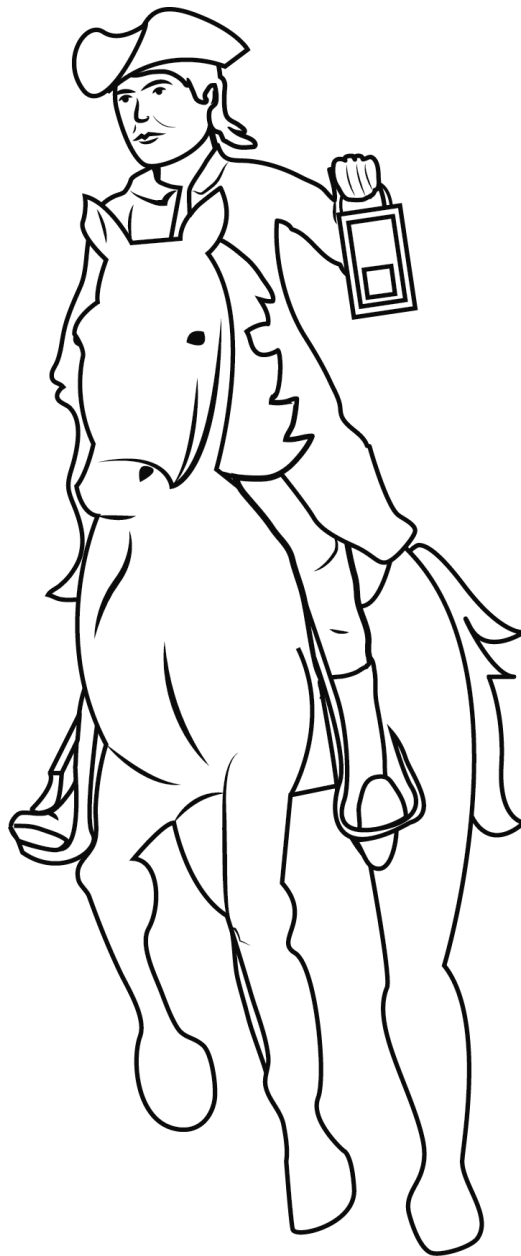


Introduction

Welcome to Battles of the American Revolution Facts Copywork! In this book, you'll find information about ten key battles of the American Revolution. Each battle unit begins with a short description of the battle. Following that is a key vocabulary word related to the battle or time period that students can copy. Next, students can continue practicing handwriting by copying key facts about the battle. A page is included for students to record additional information about the battle if they wish. I hope you enjoy discovering battles of the American Revolution!



Battles of Lexington and Concord

In April 1775, the royal governor of Massachusetts, British Lieutenant General Thomas Gage, received what were supposed to be secret orders from Britain. The orders told him to arrest those in charge of the unrest that had been brewing in the Boston area, and they said he could use troops to do it if it was necessary. However, the patriots knew about the secret orders even before General Gage received them, and the leaders had already left Boston so they would not be arrested.

General Gage decided it would be a good idea to capture the weapons the patriots had stored near Boston in the town of Concord. On April 18, 1775, British soldiers under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Francis Smith marched toward Concord. William Dawes and Paul Revere went to warn the people that the British were on their way. Each man went by a different route, and as they neared Lexington, another rider, Samuel Prescott, joined them. This was very fortunate for the patriots because of the three men, Samuel Prescott was the only one who successfully made it past the British patrols and reached the people in Concord with the warning.

On their way to Concord, the British soldiers first reached Lexington on the morning of April 19, 1775. Paul Revere had managed to warn the minutemen what was about to happen, and the minutemen, under the command of Captain John Parker, were gathered in Lexington. No one knows who fired the first shot, but suddenly, the minutemen and the British troops were in the middle of a battle. After the battle, the British marched on to Concord. The patriots and the British fought again at the North Bridge. The British searched for weapons at Concord, but they did not find much and began the march back to Boston. All along the way, volunteer soldiers fired at them from under cover. The British lost many soldiers that day.



Vocabulary

Minutemen: name given to volunteer American soldiers because they could prepare for battle so quickly

Minutemen: name given to
volunteer American soldiers
because they could prepare
for battle so quickly

