





## Lesson 11

# The American Revolution

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# WARM-UP

## Tug-of-War

Have you ever been involved in  
a tug-of-war game?

How is the game played?

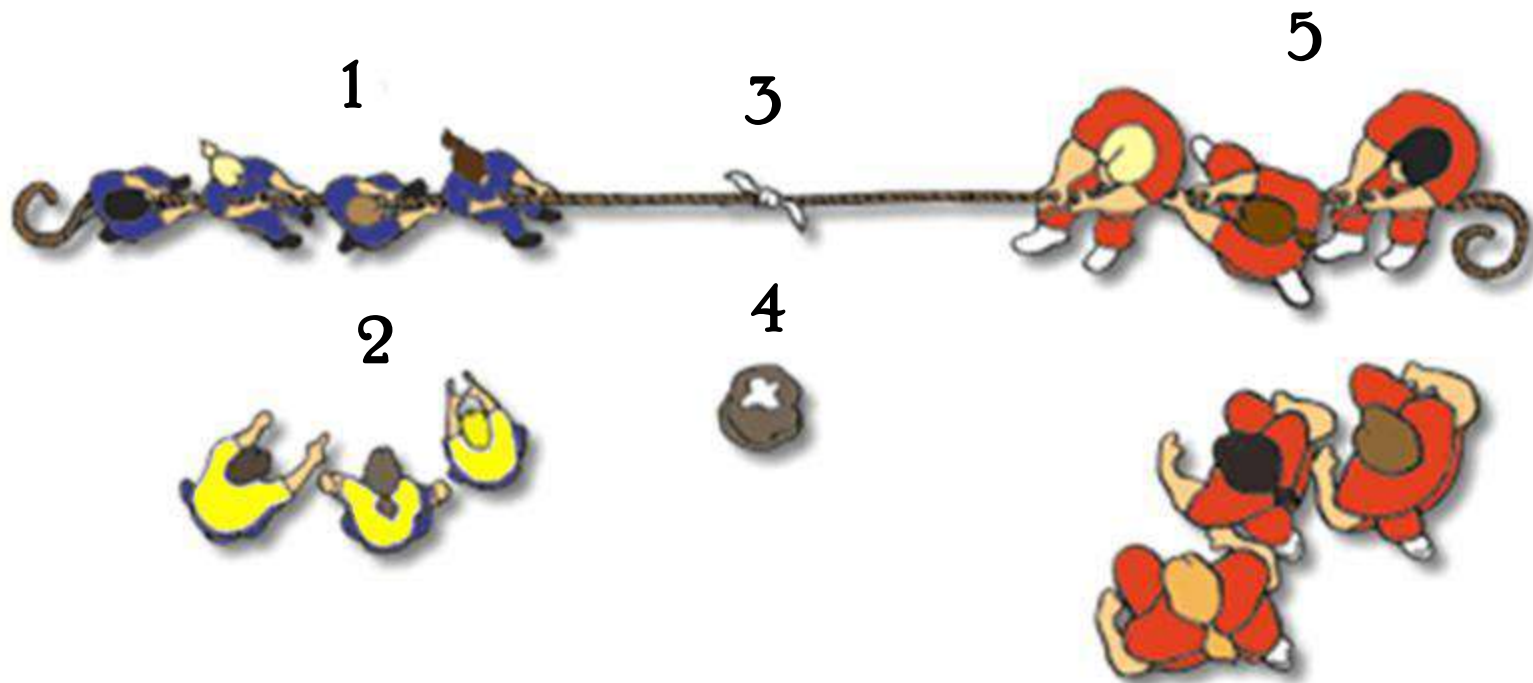
Is it easy to determine the winner ahead of time?



An Experiential Activity:  
“Tug-of-War”

