

3.5 The American Revolution

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 13 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain **why the Patriots won** 独立战争的胜利.

You must be able to:

- name the five reasons the CED gives
- state what the Patriots were up against
- explain what 'despite' contributes to the sentence
- avoid a single-cause explanation of the outcome

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Five reasons

The actions of colonial militias and the Continental Army, George Washington's military leadership, the colonists' ideological commitment and resilience, and assistance sent by European allies.

■ Against

Despite considerable loyalist opposition, as well as Great Britain's apparently overwhelming military and financial advantages. Loyalist opposition was internal; the British advantage was external.

■ 'Despite'

The word marks the outcome as requiring explanation. The CED is signalling that the Patriot victory was not the expected result, which is why five reasons are given rather than one.

■ Not one cause

Ideological commitment without European assistance, or an army without leadership, would not obviously have produced the outcome. The CED's list is the answer to a question about an unexpected result.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the five reasons the CED gives. [3]

2.2 State what the Patriots were up against. [2]

2.3 "Despite" marks the outcome.

(a) State what it signals. [2]

(b) State why five reasons are given rather than one. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED calls Britain's military and financial advantages [1]

- **A** apparently overwhelming
- **B** negligible
- **C** nonexistent
- **D** decisive

3.2 Loyalist opposition was [1]

- **A** internal to the colonies
- **B** a British army
- **C** French
- **D** irrelevant

3.3 A student explains the Patriot victory entirely by French assistance.

(a) State what is missing. [1]

(b) Explain why the CED's list matters.

[2]

4 Go further

- work through the **3.5 The American Revolution** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Period 3: 1754-1800** section of the AP US History handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 colonial militias; the Continental Army; Washington's military leadership; ideological commitment and resilience; assistance from European allies.

2.2 considerable loyalist opposition; Britain's apparently overwhelming military and financial advantages.

2.3 (a) that the outcome requires explanation because it was not the expected result. (b) no single factor obviously accounts for an unexpected outcome.

3.1 A. apparently overwhelming.

3.2 A. internal.

3.3 (a) the four other reasons the CED gives. (b) European assistance arrived to support a cause already sustained by militias, an army and ideological commitment, so it explains part of the outcome and not the whole of it.