**Chapter 7**

**STEP 4**

**PUT IT ALL TOGETHER**

Now, take a step back and try to explain the big picture. Remember to use specific examples from the chapter in your answers.

**DECLARING INDEPENDENCE**

* Why were so many Americans divided about the question of independence from Britain?
* What factors contributed to the decision by the Continental Congress to declare independence in July 1776?

**THE FIRST TWO YEARS OF WAR**

* What challenges did the Americans face in the first year of the war? How successful were they in meeting them?
* What impact did other European powers and Indians peoples have on the course of the war?

**AMERICAN VICTORY**

* Why did the British switch to the "Southern Strategy"? Why did it fail?
* Is it more accurate to say that the Americans won the Revolutionary War or that the British lost it? Why?

**LOOKING BACKWARD, LOOKING AHEAD**

* When did the chain of events that culminated in the establishment of an independent United States begin? In 1773? In 1763? At another date? Present evidence to support your answer.
* What challenges did the United States face as it emerged victorious from the Revolutionary War?