

Vocab Quiz #8: Study Guide

General Terms

1. American Revolution: A war between the 13 colonies and England, where the colonists fought for their independence from English rule.
2. Continental Congress: A group of representatives from the 13 colonies who met to organize the colonies against the English government before/during the American Revolution.
3. Continental Army: An army created by the Continental Congress to fight against the English.
4. Patriot: A colonist who supported the American Revolution.
5. Loyalist: A colonist who was against the American Revolution.
6. Declaration of Independence: A document that declared the colonies were separating from England and creating a new independent country.
7. Articles of Confederation: The first constitution of the United States. It was created during the American Revolution.
8. Treaty of Paris: The agreement between England and the 13 colonies that ended the American Revolution. In the agreement, the 13 colonies were given their independence and gained a large area of land in North America.

Battles

9. Lexington: A small skirmish between English soldiers and American minutemen in a town outside of Boston that marks the beginning of the American Revolution.
10. Concord: A battle in a small town outside of Boston where English soldiers succeeded in destroying an American weapons depot, but suffered 250 casualties on the march back to Boston.
11. Fort Ticonderoga: A battle in upstate New York where American soldiers captured a fort and its military supplies. The Americans hauled the canons from the fort to Boston and used them to recapture the city from the English.
12. Bunker Hill: A battle outside of Boston where English soldiers charged up the hill three separate times. Although they succeeded in taking the hill, the British suffered heavy losses -- 1000 English casualties compared to 400 American casualties.
13. Trenton: A battle that took place in New Jersey the day after Christmas. Americans surprised Hessian soldiers, capturing nearly 1500 of them. This battle gave a much needed boost to American morale.
14. Battle of Long Island: A battle outside New York City where Americans were defeated, causing them to retreat and forcing Washington to change his battle tactics. The battle allowed the English to capture New York City.
15. Battle of Brandywine Creek: A battle outside of Philadelphia where the English won, allowing them to capture Philadelphia.
16. Battle of Saratoga: A battle in upstate New York where American defeated an entire English army, leading to the surrender of 5700 English soldiers. The battle convinced the French to join the American's side in the war.
17. Savannah: A battle in Georgia where the English captured Savannah, defeating an American counter-attack and causing heavy losses for the Americans.
18. Charleston: A battle in South Carolina where the English capture Charleston, leading to the surrender of 5400 American soldiers. It was the worst defeat in the war for the Americans.
19. Battle of Guilford Courthouse: A battle in North Carolina where both side suffered heavy losses. The battle convinced the English to abandon their efforts to conquer the Carolinas and instead focus their efforts on capturing Virginia.

20. Yorktown: A battle in Virginia where the English were surrounded by both the Americans and French, forcing them to surrender their entire army of 10,000 soldiers. This battle convinced the English to accept defeat in the war.

People

21. Paul Revere: An American patriot who is famous for his “midnight ride” when he was sent out from Boston to warn colonists at Lexington about approaching English soldiers.
22. Thomas Paine: An American patriot who wrote very persuasive pamphlets to encourage colonists to support the American Revolution. His most famous pamphlet is “Common Sense.”
23. Baron von Steuben: A Prussian officer who helped train the Continental Army in their winter at Valley Forge.
24. Marquis de Lafayette: A French nobleman who joined the Continental Army, served without being paid, and became one of Washington’s most trusted aides.
25. de Grasse: A French admiral who helped Washington trap Cornwallis at Yorktown.
26. Benjamin Franklin: An American patriot who served as an ambassador to France during the American Revolution.
27. Thomas Jefferson: An American patriot who wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence.
28. George Washington: An American patriot who was appointed as the commander of the Continental Army, whose leadership helped keep the colonies together during the war, and who was later elected the first President of the United States.
29. Ethan Allen: An American officer who led the American forces at Fort Ticonderoga.
30. Benedict Arnold: An American general who led the American forces at several important battles (including Fort Ticonderoga and the Battle of Saratoga), but later turned traitor because he wasn’t being paid his salary and didn’t think he was being given enough respect.
31. Nathanael Greene: An American general who took command of the Southern Army later in the war and was highly successful at using hit-and-run tactics against the English.
32. George III: The King of England during the American Revolution.
33. John Burgoyne: An English general who was defeated at the Battle of Saratoga.
34. Thomas Gage: An English general who was in charge of English forces at the start of the war, commanding troops at the battles of Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill.
35. William Howe: An English general who took charge of English troops after Thomas Gage. He succeeded in capturing Philadelphia, but failed to help support Burgoyne at Saratoga.
36. Charles Cornwallis: An English general who was forced to surrender at Yorktown, which convinced the English to accept defeat in the war.