

Name: _____

Advanced Study Guide—Optional Reading

1. What factors in the first half of 1776 convinced many colonists to support the rebellion against Britain?
2. How did the Declaration of Independence differ from earlier patriot writings?
3. The War for Independence has been called America's first civil war. What do historians mean by this?
4. Why did the British give up their efforts to defeat the Americans after the battle of Yorktown? Which other battles proved to be decisive turning points?
5. In what respect was the British experience in the War for Independence similar to the American experience in the Vietnam War almost two centuries later?
6. How did Abigail Adams' views on the struggle for independence differ from those of most colonial leaders?
7. How did France, Spain and other European powers contribute to America's victory? What were their motivations? Do you think the French and Spanish kings shared the political values of the Americans?