Battles of Lexington and Concord Facts

1. Date: April 19, 1775

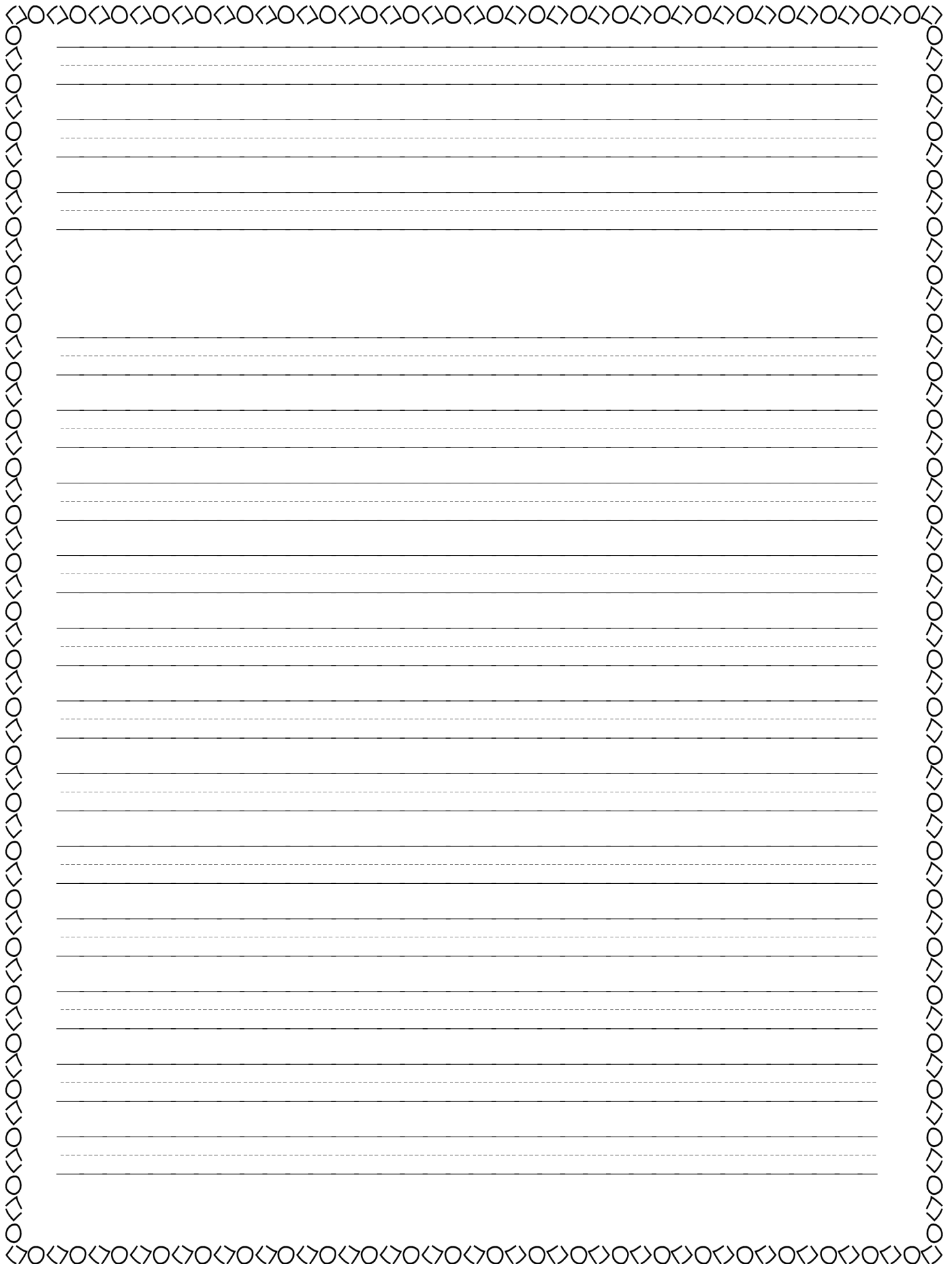
2. Place: Lexington and
Concord, Massachusetts

3. American leader: Captain
John Parker

4. British leader: Lt. Colonel
Francis Smith

5. First battles of the
Revolutionary War

6. Warning had been carried
by William Dawes, Paul Revere,
and Samuel Prescott

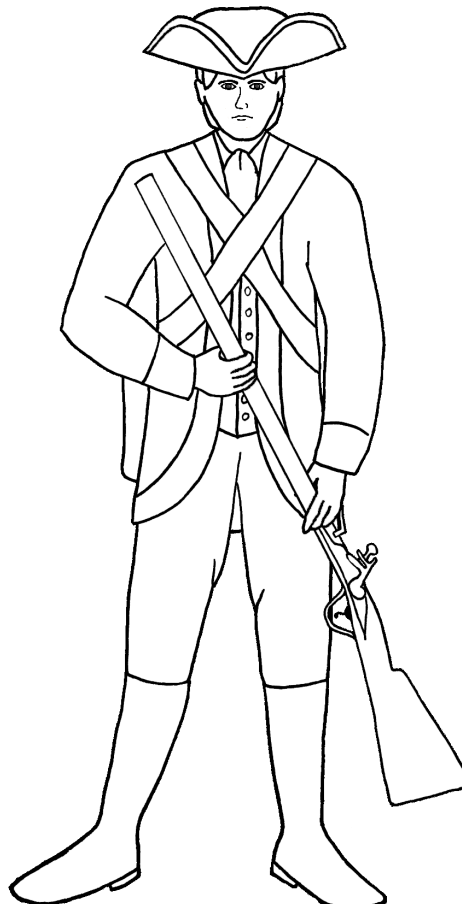


Handwriting practice paper with a decorative border and 20 horizontal lines.

Battle of Bunker Hill

In the summer of 1775, British Lieutenant General Thomas Gage decided to move troops into the hills south of Boston. When the Americans learned of this, they decided to put troops on Bunker Hill, north of Boston, led by Colonel William Prescott. As they got into position, they left some troops on Bunker Hill and moved the main part of their troops to Breed's Hill, which was a little closer to Boston. On June 17, 1775, the British realized what had happened and the redcoats, under the command of Major General William Howe attacked the American soldiers on Breed's Hill. The Americans fought off two charges by the redcoats before they began to run out of ammunition. When the British charged for the third time, the Americans had to leave. Even though the fighting happened mostly on Breed's Hill, the battle is usually called the Battle of Bunker Hill. Many British and American soldiers lost their lives in the battle.

Among the troops that fought in the battle was Salem Poor, an African American soldier who had been a slave.



