

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY

2010 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 2

Analyze the political, diplomatic, and military reasons for the United States victory in the Revolutionary War. Confine your answer to the period 1775–1783.

The 8–9 Essay

- Contains a clear, well-developed thesis that addresses the political, diplomatic, and military reasons for the United States victory in the Revolutionary War.
- Develops the thesis with substantial, relevant historical information on the political, diplomatic, and military reasons for the United States victory in the Revolutionary War.
- Provides effective analysis of how political, diplomatic, and military reasons led to the United States victory in the Revolutionary War; treatment may be somewhat uneven.
- May contain minor errors that do not detract from the quality of the answer.
- Is clearly written and organized.

The 5–7 Essay

- Contains a partially developed thesis that addresses the political, diplomatic, and military reasons for the United States victory in the Revolutionary War.
- Supports the thesis with some relevant historical information.
- Provides some analysis of the political, diplomatic, and military reasons that led to the United States victory in the Revolutionary War, but treatment may be imbalanced and/or implicit.
- May contain errors that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.
- Has acceptable organization and writing.

The 2–4 Essay

- Contains an undeveloped or unfocused thesis, or simply paraphrases the question.
- Provides few relevant facts, or lists facts with little or no application to the question.
- May address only one or two of the three aspects of the question (political, diplomatic, and military reasons) with limited or no analysis.
- May contain major errors.
- May be poorly organized and/or written.

The 0–1 Essay

- Lacks a thesis or simply restates the question.
- Demonstrates an incompetent or inappropriate response.
- Has little or no understanding of the question.
- Contains substantial errors.
- Is poorly written and/or organized.

The — Essay

- Is blank or completely off topic.

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Question 2 — Fact Sheet

Political

- Locke and the Enlightenment
- Pre-1775 actions leading to 1775–1783 actions
- Patrick Henry, “Give me liberty or give me death”
- Edmund Burke and William Pitt, British sympathizers
- Antiwar riots
- Dunmore Proclamation (1775)
- Loyalists, including Indians and African Americans
- Second Continental Congress
 - Olive Branch Petition
 - Washington, commander of the army
 - Declaration of Independence
- Thomas Paine, *Common Sense* and *The Crisis*
- Articles of Confederation
- Collapse of Lord North’s ministry, 1782

Diplomatic

- Olive Branch Petition
- French Alliance, 1778
- Benjamin Franklin, ambassador to France
- John Adams, ambassador to Holland
- League of Armed Neutrality
- Treaty of Paris, 1783
 - John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay
- British sympathy, Whigs

Military

- Patriot advantages
 - Just cause
 - American geographical expanse
 - Fighting on home ground, distance from England
 - Experience from earlier colonial wars
 - Minutemen
- Ethan Allen (Green Mountain Boys)
 - Benedict Arnold
 - Fort Ticonderoga
- Evacuation of Boston, Henry Knox
- British occupation of American cities — New York, Philadelphia, Charleston, Savannah
- No effective British blockade of American coast
- Hessians
- Important figures:
 - George Washington
 - Nathanael Greene
 - Horatio Gates
 - John Paul Jones
 - Paul Revere
 - Francis Marion, “Swamp Fox”

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Question 2 — Fact Sheet (continued)

- George Rogers Clark
- John Sullivan
- Marquis de Lafayette
- Baron Von Steuben
- Casimir Pulaski
- Thaddeus Kosciusko
- Baron de Kalb
- General William Howe
- Admiral Richard Howe
- General Thomas Gage
- General Henry Clinton
- General John Burgoyne
- Lord Charles Cornwallis
- Joseph Brant
- Battles:
 - Lexington and Concord, April 1775
 - Fort Ticonderoga, May 1775
 - Invasion of Canada, fall of 1775
 - Bunker Hill (Breed's Hill), June 1776
 - Brooklyn Heights, August 1776
 - Defeat of Cherokees, Virginia, Carolinas, September 1776
 - Trenton, December 1776
 - Princeton, January 1777
 - Saratoga, October 1777; led to French alliance
 - Valley Forge, 1777–1778
 - Monmouth Court House, June 1778
 - Vincennes, February 1779
 - Elmira, August 1779
 - Savannah, October 1779
 - Charleston, May 1780
 - Kings Mountain, October 1780
 - Cowpens, January 1781
 - Guilford Court House, March 1781
 - Yorktown, October 1781 — “The world turned upside”
- Role of women — nurses, soldiers, camp followers

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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2A

(1 of 3)

Providence appeared to be with the colonies that no longer desired to be colonies. A myriad of political, diplomatic, and military advantages all eventually produced a republican experiment that would shake the balance of power for centuries.

As the oppressive mother Britain and pesky King George sought to dig their way out of debt and back following the French and Indian Wars, a series of taxes and laws were levied and layed on the colonists — to which they did not appreciate. As the Tea Party and the Committees of Correspondance and the Sons of Liberty dominated the fight for liberty in the first of the 1770s, the Second Continental Congress surged to the helm of front of the second half of the struggle. When the Olive Branch Petition returned in far insultingly failed to be recognized, the Declaration of Independenee united a minority of revolutionary ~~part~~ American Patriots, yet nonetheless a united crew of rebels. Leadership in George Washington, Patrick Henry, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson John Hancock, ~~and~~ John Adams, and countless others greatly amplified the American advantage.

