

8. **constitution:** The fundamental laws and principles by which an organization (nation, state, and such) is governed. In America, after the Revolution had begun, the state constitutions were written so as not to rely on tradition and previous legal practices as guides for governing.
9. **confederation:** A group of sovereign states that unite for specific purposes (defense, foreign policy, trade, and so on), yet otherwise act as independent bodies.
10. **speculation:** The practice, especially prevalent in western land dealings, in which an individual or a company (the speculator) purchased large blocks of land at a low price per acre (often on credit), divided the land into small units, and resold the property at a higher price per acre. This made many speculators rich, but the land did go to the farmers who could not have afforded large purchases.
11. **inflation:** The economic condition caused by an oversupply of money (generally paper) in a market undersupplied with goods to buy. The result is high prices and a corresponding reduction in the value (buying power) of money. If the inflation is prolonged, a serious disruption of the economy might occur.
12. **depression:** The reverse of inflation, caused by a reduction of the money supply that retards economic activity, drives prices down, and results in business failures and unemployment.

Pertinent Questions

THE STATES UNITED (128-133)

1. List the divisions within the Second Continental Congress, and give the aim of each faction. How did the factions attempt to gain their ends?
2. How did the pamphlet Common Sense address the problem of the aim of the war and what was its impact on American opinion?
3. What were the philosophical roots of the Declaration of Independence and what effect did the Declaration have on the struggle?
4. What were the characteristics of the governments—state and national—set up by Americans to conduct the war?
5. What problems did the Americans face in providing the necessary supplies and equipment for the war and in paying for them?
6. How were the problems in question 5 overcome, at least initially?

THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE (133-143)

7. What were the American advantages in the struggle, and why was George Washington selected as the best person to make the most of these advantages?
8. What were the initial setbacks in the war during 1776, and what was the significance of the Battles of Trenton and Princeton in this regard?
9. What was the initial plan for the British campaign of 1777? How was this altered, and what effect did this alteration have on the outcome?
10. What were the American diplomatic goals at the start of the war? What problems did they face, and what efforts were made to overcome them?
11. How did the victory at Saratoga affect American diplomatic efforts? How did England and France respond to this news? What was the result?
12. Why did the British decide to launch a campaign against the southern colonies in 1778? What advantages and disadvantages did each side have in this region?
13. How was the campaign in the South conducted, and why was the victory at Yorktown so significant for the Americans?

14. How was Spain an obstacle to the American hopes for peace with independence? How did this affect American diplomacy before the Battle of Yorktown?
15. What were the provisions of the Treaty of Paris in 1783, and how did the Treaty affect relations among the United States, France, and Spain?

WAR AND SOCIETY (143-149)

16. Who were the Loyalists? What elements in America remained loyal to the king, and for what reasons?
17. What happened to the Loyalists? Why was theirs a "tragic story," at least in some cases?
18. What effect did the war have on other minorities? How was its significance to African-Americans both limited and yet important?
19. What impact did the American Revolution have on Native Americans?
20. How did the Revolution affect the way American women thought about their status, and what changes resulted from this new awareness?
21. What changes did the Revolution produce in the structure of the American economy?

THE CREATION OF STATE GOVERNMENTS (149-151)

22. What was it about the concept of a republican government that so appealed to Americans?
23. How did Americans propose to avoid what they considered to be the problems of the British system they were repudiating?
24. What was unique about the constitution drawn up by Massachusetts?
25. How did these new constitutions deal with the question of religious freedom? How did they deal with slavery?

THE SEARCH FOR A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT (151-156)

26. What type of government did the Articles of Confederation create? What were its major features?
27. Why was the Confederation organized as it was? What caused the delay in its ratification, and how were the obstacles to its ratification overcome?
28. How did the Treaty of Paris of 1783 fail to resolve, or in some cases help to create, tension between the United States, England, and Spain?
29. Above all, what commercial arrangements did American shippers and traders want after the war had ended? Why did they feel this was needed, and how successful were they in accomplishing their aims?
30. What postwar problems existed between the United States and Spain? What attempts were made to solve the problems, and why did these attempts fail?
31. How did the Confederation Congress attempt to solve the problem of the status of western territory that the states had ceded to it? Which interest groups favored which plans for the sale and distribution of land?
32. How did the Confederation deal with the Indians who also claimed the western land?
33. What were the sources of the Confederation's postwar economic problems, and how did the government attempt to solve them? What were the results?
34. How was paper money seen as a solution to the economic problems of one element in American society? Who opposed this and why?
35. How did the action of Daniel Shays and his followers relate to the economic problem of the Confederation period? What was the significance of the movement he led?

WHERE HISTORIANS DISAGREE (130-131)

36. What are the major interpretations of the origins of the American Revolution that have been advanced by historians?
37. Note the various schools of historical interpretation in the glossary of this chapter of the Study Guide. Which historians highlighted in "Where Historians Disagree" fit into which schools?

AMERICA IN THE WORLD (142-143)

38. What Enlightenment ideas most influenced America's revolution?
39. How did Enlightenment ideas and the American Revolution inspire other people to oppose unpopular regimes? Where did these revolutions occur?

Identification

Identify each of the following, and explain why it is important within the context of the chapter.

1. Olive Branch Petition
2. Prohibitory Act
3. Conway Cabal
4. Benedict Arnold
5. Sir William Howe
6. John Burgoyne
7. "militia diplomats"
8. Joseph and Mary Brant
9. Caron de Beaumarchais
10. Sir Henry Clinton
11. Lord Cornwallis
12. Francis Marion
13. Nathanael Greene
14. Lemuel Hayes
15. Dragging Canoe
16. camp followers
17. Judith Sargent Murray
18. Vindication of the Rights of Women
19. Virginia Statute of Religious Liberty
20. small states/large states
21. township
22. Ordinance of 1784
23. Little Turtle
24. Ohio and Scioto companies
25. Northwest Ordinance of 1787
26. Treaty of Greenville
Robert Morris