

## **Chapter 6 | Sections 3-5 | Reading Focus Questions**

**Dear Student:** Section 3 due today and Section 4 due Monday at start of class!! Work quietly and on your own.  
Please read the entire section first and then use the questions to find your responses.

### **Chapter 6 / Section 3 (pp. 181-185)**

1. What happened during the **Battle of Long Island**?  
**1,400 Americans were killed, wounded, or captured as Washington had to retreat to avoid capture.**

---

2. Who was **Nathan Hale**? Describe his contribution to the war effort.  
**A young officer who volunteered to go behind British lines to gather information—he was caught and hanged.**

---

3. Why did Washington undertake a surprise attack on **Trenton**? Describe its outcome.  
**The surprise attack on Christmas night 1776 caught the Hessians by surprise and was a tremendous victory for Washington.**

---

4. How did Washington fool Cornwallis before the **Battle of Princeton**? Who won this battle?  
**He left fires burning in Trenton and slipped behind British lines (again) to gain another victory at Princeton**

---

5. Why was the American victory at the **Battle of Saratoga** important? (List 3 reasons.)  
**This battle was (1) a major turning point in the war, (2) ended the British threat to New England, and (3) convinced France to become our ally.**

---

6. Name two **Europeans** who contributed to the American cause and explain their contributions:  
**Marquis de Lafayette (France) brought trained soldiers and became a trusted friend of Washington.**  
**Friedrich von Steuben (Prussia) trained troops to march and drill.**  
**[Thaddeus Kosciusko (Poland), an engineer, helped build forts.]**  
**[Casimir Pulaski (Poland) trained cavalry, or troops on horseback.]**

---

7. Describe the conditions at **Valley Forge** in the winter of 1777-1778:  
**Soldiers experienced terrible suffering from frostbite and diseases in the extreme winter conditions.**

### **Chapter 6 / Section 4 (pp. 186-189)**

8. Name two **women** who helped the American cause and explain their **contributions**:  
**“Handy Betsy the Blacksmith”—known for making cannons and guns**  
**Betsy Ross—sewed flags for Washington’s army**  
**Mary Ludwig Hays—carried water to soldiers (aka “Molly Pitcher”)**  
**[Martha Washington—joined her husband at the front]**

---

9. How did the war change many women’s **attitudes**?  
**Those women who had taken charge of farms or businesses became more confident and willing to speak out about their rights.**

10. Why did some **slaves** escape to the British? What was Washington's **response**?  
**The British offered freedom to some male slaves. Washington asked Congress to allow free African Americans to enlist.**

---

11. Why did **African American Patriots** hope that the Revolution would end slavery?  
**They believed the Declaration of Independence promised it and some northern states outlawed slavery during the war.**

---

12. Why were the British more successful in gaining **Indian** support during the war?  
**They convinced Native Americans that a Patriot victory would mean more white settlers crossing the Appalachians & taking their lands.**

---

13. Who was **Bernardo de Gálvez** and how did he help the American cause?  
**Gálvez was the governor of Spanish Louisiana and secretly supplied medicine, cloth, muskets and gunpowder to the Americans.**

---

14. Who was **John Paul Jones** and how did he help the Patriot cause?  
**American captain of the USS *Bonhomme Richard* that captured the powerful British warship HMS *Serapis* in 1779 in the North Sea.**

---

### **Chapter 6 / Section 5 (pp. 191-195)**

15. Why did Britain decide to start fighting in the **South**?  
**Many Loyalists lived there and they hoped to gain their support.**

---

16. Which two American generals helped **turn the tide** of battle in the South?  
**Nathanael Greene (RI) and Daniel Morgan (VA)**

---

17. Which American general was known as the **Swamp Fox**? Describe his tactics.  
**Francis Marion (SC) used guerilla, or hit-and-run, tactics to harass the British—usually attacking from the swamps.**

---

18. Which American general turned **traitor** and why?  
**Benedict Arnold—he was angry because he felt that he had not received enough credit for his victories and had missed promotions.**

---

19. At Yorktown, describe the mistake made by **Cornwallis** and why he did it:  
**He disregarded an order to send part of his army to New York and instead retreated to Yorktown (VA) peninsula to receive supplies from the British navy.**

---

20. How did Cornwallis become trapped at the **Battle of Yorktown** by American and French forces?  
**American (Washington) and French (Rochambeau/Lafayette) troops trapped him there along with the French fleet offshore.**

---

21. Describe the **Treaty of Paris** (1783) in terms of U.S. status and boundaries. (What about Florida?)  
**Britain recognized the U.S. as an independent nation, the borders were set from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River and from Florida (returned to Spain) to the Great Lakes/Canada.**

---

22. What **three factors** helped the Americans defeat the British in the American Revolution?  
**A. Geography—Americans knew the land/British 3,000 miles from home  
B. Foreign help—crucial assistance from France and Spain  
C. Americans' patriotic spirit and fighting skills + General Washington's leadership and military skills**