Vocabulary

Redcoats: name given to British soldiers because of the color of the coats of their uniforms

Redcoats: name given to
British soldiers because of the
color of the coats of their
uniforms

Battle of Bunker Hill

Facts

1. Date: June 17, 1775

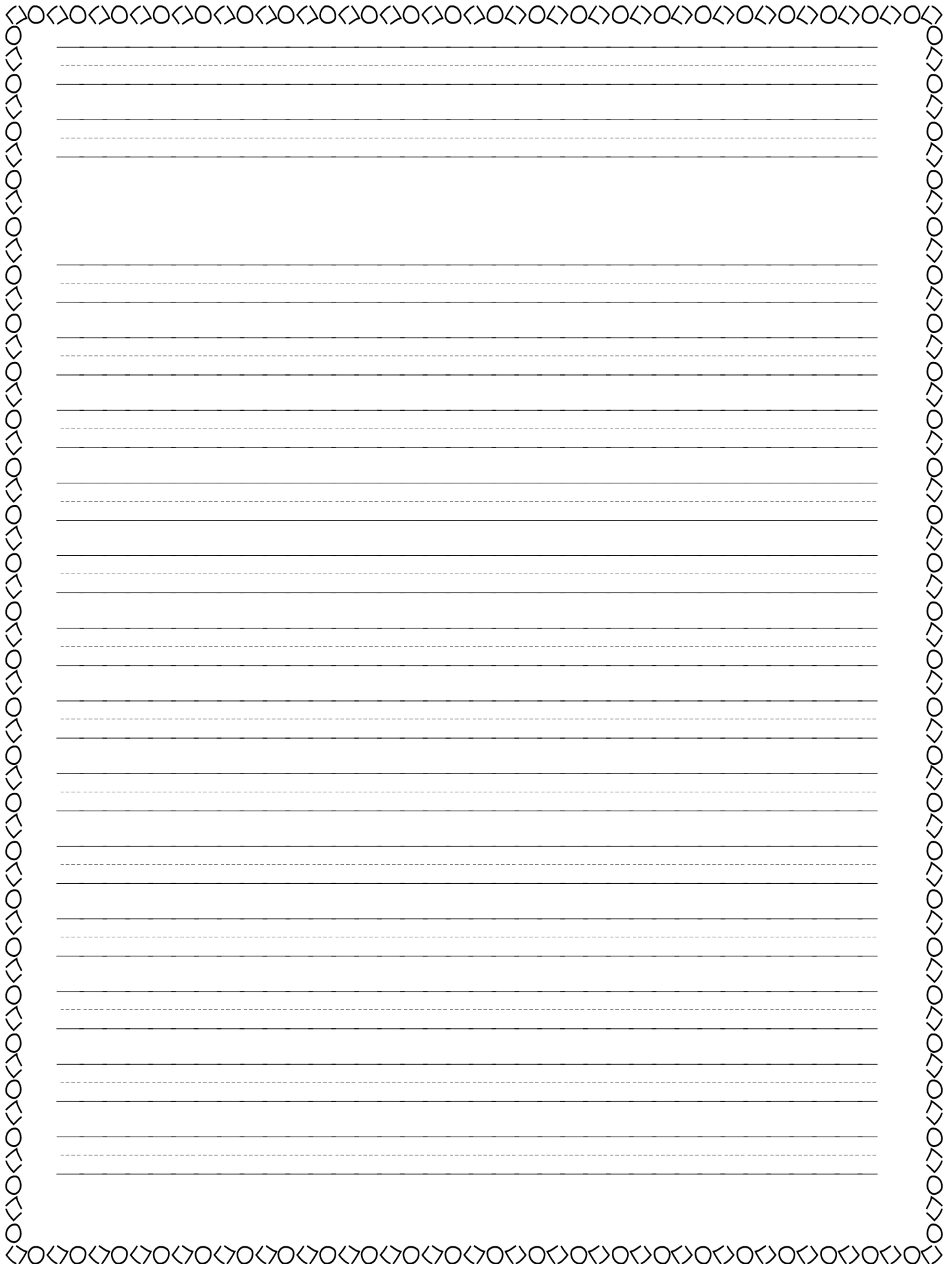
2. Place: Breed's Hill, north of
Boston, Massachusetts

3. American leader: Colonel
William Prescott

4. British leader: Major
General William Howe

5. Defeated: Americans

6. Victory: British



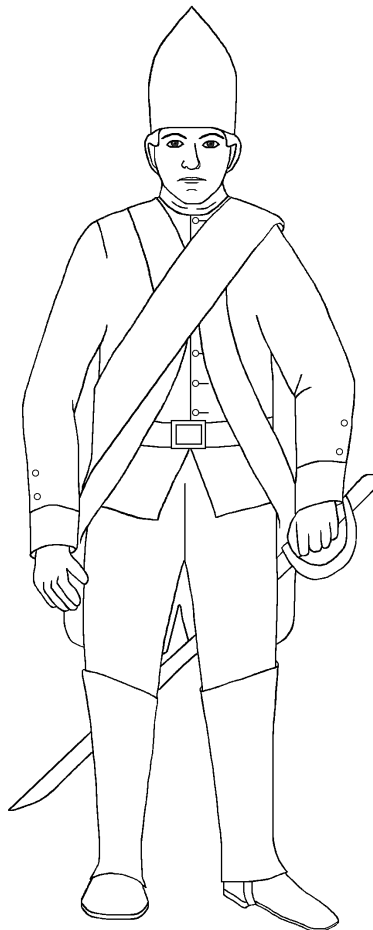
Handwriting practice paper with a decorative border and 20 horizontal lines.

Battle of Trenton

General George Washington and his troops crossed the Delaware River from Pennsylvania into New Jersey on the night of December 25, 1776. It was a dangerous crossing because the river was icy. They landed about 9 miles (14 kilometers) north of Trenton. General Washington split his troops into three parts, one under Major General Nathanael Greene and one under Major General John Sullivan. The third part was responsible for preventing the Hessians from escaping and stopping British soldiers from coming to help the Hessians.

