Geography of the 13 Colonies

Directions: Analyze the maps on pages 84 and 85 in History Alive! Answer the following questions in complete sentences on the back of your map and label the map as directed.

1. Label each colony on the map. Also add and label the colonies’ largest cities: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston. What do the locations of all four cities have in common?

2. Draw and label the Appalachian Mountains on your map. How many colonists per square mile lived across most of this region?

3. Circle the region where the most colonists lived. What cities does this region include?

4. Shade in the colonies that had large populations of Loyalists. Which of the three main colonial regions had the fewest Loyalists?

5. Based on your map, in which colonies do you predict the goal of independence would have been strongest? Use information from your map to explain why.

6. Label Lake Champlain and the Hudson River. Also add and label Albany. If British armies in Canada and New York City wanted to divide New England from the rest of the colonies, how could they have used the physical geography of this region to carry out this strategy?

7. Look at the population density map in your book. How does the amount of settlement along the coast of the 13 colonies compare to the amount of settlement farther inland? What is one possible reason for this?

8. During the first phase of the American Revolution, most major battles took place near the cities of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia. Why would controlling this region have been an important goal for both sides in the war?

9. After years of fighting in the New England and Middle Colonies, British forces invaded Georgia and South Carolina. Based on your map and the maps in your book, why might the British have believed they could conquer this region?