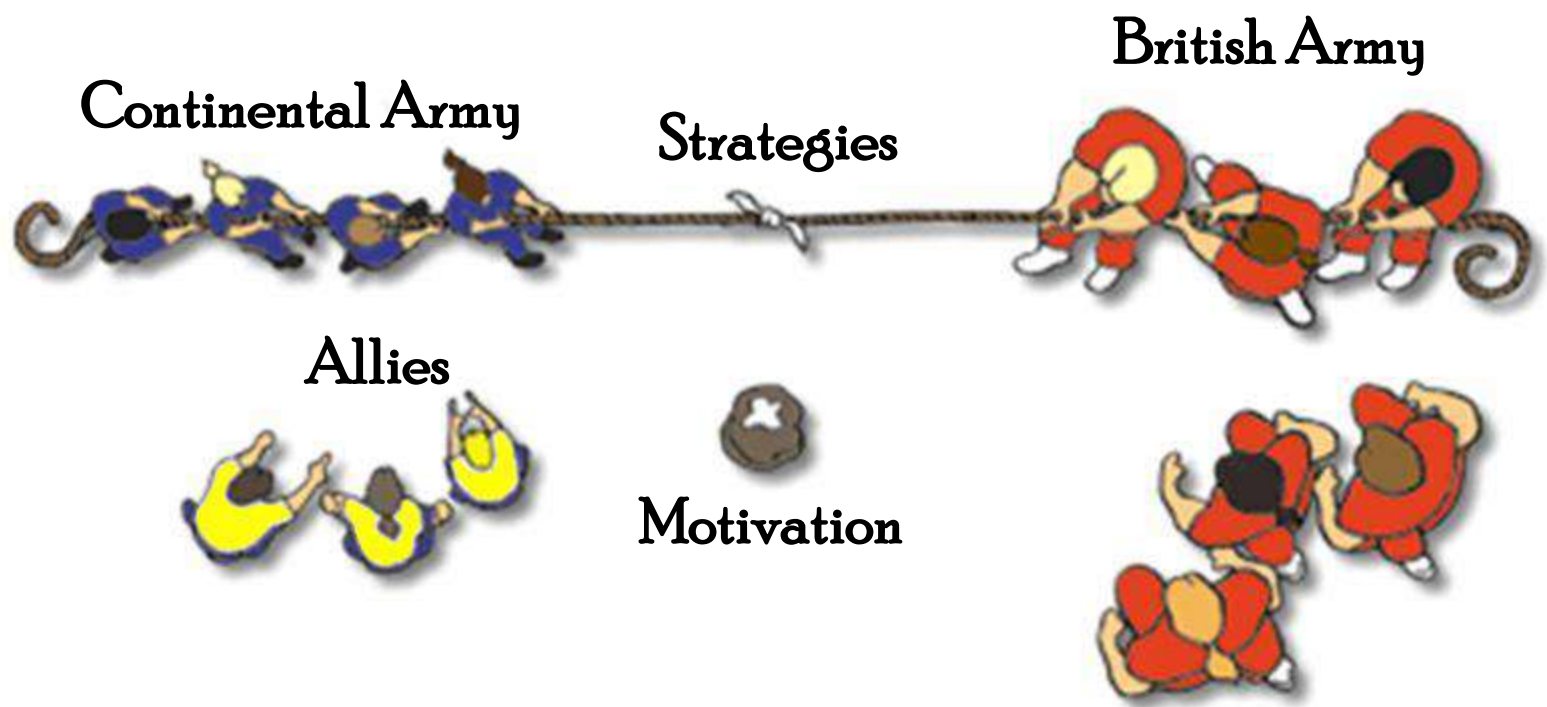
## Lesson 11: The American Revolution

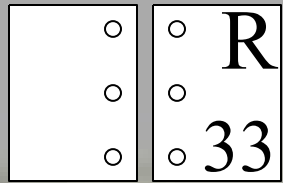
The all the local militia? Army?  
Debriefing the Experience  
Why? What? How?  
Continuity? Change? Success? group?  
mot (strategy) win?



Lesson 11: The American Revolution

What did the British want?  
What did the Americans want?  
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# **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

How was the Continental Army able to win the war for independence from Great Britain?