The Americans marched toward Trenton, beginning before dawn, in blinding snow. Colonel Henry Knox was in charge of the artillery that was needed to support the troops. After marching all night, they surprised the Hessians, under the command of Colonel Johann Rall, on December 26, 1776. They took over 900 prisoners in the battle, along with a number of guns and ammunition. General Washington moved his troops across the Delaware River back to Pennsylvania.

Of the Americans who were wounded in the battle, one was James Monroe, who later became the fifth President of the United States.



Vocabulary

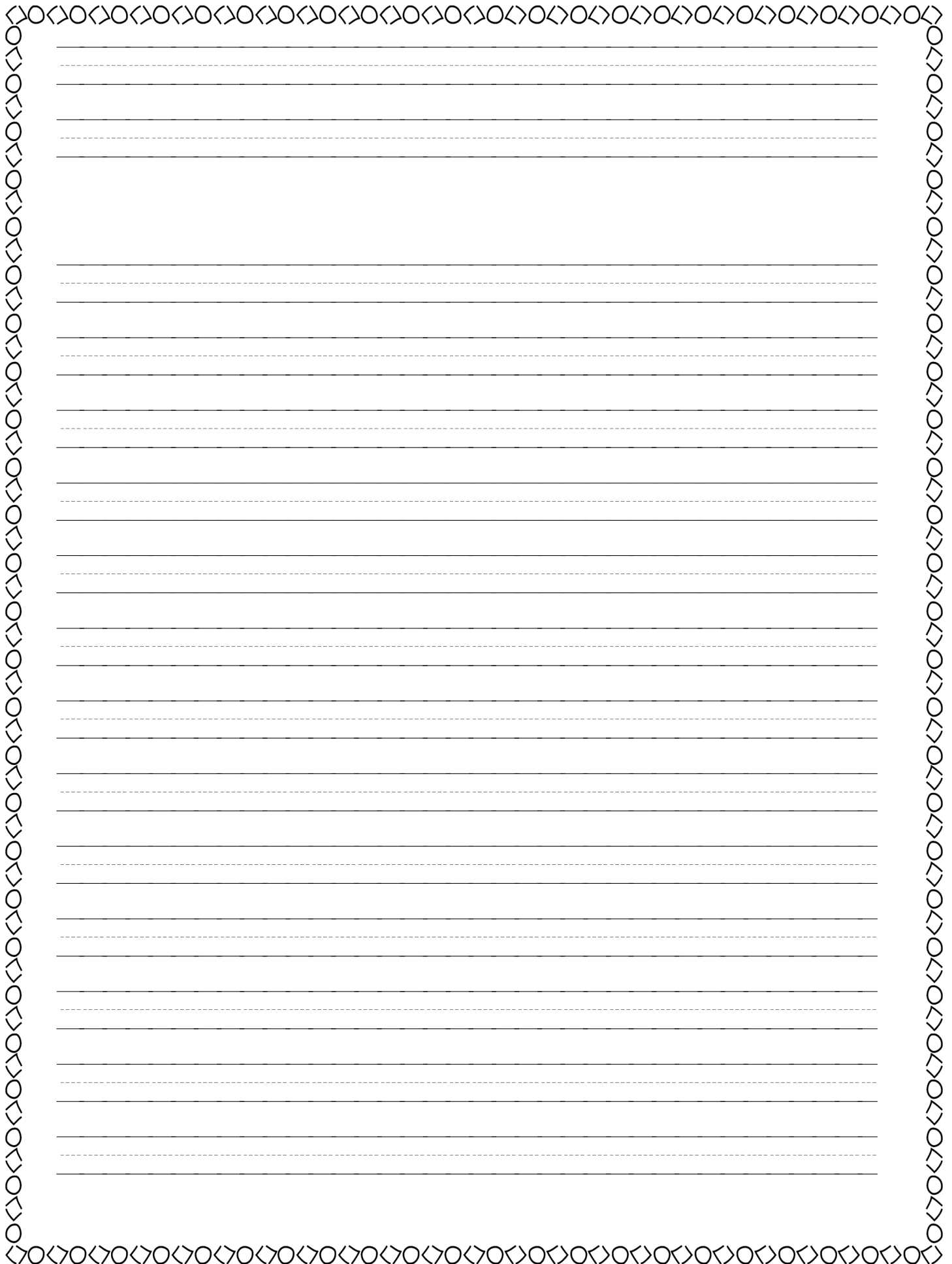
Hessians: German soldiers, mostly from Hesse-Kassel, hired by the British to fight the Americans

Hessians: German soldiers,
mostly from Hesse-Kassel,
hired by the British to fight
the Americans

Battle of Trenton

Facts

1. Date: December 26, 1776
2. Place: Trenton, New Jersey
3. American leaders: General George Washington, Major General Nathanael Greene, Major General John Sullivan
4. Hessian leader: Colonel Johann Rall
5. Defeated: Hessians
6. Victory: Americans
7. Americans crossed the icy Delaware River at night and marched through a snowstorm



Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. There are 10 sets of these lines arranged vertically on the page.



A series of 20 horizontal lines for writing, evenly spaced within the central area of the page.

Battle of Princeton

On January 2, 1777, Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis took about 8,000 troops and left Princeton, New Jersey, for Trenton. General George Washington had returned to Trenton after his victory there on December 26, 1776. Reaching Trenton should have taken about three hours, but all along the way, small groups of skirmishers attacked the British as they marched, causing the march to last all day.

