5. Savannah, Georgia             E. Source of cannons used to drive the British from Boston
6. Baron von Steuben              F. After the British captured New York City, they drove Washington's forces there.
7. Valley Forge                                             G. The first city to fall in Britain's southern campaign
8. Yorktown, Virginia                     H. A soldier from Germany
9. Pennsylvania                     I. Site of the war's last battle
10. Charles Cornwallis  J. Winter encampment site

Essay Question:
What was the purpose of the Declaration of Independence, who wrote it and what did it say?
THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE

Video Quiz

Directions: Answer the following questions as directed by your teacher.

1. TRUE OR FALSE? The first battle of the Revolutionary War was fought in Massachusetts.
2. TRUE OR FALSE? In 1774 most Americans didn’t want independence from Great Britain.
3. TRUE OR FALSE? The Declaration of Independence was written by George Washington.
4. TRUE OR FALSE? Soldiers from both Germany and France fought in the Revolutionary War.
5. TRUE OR FALSE? The Battle of Bunker Hill was the bloodiest of the entire Revolutionary War.