

Help Across the Sea

Foreign support shaped the Patriot victory.

SS.5.A.5.6 "Identify the contributions of foreign alliances and individuals to the outcome of the Revolution."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the name of every foreign country or person that helped the Patriot cause. Circle the words that tell what each one did, so you can connect support to the Revolution's outcome.

Partners in the Revolution

- ① In 1778, the United States and France formed an alliance after the American victory at Saratoga. France sent money, soldiers, ships, and supplies. French warships helped trap British forces at Yorktown in 1781 by blocking escape and supplies by sea. French troops fought beside American troops there. This combined force helped lead to the British surrender, a major step toward independence.
- ② Spain also fought Britain after entering the war in 1779. Spain did not make the same treaty with the United States that France did, but Spanish support still aided the Patriot cause. Governor Bernardo de Gálvez led Spanish forces that captured British posts along the Gulf Coast. His victories forced Britain to defend more places and weakened its war effort.
- ③ Foreign individuals also strengthened the Continental Army. The Marquis de Lafayette, a young French volunteer, served with General George Washington and urged France to support the United States. Baron Friedrich von Steuben, a former Prussian officer, trained soldiers at Valley Forge. He taught drills, camp sanitation, and organized methods. Better-trained soldiers could fight more effectively against British troops.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did French ships and troops help the Patriots at Yorktown?

2 What did Bernardo de Gálvez do that weakened Britain's war effort?

3 How did Baron von Steuben's work at Valley Forge help the Continental Army?

4 How did support from both France and Spain make it harder for Britain to win the war?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence museum label about foreign help in the Revolution. Name one foreign alliance or nation and one foreign individual, explain how each helped, and tell why their support mattered to the Patriot cause.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the name of every foreign country or person that helped the Patriot cause. Circle the words that tell what each one did, so you can connect support to the Revolution's outcome. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did French ships and troops help the Patriots at Yorktown?	French warships blocked British escape and supplies by sea, and French troops fought beside American troops.
2	What did Bernardo de Gálvez do that weakened Britain's war effort?	He led Spanish forces that captured British posts along the Gulf Coast, forcing Britain to defend more places.
3	How did Baron von Steuben's work at Valley Forge help the Continental Army?	He taught soldiers drills, camp sanitation, and organized methods, helping them fight more effectively.
4	How did support from both France and Spain make it harder for Britain to win the war?	France provided troops, ships, supplies, and a blockade at Yorktown. Spain captured British posts and forced Britain to defend more places.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

France's alliance gave the United States ships, troops, and supplies. At Yorktown, French warships blocked British escape by sea. Baron von Steuben taught Continental soldiers drills and organized methods at Valley Forge. Foreign help mattered because it added resources and improved the army that fought Britain.

Accept answers that accurately connect a foreign country, alliance, or individual to a specific contribution in the passage. For Spain, accept that its support was indirect because it did not have the same treaty with the United States as France.