The British attacked General Washington's army, but they were driven back. General Cornwallis planned to attack again the next day, hoping to win the battle. General Washington left a small number of troops to keep the campfires burning through the night and, with the larger part of his army, managed to sneak past the British. On January 3, 1777, General Washington and the colonial troops attacked Princeton. The first part of the battle happened in the fields outside of town. The British troops that were there did well in the battle until General Washington arrived with the main part of the army. The colonial army forced the British to retreat. Some British troops went to Nassau Hall. Alexander Hamilton, who was serving in the American army at the time, fired a cannon into the building, causing the British troops to surrender. The British lost the battle, and General Washington moved his troops to winter quarters.



Vocabulary

Skirmishers: soldiers apart from the main army who fight minor battles to support the main army

Skirmishers: soldiers apart from
the main army who fight minor
battles to support the main
army

Battle of Princeton

Facts

1. Date: January 3, 1777

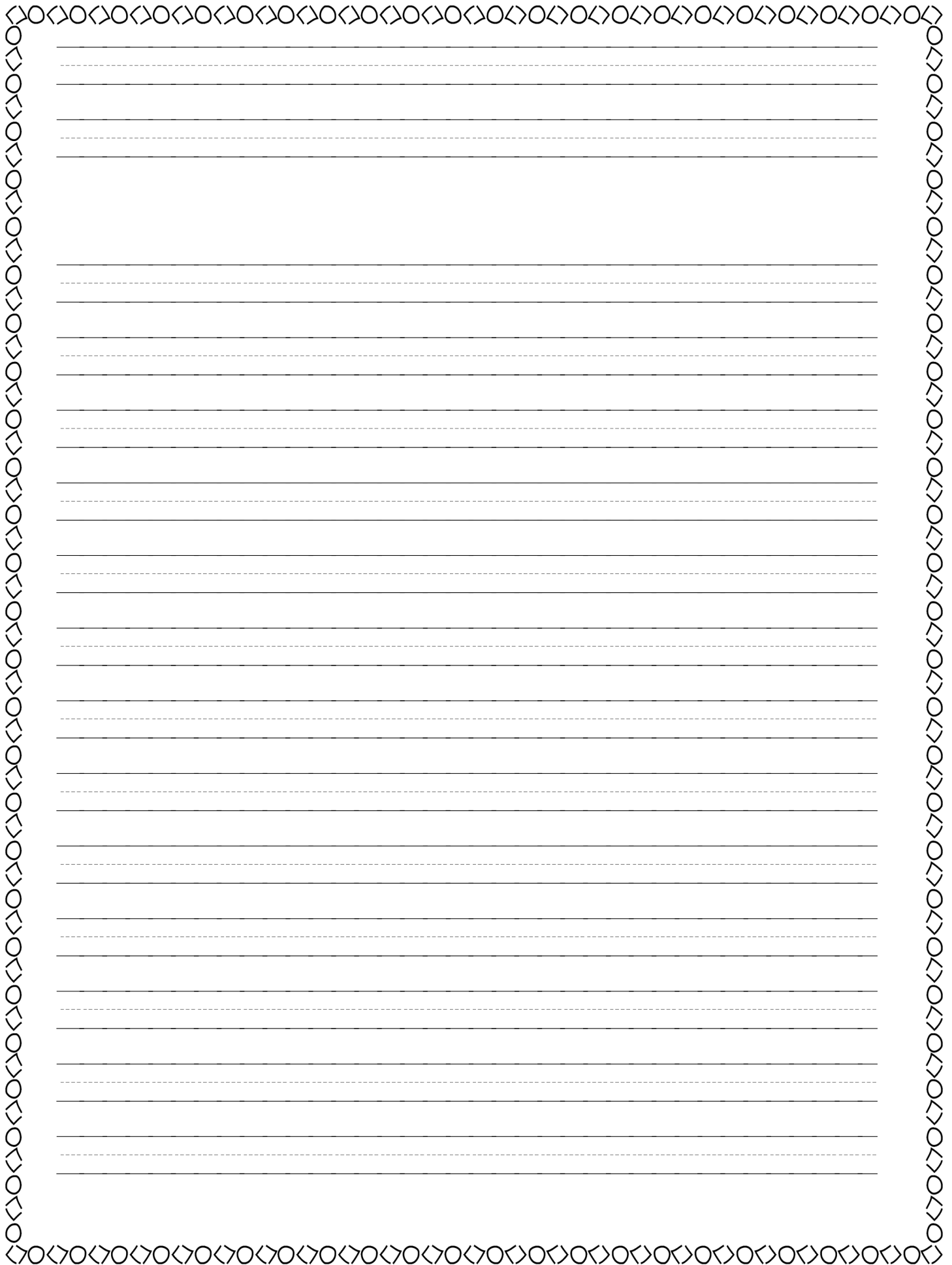
2. Place: Princeton, New Jersey

3. American leader: General
George Washington

4. British leader: Lt. General
Charles Cornwallis

5. Defeated: British

6. Victory: Americans



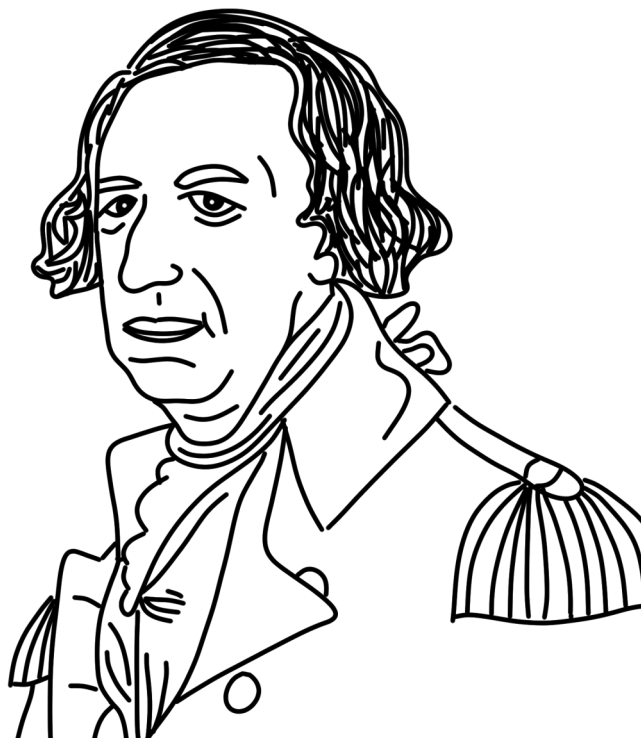
Handwriting practice paper with a decorative border and 20 horizontal lines.

Battles of Saratoga

