Battles of the Revolutionary War - Study Guide

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| **Key Person** | **What did this person do?** |
| Benjamin Franklin | *Leader, inventor, scientist; helped create Declaration of Independence* |
| Thomas Jefferson | *Main author of Declaration of Independence; third US president* |
| King George III | *British king; lost American colonies* |
| Benedict Arnold | *Famous traitor who turned against American and joined British army* |
| Patrick Henry | *Leader who said, “Give me liberty! Or give me death!”* |
| Paul Revere | *Active leader in Sons of Liberty; warned colonial militia of British forces coming to attack* |
| John Adams | *Massachusetts lawyer; second president of US; helped write Declaration of Independence* |
| George Washington | *Commander of Continental Army; first US president* |

**What advantages did American colonists have that helped them win the Revolutionary War?**

1. *Colonists had good leaders with battle experience*
2. *Colonists had strong determination to be independent.*
3. *Colonists were familiar with the land and used it to help them win battles.*
4. *Colonists received support from France and Spain.*

**What caused the British to be unexpectedly defeated at the Battle of Saratoga?**

*They had to travel far, weather was bad, and the terrain was rough.*

**Be able to identify the following actions and statements as those of British or colonists.**

1. Marched along the road to Lexington and Concord - *British*
2. Hid weapons before enemy arrived *- Colonists*
3. Attacked using guerilla tactics, hiding in bushes and behind hills - *Colonists*
4. Guns on ships in the Charles River were available for protection –*British*
5. Learned new ways to use the land from the American Indians *-Colonists*

**Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?** *Thomas Jefferson was the one who “penned” the document.*

**Identify important characteristics about each battle.**

*Lexington and Concord: Marked the beginning of the war. Showed the colonists could successfully fight against the British.*

*Saratoga: Marked the turning point in the war. Things had been going badly for the Americans up to this point.*

*Yorktown: Marked the end of the war when the British surrendered.*

**Know the risks the signers of the Declaration of Independence took when they signed the document.** *They were considered traitors to the King and would be seen as enemies.*