

7.2: American Strengths and Weaknesses

Read Section 7.2 and follow the directions below.

List three weaknesses of the Americans at the start of the war.

1. *The Continental Army was very small and always short of soldiers.*
2. *Few Americans were trained for battle.*
3. *The army was plagued by shortages of guns, gunpowder, food, and uniforms.*

Besides patriotism, list two American strengths at the start of the war.

1. *The Americans received secret aid from the French.*
2. *George Washington was an experienced military leader who inspired courage and confidence.*

7.3 British Strengths and Weaknesses

Read Section 7.3 and follow the directions below.

List three strengths of the British at the start of the war.

1. *The British Army had 50,000 soldiers, reinforced by 30,000 Hessian mercenaries, Loyalists, Native Americans, and African Americans.*
2. *British soldiers were well trained and experienced, compared to the Americans.*
3. *British forces were well supplied with food, uniforms, ammunition, and weapons.*

List two weaknesses of the British at the start of the war.

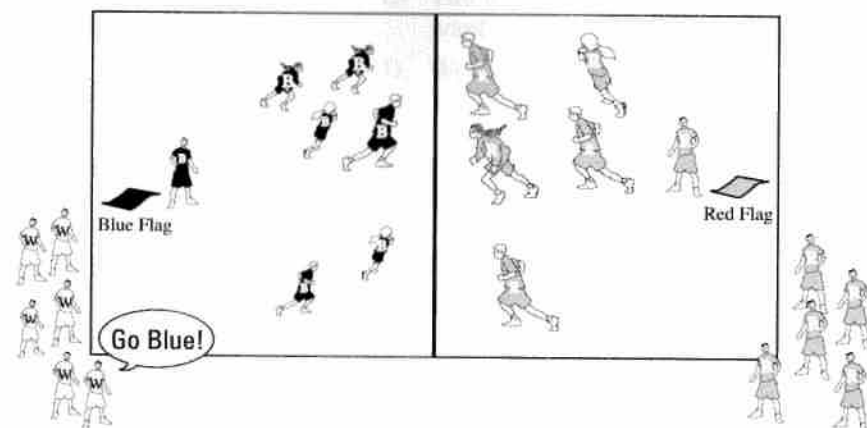
1. *Sending troops and supplies from Britain to America was slow and costly.*
2. *The British were not passionate about defeating the rebels, and they had poor military leadership.*

Complete the annotations for the map of Round 1 of Capture the Flag.

The Blue team is smaller. It has not warmed up. It hasn't played Capture the Flag as much as the Red team, just like... *American forces were smaller and had less training and experience than the British.*

The Red team is larger. It has warmed up. It has played Capture the Flag more than the Blue team, just like... *the British army was larger, better trained, and more experienced than the Americans.*

The Blue team's captain has experience playing Capture the Flag, just like... *George Washington was an experienced general.*



The White team cheers for the Blue team, just like... *the French secretly aided the Americans at the beginning of the war.*

Half of the Red team starts the game far away from the field, just like... *Britain was far away from America and had to ship troops and supplies across the Atlantic.*

7.4: Britain Almost Wins the War

Read Section 7.4 and answer the questions below.

Why did the Declaration of Independence increase Americans' motivation to fight and win the war? *Many Americans believed that freedom and the chance to create their own country were goals worth fighting for.*

For which group of Americans did the Declaration of Independence raise hopes as well as questions? Why?

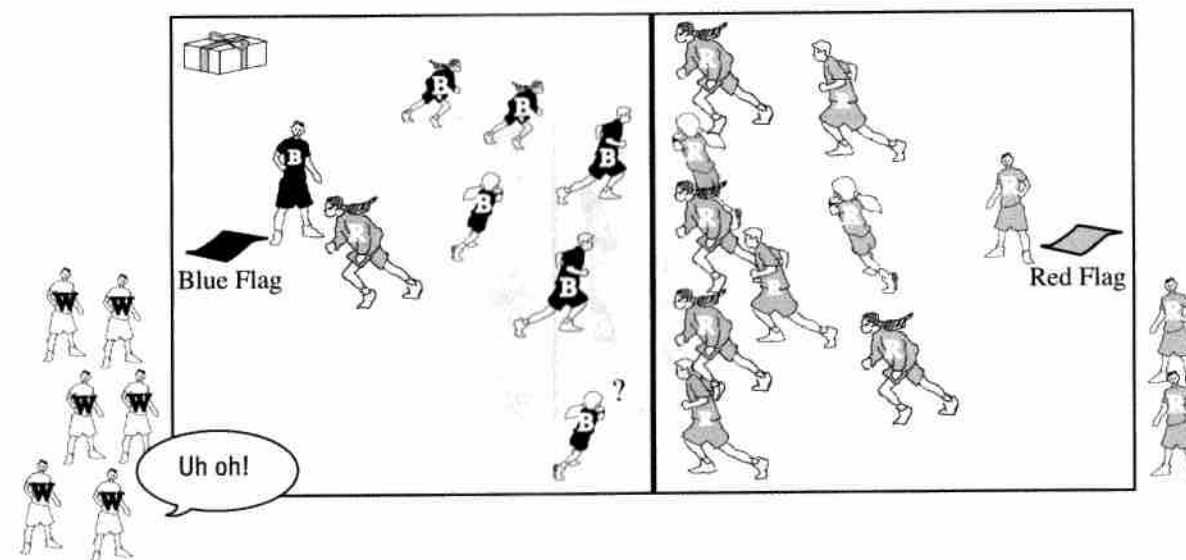
African Americans; they wondered if the words "all men are created equal" applied to them, and whether independence would bring an end to slavery.

What factors allowed the British to almost win the war in 1776?

The British, with their greater numbers and superior training, overwhelmed the inexperienced Americans at New York and in other battles in 1776.

Complete the annotations for the map of Round 2 of Capture the Flag.

The teacher tells the Blue team that they will receive a prize if they win the game. This increases their motivation to win, just like... *the Declaration of Independence increased the motivation of many Americans to fight and win the Revolution.*



Because they have more experienced players, the Red team is almost able to steal the Blue flag, just like... *the British, with more numerous and experienced soldiers, almost defeated the Americans in 1776.*

One member of the Blue team is told that he or she might not receive the prize, even if the Blue team wins. That player must decide whether to stay on the Blue team or switch to the Red team, just like... *African Americans were not sure if fighting for independence would assure them either equal rights or the end of slavery. They had to decide whether to fight on the American or British side.*