In June 1777, British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne and about 8,000 troops began moving south from Canada into the American colonies. They captured Fort Ticonderoga in New York on July 6, 1777, and then moved on toward Saratoga, where Major General Horatio Gates had a large force of American troops. General Burgoyne's men were down to only 6,000 by this point.

American troops under the command of Major General Philip Schuyler began to destroy bridges, block trails, and cause damage that would slow General Burgoyne down. They also attacked small groups of British that General Burgoyne sent to find food and supplies.

On September 19, 1777, the Americans stopped the British at a farm owned by John Freeman. General Burgoyne was expecting reinforcements and supplies to come from British Lieutenant General Henry Clinton. The reinforcements did not come, and the supplies ran low. On October 7, 1777, General Burgoyne sent soldiers to fire cannons at the Americans, as he did not think he could wait any longer. The Americans had gotten reinforcements and now had about 13,000 troops. They attacked, and the British retreated to Saratoga. Soon, the Americans had surrounded the British, and on October 17, 1777, General Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates. This victory by the Americans helped show France that there was a chance of America winning the war. France soon sent help to the Americans to fight against the British.



Vocabulary

Reinforcements: extra soldiers to help strengthen soldiers already fighting

Reinforcements: extra soldiers
to help strengthen soldiers
already fighting

Battles of Saratoga

Facts

1. Dates: Sept. 19–Oct. 17, 1777

2. Place: Near Saratoga, New York

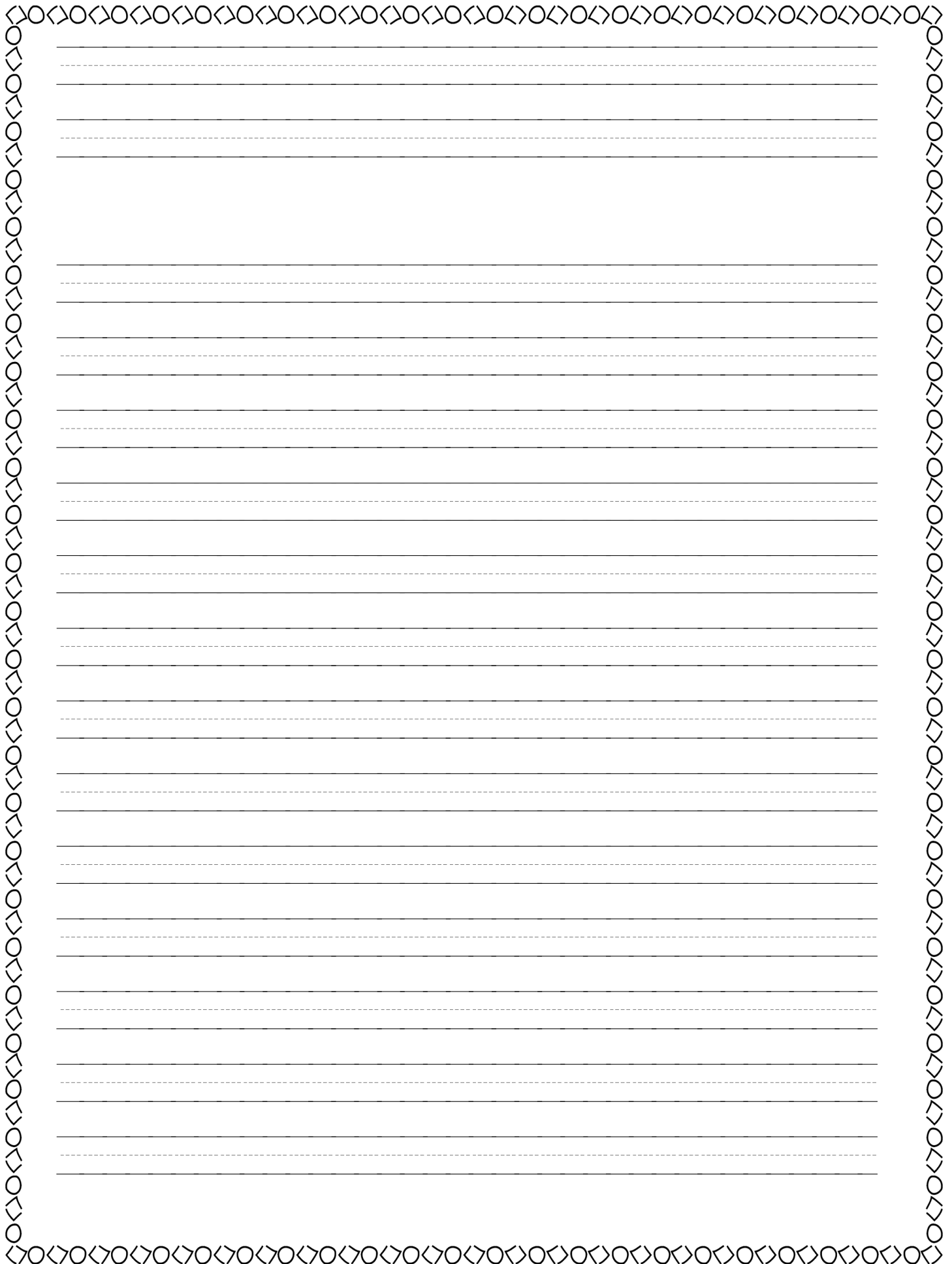
3. American leaders: Major Generals Horatio Gates and Philip Schuyler