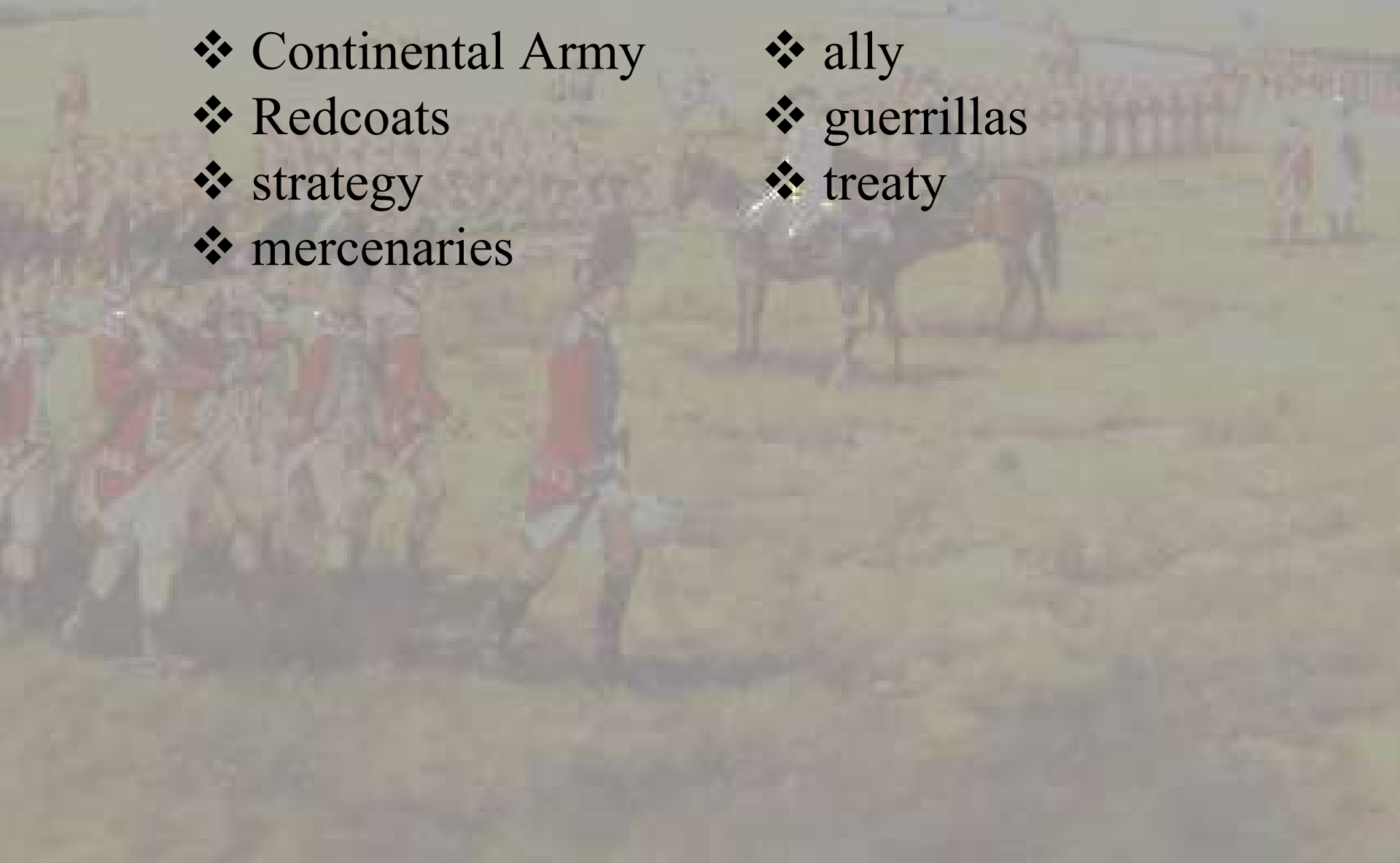
## **LEARNING TARGETS**

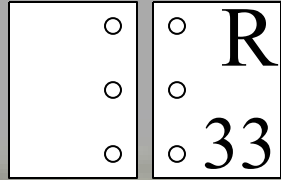
- I can describe characteristics of the British and American military forces at the start of the American Revolution.
- I can identify the main reasons why the Continental Army was able to defeat the British Army in the American Revolution.
- I can explain the main provisions of the Treaty of Paris.

## Lesson 11: The American Revolution

### **VOCAB** Key Vocabulary to add to Flashcard List (46-52)

- ❖ Continental Army
- ❖ Redcoats
- ❖ strategy
- ❖ mercenaries
- ❖ ally
- ❖ guerrillas
- ❖ treaty





## Attach the Class Notes.

### 7.2 – American Strengths and Weaknesses

1. List three weaknesses of the Americans at the start of the war.
2. Besides patriotism, list two American strengths at the start of the war.

### 7.3 – British Strengths and Weaknesses

1. List three strengths of the British at the start of the war.
2. List two weaknesses of the British at the start of the war.

### 7.4 – Britain Almost Wins the War

1. Why did the Declaration of Independence increase Americans' motivation to fight and win the war?
2. For which group of Americans did the Declaration of Independence raise hopes as well as questions?
3. What factors allowed the British to almost win the war in 1776?

### 7.5 – A Pep Talk and Surprise Victories

1. In your own words, what was the message of Thomas Paine's pamphlet *The American Crisis*?
2. How were the Americans able to win such an overwhelming victory at Trenton?
3. How did victories at Trenton and Princeton in December 1776 affect American morale?



