**GUIDED READING EXERCISE**

**Chapter 7—The War for America, 1775–1783**

* **How were the North American colonists able to successfully gain their independence from Great Britain in 1783?**

***Download and save this document so you can return to it to take notes and later use it for studying.*** *As you read the chapter, fill in the chart below to remind yourself of the Americans’ political and military strategies that helped them gain independence and the British missteps that contributed to the Americans’ success. If you copy and paste from the text, make sure you place quotation marks around the copied material; if you are able to describe the strategies in your own words, however, you should do so.*

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| **Political and foreign relation strategies** | **Military strategies and alliances** | **British missteps** |
|  |  |  |

*After you have read the chapter, use your notes to compose an essay that answers the following question:*

* **How were the North American colonists able to successfully gain their independence from Great Britain in 1783?**

*Be sure to include an opening, introductory paragraph in which you state your thesis. Then use the body of your essay to provide evidence from the chapter to support that thesis. When thinking about how to organize this essay, consider the political efforts by both men and women to overthrow British rule. Think about the Continental army’s strategy, but also consider how foreign powers aided the Americans’ effort. Finally, analyze the British strategy to determine where they made mistakes along the way that resulted in their eventual defeat. End by writing a clear conclusion to your essay.*