

Fond Farewells In late 1783, the last British ships and troops left New York City. As the American army disbanded, soldiers such as Joseph Plumb Martin of Connecticut had mixed emotions. Martin had enlisted in 1776, at the age of 15. He experienced the terrible winter at Valley Forge and the winning battle at Yorktown. Many years later, he wrote about his last day as a regular.

PRIMARY SOURCE

“There was as much sorrow as joy. . . . We had lived together as a family of brothers for several years, . . . had shared with each other the hardships, dangers, and sufferings incident to a soldier’s life; had sympathized with each other in trouble and sickness; . . . And now we were to be . . . parted forever.”

—Joseph Plumb Martin, quoted in *The Revolutionaries*

In his farewell letter to his armies, George Washington wrote that the army’s endurance “through almost every possible suffering and discouragement for the space of eight long years, was little short of a standing miracle.” Like Washington—and the British—American Patriots were astonished at their achievement.

SUMMARIZE Explain how the Americans were able to defeat the British.



Section Assessment



ONLINE QUIZ

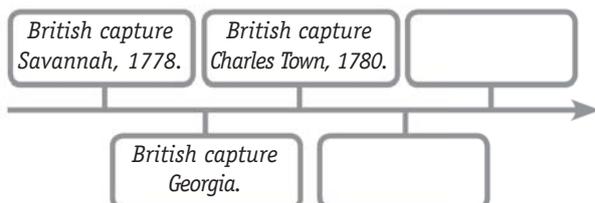
For test practice, go to
Interactive Review @ ClassZone.com

TERMS & NAMES

1. Explain the importance of
 - Battle of Charles Town
 - Lord Cornwallis
 - Battle of Yorktown

USING YOUR READING NOTES

2. **Sequence** Complete the diagram to show the most importance events of this section.



KEY IDEAS

3. Why didn’t the British control of coastal cities bring them victory in the South?
4. When and why did Congress form a new Southern army?
5. How did the allies force the British to surrender?

CRITICAL THINKING

6. **Make Generalizations** Does military superiority always guarantee victory? Why or why not?
7. **WHAT IF?** What might have happened at Yorktown without the aid of the French fleet?
8. **Connect to Today** What can the history of the Revolution teach us about modern conflicts?
9. **Writing Letter** Use books or the Internet to find out about the actions of Lord North after the British defeat at Yorktown. As North, write a letter to your king explaining the defeat.