Chapter 6: War and Revolution, 1775-1783

I. Toward Independence, 1775-1776—What did the colonies need for independence?
   A. The Second Continental Congress and Civil War—When and where did the 2nd Continental Congress meet? What was discussed? What did they decide?
      1. Congress versus the King—What was the main focus for Congress in interacting with King George III? How did the King respond? What was the Americans’ first attack plan?
      2. Rebellion in the South—What events took place in Virginia? What was the “Ethiopian Regiment,” and why was it formed? What happened in North Carolina?
   B. Common Sense—What was Common Sense? Who wrote it and when? What were its arguments based on? Why was it so powerful?
   C. Independence Declared—Who wrote the Declaration of Independence? How did Jefferson justify declaring independence from Great Britain?

II. The Trials of War, 1776-1778
   A. War in the North—What were the main advantages held by the British? What sort of fighting forced did the Americans have? How successful were the Americans? What were some of the American highlights?
   B. Armies and Strategies—What were the British army’s strategies—did the British generals push for absolute victory? What were Washington’s strategies? Who was the “average” Continental Army soldier? How was the Continental Army equipped?
   C. Victory at Saratoga—Who was the British general at Saratoga? What went wrong with the British plan? WHY WAS THE AMERICAN VICTORY AT SARATOGA SO IMPORTANT?
   D. Social and Financial Perils—What was the fighting like for average citizens? What were the “partisan conflicts” in some communities like?
      1. Financial Crisis—What was the financial crisis caused by the war? What were the reactions to the crisis? Were these reactions successful?
      2. Valley Forge—What was Valley Forge, and where was it? When did the Continentals stay there? What happened there? What was the Continental Army like after Valley Forge—and why?

III. The Path to Victory, 1778-1783—Whose alliance helped make independence a reality?
   A. The French Alliance—For what reasons were the French an unlikely ally? Why did they ally with the Americans? Who negotiated the treaty?
      1. Negotiating the Treaty—What stipulations were included in the treaty? What were the effects of the treaty for the Continental Army?
      2. The British Response—How was the war with the Americans received among the British? What did Parliament and the King do to try to win the Americans back?
   B. War in the South—What did the French do as soon as they entered the war on the American side (what did they want to capture the most)?
      1. Britain’s Southern Strategy—What was Britain’s “Southern Strategy”? How was it to work—why did they think that the South was attractive to attack? How successful was it, particularly early on?
      2. Partisan Warfare in the Carolinas—Who were the major American commanders in the Carolinas? How would you characterize the fighting there? Why was it called “Partisan Warfare”? What was Cornwallis trying to do in Virginia? How were the Americans successful at Yorktown?
   C. The Patriot Advantage—What were the advantages that the Patriots had during the war?
   D. Diplomatic Triumph—How did the Americans triumph diplomatically? What did the Americans get in the peace treaty with Great Britain (be specific)?

IV. Republicanism Defined and Challenged—what was the inherent tension at the heart of the American revolution?
   A. Republican Ideals under Wartime Pressures—What is a republic? What ideals were to be exemplified?
      1. Republican Ideals Tested—What events tested republican ideals?
      2. Women and Household Production—In what ways did women contribute to the war effort?
      3. Inflation and Regulation—Why was there so much inflation during the war? How did people react to it? Who ultimately paid the price for wartime inflation?
   B. The Loyalist Exodus—Who were the Loyalists? Where did they go? What social effects did the loss of the Loyalists have? Who replaced them?
   C. The Problem of Slavery—What problem did the practice of slavery pose for the Americans after the Revolution? How did blacks react to the Revolution?
      1. Gradual Emancipation in the North—Why did some African Americans serve the Patriot cause? What is “manumission”? What groups and social forces led to gradual emancipation in the North?
      2. The White South Grapples with Slavery—What made emancipation a tougher problem in the South? How did planters view slavery? What event practically ended discussions in of emancipation in the South?
   D. A Republican Religious Order—How did republicanism affect religion in America? How was the church to relate to the state? What were some exceptions to the “separation of church and state”?\