## 7.2 – American Strengths and Weaknesses

## 7.3 – British Strengths and Weaknesses



### Video

**Liberty! The American Revolution**  
**“The Times that Try Men’s Souls”**  
**(Episode 3)**  
*Chapter 3 – Two Different Armies*



the American Army during the American Revolution

the British Army during the American Revolution

## 7.2 – American Strengths and Weaknesses

1. List three weaknesses of the Americans at the start of the war.
  - **The Continental Army was very small and always short of soldiers.**
  - **Few Americans were trained for battle.**
  - **The army was plagued by shortages of guns, gunpowder, food, and uniforms.**

**Video**  
**Patriot**  
*“Battle of Camden”*
2. Besides patriotism, list two American strengths at the start of the war.
  - **The Americans received secret aid from the French.**
  - **George Washington was an experienced military leader who inspired courage and confidence.**

## 7.3 – British Strengths and Weaknesses

1. List three strengths of the British at the start of the war.

➤ **The British Army had 42,000 soldiers, reinforced by 30,000 Hessian mercenaries, as well as Loyalists, Native Americans, and African Americans.**

➤ **British**  **ced,**  
**compa**

➤ **British** **Professional soldiers who will fight for forms,**  
**ammu** **anyone who pays them**

2. List two w **var.**

➤ **Sending** **merica was**  
**slow and costly.**

➤ **The British were not passionate about defeating the rebels, and they had poor military leadership (Lord Germain) with no consistent or realistic plan.**

## **7.4 – Britain Almost Wins the War**

1. Why did the Declaration of Independence increase Americans' motivation to fight and win the war?
  - **The Declaration made it clear that the troops had the support of all the colonies.**
  - **Many Americans believed that freedom and the chance to create their own country were goals worth fighting for.**
2. For which group of Americans did the Declaration of Independence raise hopes as well as questions?
  - **The Declaration of Independence raised hopes and questions for African Americans; they wondered if the words “all men are created equal” applied to them, and whether independence would bring an end to slavery.**

## 7.4 – Britain Almost Wins the War

3. What factors allowed the British to almost win the war in 1776?

- **The British, with their greater numbers and superior training, overwhelmed the inexperienced Americans at New York in 1776. British forces chased the Continental Army out of New York, through New Jersey, and finally across the Delaware River into Pennsylvania.**
- Video*  
*Liberty: The American Revolution*  
*«The Times that Try Men's Souls» (Episode 3)*  
*Chapters 2, 4, and 5*



# Lesson 11: The American Revolution



## Video

### Liberty! The American Revolution

#### “The Times that Try Men’s Souls” (Episode 3)

#### *Chapter 9*

## 7.6 – The Tide Begins to Turn

1. As the war progressed, how did Washington revise his military strategy?

### Video

- **Washington** at risk **design** an overall plan; for example, for winning a war
- **German** by taki **New E** **with supplies and men.**

at his army  
was

e the rebels  
utting off  
ental Army

## 7.6 – The Tide Begins to Turn

2. Why did the American cause look more hopeful after the Battle of Saratoga in 1777?

➤ **After the Battle of Saratoga, the American cause did not look as hopeless. The French agreed to become allies of the Americans, sending money, weapons, soldiers, and warships. Spain joined the war, fighting against Britain.**

a nation that joins another nation in  
some common effort, such as winning  
a war





## 7.6 – The Tide Begins to Turn

3. Name two foreigners who were present with the Americans at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777, and explain how they helped the Americans.



# 7.7 – The War Goes South

1. What tactics did the Americans use successfully against the British in the Southern Colonies?

- **British change their strategy again and moved the war south, believing thousands of Loyalists would join the king's cause.**
- **American soldiers who operate on their own and are not part of a regular army**
- **The British and eventually forced them to retreat to Yorktown, where they were defeated.**

soldiers who operate on their own and are not part of a regular army

Video

Liberty: The American Revolution  
"The World Turned Upside Down" (Episode 5)