Such stellar leaders passionately ~~pursued~~ took up their own tasks, and Benjamin Franklin's help a supremely momentous weight. As an ambassador to France, he held the key to France's decision of investing in the Revolutionary War. Following the Battle of

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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2 A

(2 of 3)

Saratoga, Britain's historic enemy once again proved the dislike for ~~the~~ the British Empire and entered the fray. The presence of the French Navy not only thoroughly demoralized the English British; the French Navy forced the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, as Washington provided inland pressure and the French provided constant marine bombardment. Interestingly, arms supplied at Lexington and Concord to the minutemen were ^{of} French origin — so ~~the~~ France had ~~it~~ its hand in to some degree from the beginning a diplomatic advantage that the British painfully detested. On land, Marquis de Lafayette, a heroic French commander, provided essentially drilling ^{and training} for the impassioned yet inexperienced colonial army, much to the ~~the~~ redcoat's chagrin.

Further adding to the woes of the mother country superb leadership led the military of the rebels. Washington's daily valor and wisdom, multiplied by his humility and service at Valley Forge, proved incalculably assistive to the cause of liberty. John Paul Jones fought and led with honor on the seas, while Francis Marion's guerilla-swamp tactics poked the life out of the southern lobsterback forces. Tactically, the geography of the conflict ~~pro~~ seems elementary, yet ~~is expose~~ is exponentially more advantageous to the colonists. The Atlantic gap rendered ^{British} orders and reports

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2A
(30/3)

outdated upon arrival, and dying on the other side of a vast ocean hardly seems glorious to a homesick ~~English~~ regular British regular. Conversely, defending your home — that catalyst inspired the rebels ~~are in~~ for life onward. for life, liberty, and the pursuit of all who threaten it.

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

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2B
(1-3)

The United States of America was the new name of the nation as it beat the world's strongest country in a war for independence. This victory was achieved by a common drive shared by patriots to cast the bonds of monarchy and a strong leader by the name of George Washington. Diplomatically the United States succeeded in the revolution due to aid from France after winning France's trust, finally the guerrilla actions taken by George Washington's forces in the north and south lead to victory over the British.

Politics ~~during~~ ^{before} the revolutionary war were somewhat heavily divided over ~~the~~ rebellion or attempting to make peace with Britain. The delegates of the second continental Congress only came together after the complete refusal of the olive branch petition by the royal monarchy. This united the colonial leaders and they chose Washington to lead the colonial forces against the "red coats". Washington's strong leadership and the ability to acquire supplies for the army lead to him becoming a successful general and later leader during the revolutionary war. This unity allowed for the colonial moral to be raised and focused the anger against Britain into a solidified resistance movement.

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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2B
(2 of 3)

Diplomatically, ^{even with the efforts of Benjamin Franklin} early in the war, the ~~a~~ colonial revolutionaries could find little support, because few nations wished to entrench themselves in a war with mighty Britain. But luckily the French were willing along with Spain to assist the revolutionaries, but only if they proved to be successful in many of the early battles to ~~assist~~ remove any fears of helping a lost cause. Also the French were distracted with the distraction the revolution posed as it set its eyes upon the West Indies. The Americans gained the French trust after the battle of Saratoga. Now with France and Spain as allies the revolutionary cause was bolstered and pushed forward.

Militarily the new United States of America had a little army, that was ill equipped against the massive British army. Yet George Washington learned in the early losses the revolutionaries ^{suffered} ~~lost~~, such as the loss of New York, to attack not as the British would do, simply charging and firing directly in the open towards the enemy, but to attack using a form of guerrilla warfare. This led to victory as the British suffered massive casualties and could not reinforce their armies because of the massive distance that separated England from

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2B
(3 of 3)

the americas. Also The British had to contend with the French and Spanish from stealing their colonies in the west Indies.

All these factors, the strong unity of the patriots, the diplomatic aid of the French and Spanish, and the guerrilla warfare that was employed, lead to the eventual freedom of the colonies from british rule. The goals and wishes ~~to~~ of the patriots were achieved with the signing of the treaty of Paris, ending the war successfully in the favor of the united States of america.

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

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J.C.
(1 of 1)

The united states won the revolutionary war because ~~a~~ many reasons, among them are motivation, reason, tactics and allies.

the military reasons are that they had great leadership and they were fighting for their homes, there was no turning back, they weren't formally trained therefore they fought with guerilla tactics to which the english had never fought. also the british had extremely long supply lines and poor leadership, most of their troops were mercenaries with little motivation, The British also had to worry about all the events in europe and france. after the battle of saratoga the french stepped in and helped the americans win the war.

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY 2010 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 2

Overview

The intent of this question was for students to explain why the American colonies defeated England in the Revolutionary War and to analyze, in an integrated manner, how political, diplomatic, and military factors were crucial to the United States victory.

Sample: 2A

Score: 8

This essay is well organized and well written, although the thesis could be a little more substantive. The student effectively analyzes the three reasons for the United States victory with a nice discussion of how pre-1775 actions led to events in the post-1775 era, a clear examination of the importance of the French alliance and a solid explanation of United States military leadership. It has substantial historical information, including mention of the Olive Branch Petition, the Declaration of Independence, George Washington, the Battle of Saratoga, Yorktown and John Paul Jones.

Sample: 2B

Score: 5

This essay has an acceptable thesis that partially addresses all three aspects of the question. It has some relevant historical information, including the mention of the Olive Branch Petition, the Battle of Saratoga and Washington's defeat in New York. The analysis of the political, diplomatic and military reasons for the United States victory is imbalanced. Although the essay's development of the diplomatic factors is solid, the analysis of the military and political factors is limited. However, there are no errors, and the writing and organization are acceptable.

Sample: 2C

Score: 3

This essay contains a thesis that restates the question. It lists a few relevant facts about the military reasons for the United States victory and the alliance with France, but there is no development or analysis, and there is no mention of political factors. The response is also poorly organized.