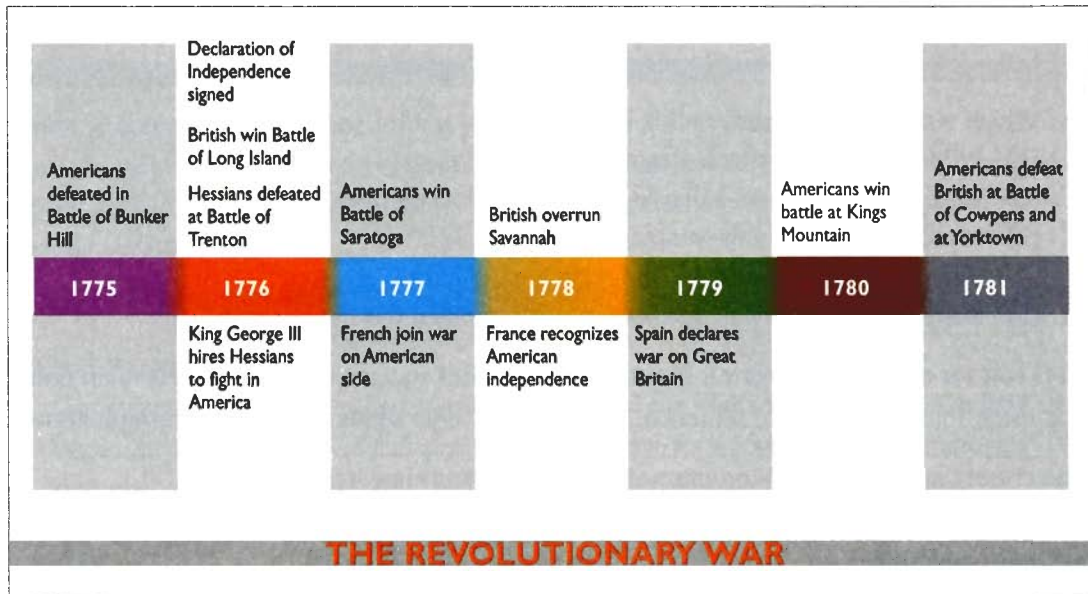


Understand Charts and Timelines

On the GED Social Studies Test, you will have to interpret charts and timelines. Charts organize information of different types. Timelines show the order in which events occurred.

EXAMPLE



1. In what year did the Revolutionary War begin? _____

Did you say 1775? If so, you are right. The title of the timeline is “The Revolutionary War.” The first entry on the timeline is the first major battle of the war, the Battle of Bunker Hill. This timeline covers the entire period of the war. Notice that the timeline has intervals of one year.

THINKING STRATEGY: Look at the entries above and below the line. The events above the line occurred in the American colonies. The events below the line occurred in Europe. To fully understand this timeline, look for relationships between the events above and below the timeline.

2. What events in Europe helped the colonists win the Revolutionary War, and when did they occur?

Your answer should be: *The French joined the colonists' side of the war in 1777, and the Spanish joined the war against the British in 1779.* Based on the timeline, you can infer that these decisions by European powers affected what happened later in America.

Now let's look at some more questions similar to those you will see on the GED Test.

GED Chart Practice

America's First National Parks			
Name	Year Established	State	Main Attractions
Yellowstone	1872	WY, ID, MT	World's most abundant geysers
Yosemite	1890	CA	Mountains, gorges, and waterfalls
Sequoia	1890	CA	Giant sequoia trees and mountains
Mt. Rainier	1899	WA	Stunning mountain peak and forests
Crater Lake	1902	OR	Deep blue lake in volcanic crater
Wind Cave	1903	SD	Limestone caves; buffalo herd
Mesa Verde	1906	CO	Prehistoric cliff dwellings

Which two National Parks were established in 1890?

- (1) Yellowstone and Yosemite (4) Sequoia and Mt. Rainier
 (2) Yellowstone and Sequoia (5) Mt. Rainier and Wind Cave
 (3) Yosemite and Sequoia

THINKING STRATEGY: First locate the column in the chart that gives the year in which each park was established. Then read down that column to find the year 1890. Read across to the left to see which two parks were established in that year.

The correct answer is **(3) Yosemite and Sequoia**. The chart indicates that these parks were established in 1890. They were America's second and third National Parks. Yellowstone, established in 1872, was the first National Park.



GED GRAPHIC SKILL PRACTICE

USING CHARTS

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the information and the chart below.

The death toll in World War II reflected not only the loss of military personnel, but also the death of civilians. The war was fought in Europe, Africa, and in Asia. Except for the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, however, no enemy military action took place on U.S. soil. The chart shows the death toll for the main countries involved in the war.

Deaths During World War II	
Country	Military and Civilian Deaths
France	592,000
Germany	5,600,000
Great Britain	366,400
Italy	286,900
Japan	2,133,400
Soviet Union	17,700,000
United States	405,400

Source: World War II: A Statistical Survey, by John Ellis

1. An alternative title for this chart is
- (1) Military Action in World War II
 (2) Japanese Losses in the World Wars
 (3) Allied Losses in World War II
 (4) European Losses in World War II
 (5) The Human Cost of World War II
2. Which country suffered the most losses?
- (1) Germany
 (2) Japan
 (3) Great Britain
 (4) the Soviet Union
 (5) the United States

Answers and explanations start on page 131.

