

The American Revolution and the Revolutionary War

Lesson 1 –Use its **Learning Quiz on Essential Terms 1st**

1. War for Independence and the Confederation
 - Patriot and British weaknesses and strengths
 - Saratoga, what it is and why is it significant including in what nations fight the British
 - Yorktown, what it is and why is it significant
 - Articles of Confederation- What is a confederation? How does it cause problems for the war effort?
 - Terms of the Treaty of Paris in 1783

The War and the Peace

1. Click [here for the issues on the war](#) with the ending pages being in this [link on the strengths and weakness of the two](#). Notice these things:
 - The vulnerability and assets of the new United States.
 - The differences in new American south and north and what happens with slavery and what is happening initially with the British arming slaves in Virginia and granting them freedom if they fight for the British
 - The two major battles of Saratoga and Yorktown.
 - The desperate importance of the French in this war in the initial time period and after they come in on the American side
 - Washington’s approach to the war.
 - The terms of the peace
 - Its parts
 - Its boundary for the nation

Tip: the Americans are fighting 3 types of war

- Civil war - Loyalists versus Patriots (AKA Tories versus Whigs)
- Revolutionary war –British & Hessians versus Patriots
- Indian war – Indians & British versus the new Americans

2. The major type of government in Europe is a monarchy, but the Americans have chosen a confederation. Frequently students have trouble because they do realize how different the Articles of Confederation is from the Constitution. These things may help you. Notice that the Articles lack 2 key powers.

Link for Self-Testing: [Comparison tables showing the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution](#)

Link with Answers: [With answers](#)

If you want to look at the Articles of Confederation, there is a copy in the Primary Sources.

If you think this government is doing well doing the war, the Primary Sources also include:

- A letter from Washington about the starving troops needing some protein
- A section from Thomas Paine’s *the Crisis* which is about these times that try men’s souls. While he published *Common Sense* earlier, the *Crisis* came at a desperate time. His most famous line is below:

Tom Paine again in service to chosen country during the war from the *American Crisis*: These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country, but he who stands it *now*, deserves the loves and thanks of man and woman.