4. British leader: Lt. General John Burgoyne

5. Defeated: British (surrendered)

6. Victory: Americans

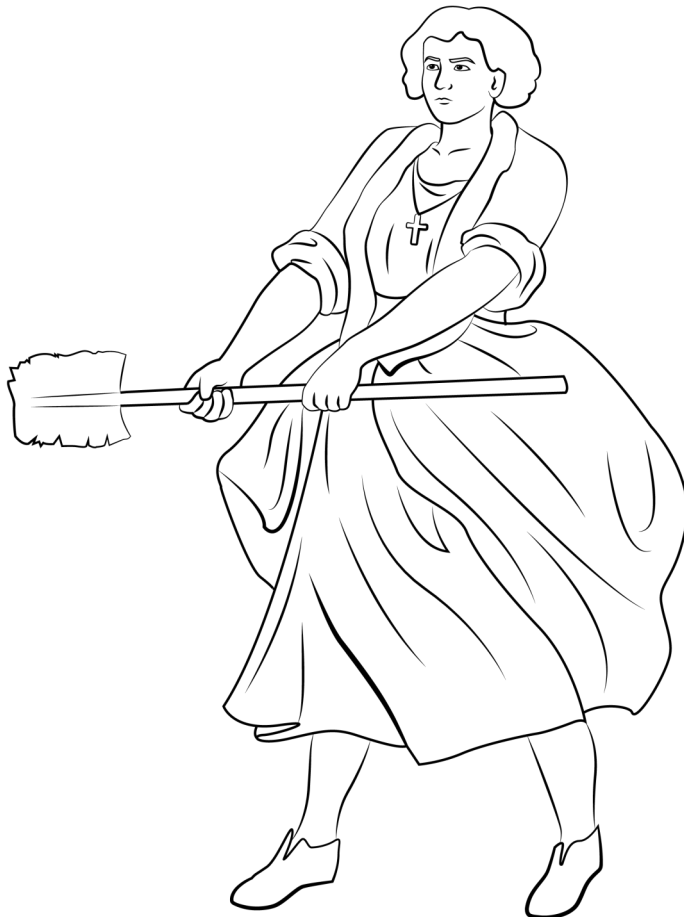
7. France soon sent help to the Americans



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Battle of Monmouth

While British Lieutenant General Henry Clinton was moving his troops from Philadelphia across New Jersey toward New York City, General George Washington commanded Major General Charles Lee to attack the British. On June 28, 1778, a very hot day in the summer, American forces attacked a small force that was left at Monmouth Court House, New Jersey. Soon, British Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis arrived with more troops, having been sent back by General Clinton, and the colonial troops began to retreat. General Washington arrived, rallied the forces, and continued fighting. A woman named Mary had gone with her husband as the American troops fought in the war. It is said that during the battle, she carried water to the troops. Her husband was overcome by the heat and fell, so Mary helped fire the cannon. Whether this is completely true or partially legend is unknown, but she became a symbol for all the women who helped during the Revolutionary War. She's remembered today as Molly Pitcher. Neither side got a clear victory during the battle, but the British forces left during the night and continued marching toward New York.



