

Study Guide



Chapter 6, Section 2

For use with textbook pages 172–176

THE WAR CONTINUES

KEY TERMS

desert	To leave without permission (page 173)
inflation	An increase in money supply causes the price of goods to rise (page 175)

DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

Have you ever had to ask others for help when you had a problem you could not solve by yourself? How did the people you asked respond? Were they helpful? Did you feel they supported you? How did you feel when you shared your problem with someone who cared and was willing to help?

In the last section, you read about the advantages and disadvantages of the British and the Americans. This section focuses on the hardships the Patriots faced and the help they received from European countries.

ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the chart below to help you take notes as you read the summaries that follow. Think about the support the Europeans gave the Americans.

European Support for American Independence

France

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Others

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

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READ TO LEARN

- **Gaining Allies** (pages 172–175)

After the victory at Saratoga in October 1777, France announced support for the United States. The United States and France established a trade agreement and formed an alliance, or formal agreement to unite, against the British. France declared war on Britain and sent money, supplies, and troops to help the Patriots. Other European countries disliked the British and helped the Americans. While Spain did not recognize American independence until after the war, Spain declared war on Britain in 1779. British troops were diverted from other areas when Spanish troops from Louisiana made British troops retreat from Baton Rouge and Natchez. The Spanish army captured British forts at Mobile and Pensacola in 1780.

British and American troops spent the winter about 20 miles apart. The British settled in Philadelphia and the Americans at Valley Forge. The winter was harsh. American troops survived without decent food, clothing, or shelter. They were weak and cold. Many soldiers **deserted** the Continental Army, or left without permission. The army somehow survived the winter, and conditions slowly improved. Everyone's spirits rose when they heard of the French-American alliance in the spring of 1778. New soldiers joined the army.

Support came from other Europeans as well. A French nobleman, Marquis de Lafayette, bought a ship and sailed to America to join the American cause. Casimir Pulaski and Thaddeus Kosciuszko, two Polish men, also fought alongside the Americans. Pulaski died in battle fighting for the Continental Army. A former German army officer, Friederich von Steuban, helped train the American soldiers at Valley Forge. Juan de Miralles from Spain persuaded Spain, Cuba, and Mexico to send money to the Patriots. He also lent money to the cause.

Money was always a problem because Congress did not have the authority to raise money through taxes. Congress needed more money than states and other countries were giving. Congress printed more paper money than the gold and silver they had was worth. This caused the price of goods to increase. This is called **inflation**. People stopped using the paper money because it was worthless.

1. What support did the Patriots receive from foreign countries?

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- **Life on the Home Front** (*pages 175–176*)

Women's lives changed with so many men away at war. Women took over the men's chores and ran their businesses. They began to question their own equality. Some women believed that girls should receive the same education as boys because their minds were just as good. Abigail Adams told her husband, John, that it was unfair for Congress to talk about freedom and liberty for the nation and still hold power over their wives. At the time these ideas were very extreme.

Many Loyalists fought with the British, often spying on the Patriots. Others moved away from the colonies and went to England, Florida, the Appalachian Mountains, and to Canada. Those who stayed were sometimes victims of violence or arrested and tried as traitors. Their neighbors wanted nothing to do with them.

Many white Americans began to question slavery. Various group spoke out against slavery. The governor of New Jersey asked the legislature to free enslaved people. Slavery went against his beliefs in Christianity and humanity. The enslaved Americans in New Hampshire requested their freedom from the legislature. African American soldiers fought in the American Revolution from the beginning. A few states, including Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania, tried to end slavery in their states. These early efforts failed. Slavery was not abolished, or outlawed, until many years later.

2. What effects did the revolution have on women, Loyalists, and African Americans?