*Chapters 9 and 10*

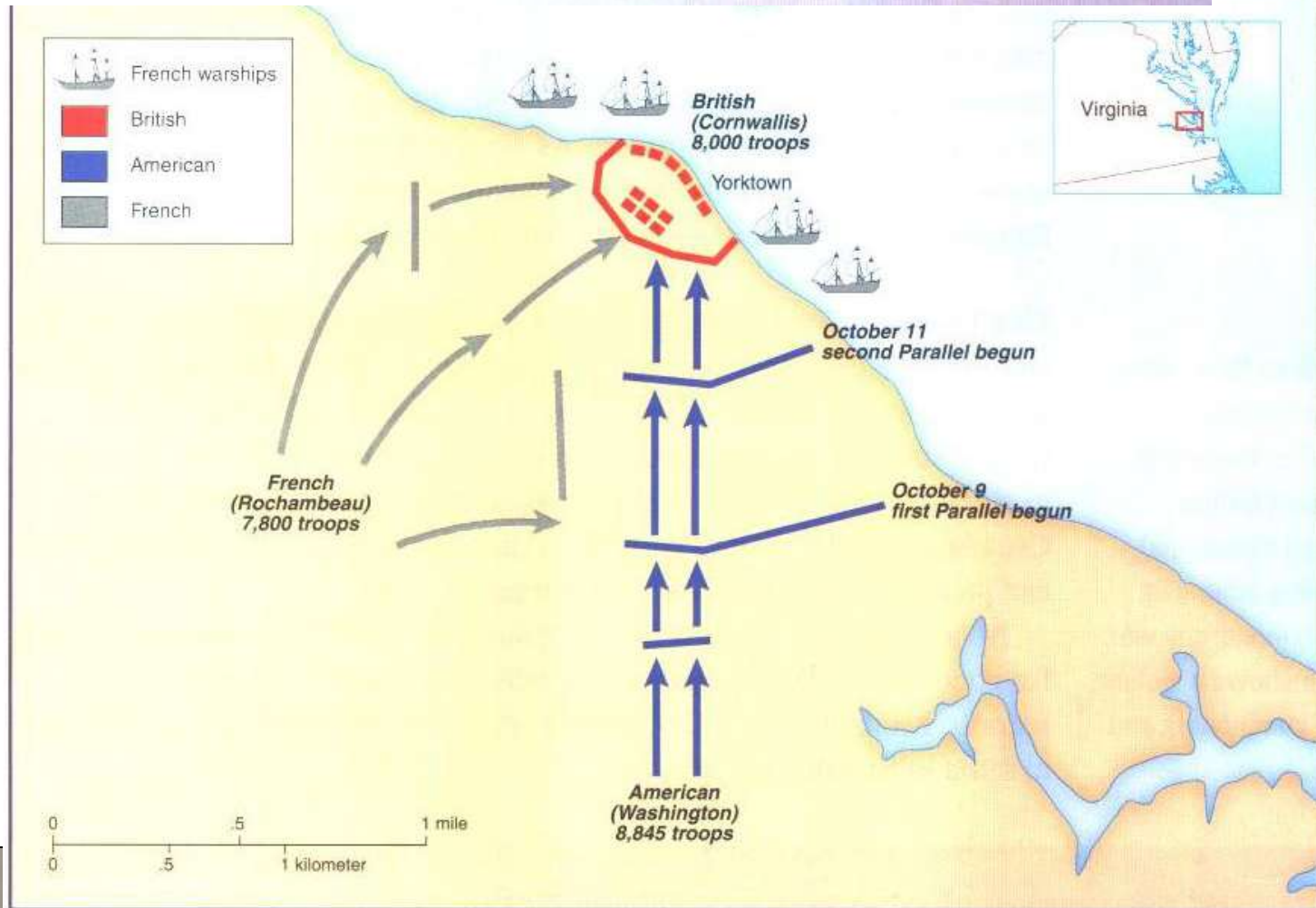
## 7.7 – The War Goes South

3. How did the French help the Americans in the Battle of Yorktown?

- **French troops and warships helped the Americans to trap the British Army at Yorktown.**



1. Identify at least four interesting details on this map.
2. Which three countries were involved in this battle?
3. According to the map, what did American and French forces do to defeat the British at the Battle of Yorktown?
4. How do you think Americans responded to the outcome of the Battle of Yorktown? The British? The French? Explain.



## **7.8 – The War Ends**

1. How did the British people respond to news of the Battle of Yorktown?

➤ **Most British were tired of the war, but King George did not want to accept defeat.**

2. What were three key provisions of the Treaty of Paris?

➤ **Britain recognized the United States as an independent country.**

➤ **Britain handed over territory from the Atlantic Coast to the Mississippi River.**

➤ **The United States agreed to return all rights and property taken from Loyalists during the war.**

## PROCESSING the Lesson

### A “Fourth of July Parade” Banner

On a separate sheet of white (computer) paper, create a banner that commemorates the reasons the Continental Army was able to defeat the British in the Revolutionary War.

1. Create a slogan for your banner in large letters. For example, your slogan might say “David Defeats Goliath: How We Won Our Independence”.
2. Decorate the banner with at least five simple visual symbols that represent different reasons the Americans won the Revolutionary War. For example, you might draw the French flag to represent the French assistance that helped the Americans to win.
3. Beneath the banner, write a three- or four-word caption that explains what each symbol represents. For example, as a caption for the French flag, you might write, “Help from French Allies”.