

Georgia Chooses Sides

Analyze how Georgia responded to British rule, war, and independence.

SS8H3 "Analyze the role of Georgia in the American Revolutionary Era."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each sentence that shows a cause, a Georgian action, or an effect, then write C, A, or E beside it. These marks will help you trace Georgia's role in the Revolutionary Era.

From Colony to State

- ① After the French and Indian War ended in 1763, Britain faced heavy debt and tried to control its colonies more closely. The Proclamation of 1763 limited settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains, angering many colonists who wanted land. Parliament also passed the Stamp Act, which taxed printed paper. Later, the Intolerable Acts punished Massachusetts after the Boston Tea Party. Although these laws did not target Georgia alone, they made many Georgians question whether Britain respected colonial rights.
- ② Georgia became more involved in resistance as the conflict grew. In 1776, Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, and George Walton signed the Declaration of Independence for Georgia. Their signatures announced that Georgia supported separation from Britain and accepted the risks of war. Other Georgians chose the Loyalist side, so the Revolution divided communities. Georgia's choice was important because its southern location, ports, and frontier made it a place where Britain hoped to rebuild control over the colonies.
- ③ War came directly to Georgia when British forces captured Savannah in 1778. Patriot militia fought back at Kettle Creek in 1779, where Elijah Clarke helped lead fighters and Austin Dabney was wounded. The Patriot victory reduced Loyalist strength in the backcountry, even though a later American and French attempt to retake Savannah failed. After independence, Georgia entered the union under the Articles of Confederation. The Articles gave most power to the states, so Georgia could manage many affairs but the national government struggled to raise money and coordinate policy.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Name two British actions or laws from the passage. How did they lead many Georgians to question British rule?

2 What did the signatures of Gwinnett, Hall, and Walton show about Georgia's role in 1776?

3 How did the Battle of Kettle Creek affect the struggle inside Georgia?

4 Under the Articles of Confederation, what could Georgia do, and what problem did the national government face?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly five sentences that make a claim about how Georgia influenced the Revolutionary Era. Use at least three passage details, including one British policy, one political choice, and one military or government detail, and explain how the details support your claim.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each sentence that shows a cause, a Georgian action, or an effect, then write C, A, or E beside it. These marks will help you trace Georgia's role in the Revolutionary Era. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name two British actions or laws from the passage. How did they lead many Georgians to question British rule?	The Proclamation of 1763 limited western settlement, and the Stamp Act taxed printed paper. Such actions made many Georgians question whether Britain respected colonial rights.
2	What did the signatures of Gwinnett, Hall, and Walton show about Georgia's role in 1776?	Their signatures showed that Georgia supported independence from Britain and accepted the risks of war.
3	How did the Battle of Kettle Creek affect the struggle inside Georgia?	The Patriot victory reduced Loyalist strength in Georgia's backcountry.
4	Under the Articles of Confederation, what could Georgia do, and what problem did the national government face?	Georgia could manage many of its own affairs because states held most power. The national government struggled to raise money and coordinate policy.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Georgia influenced the Revolutionary Era by moving from protest against British control to action as an independent state. The Proclamation of 1763 and the Stamp Act caused colonists to question Britain's respect for their rights. Georgia's three delegates signed the Declaration of Independence, showing that the colony accepted separation and war. At Kettle Creek, Patriot fighters weakened Loyalist strength in the backcountry. Under the Articles of Confederation, Georgia also became part of a union whose weak national government had trouble raising money and coordinating policy.

Accept equivalent explanations that connect British policies to colonial concerns about rights and connect Georgia's actions to the larger war. For the open response, accept a defensible claim supported by the required three types of details.