Vocabulary

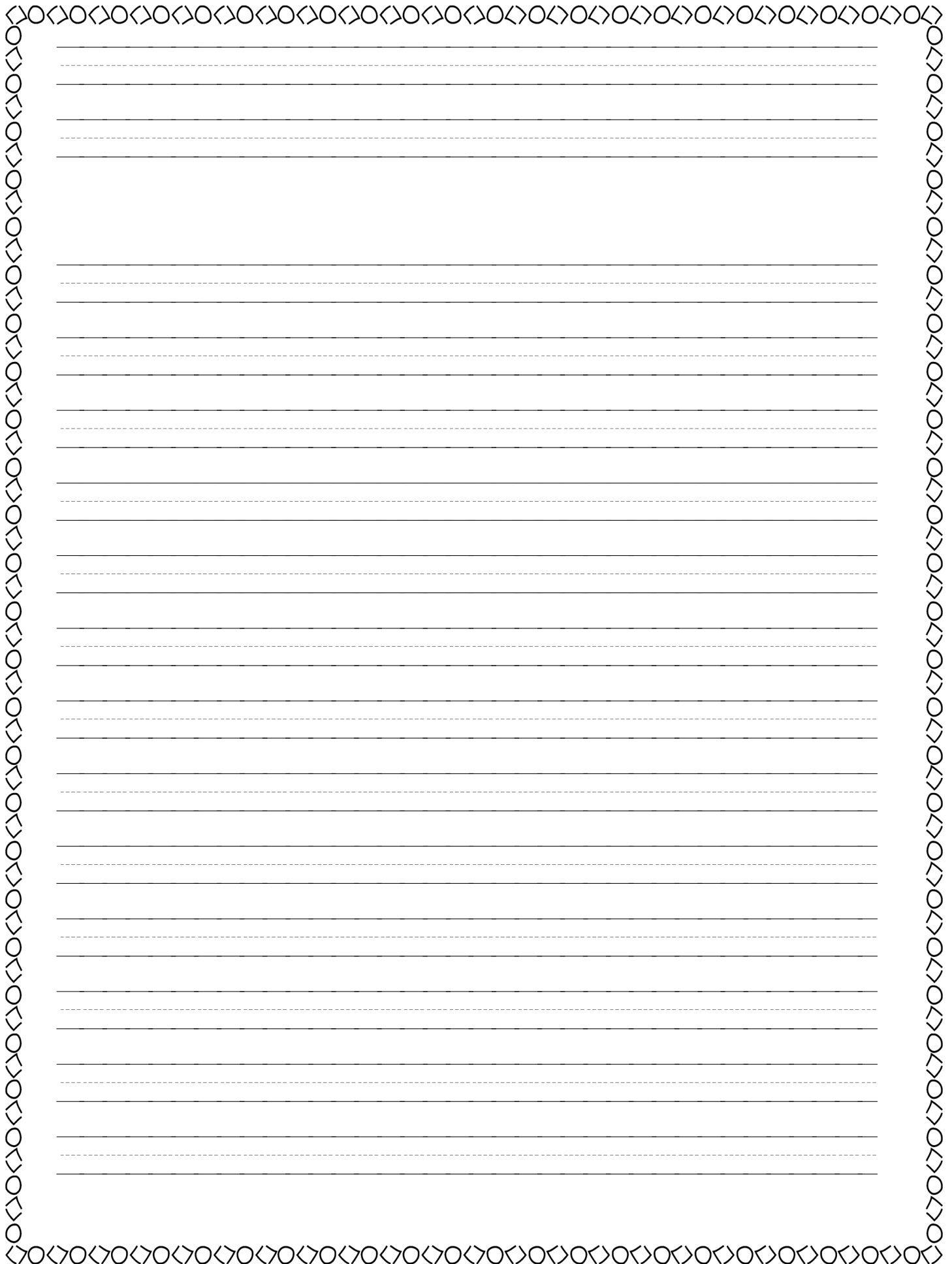
Rallied: brought together and reorganized

Rallied: brought together and
reorganized

Battle of Monmouth

Facts

1. Date: June 28, 1778
2. Place: Monmouth Court House, New Jersey
3. American leaders: Major General Charles Lee and General George Washington
4. British leader: Lt. General Charles Cornwallis
5. Americans fought all day
6. British left during the night to go to New York
7. Story of Molly Pitcher came from this battle

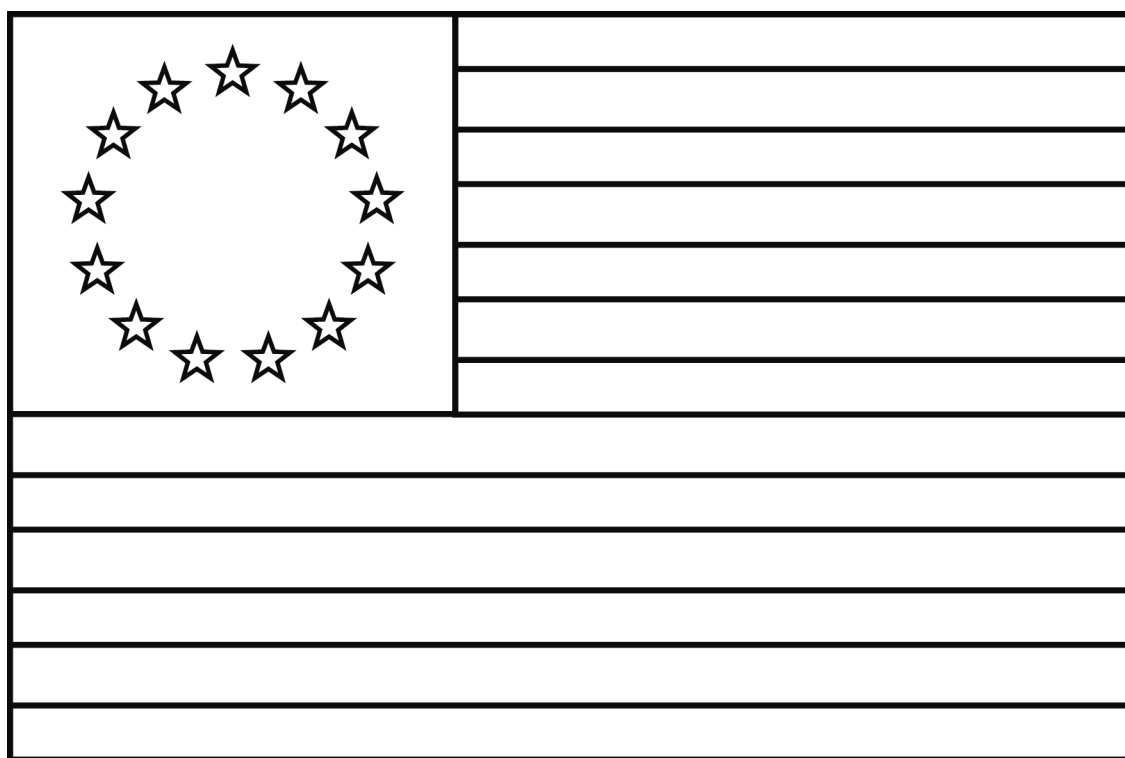


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Battle of Kings Mountain

British Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis decided to move from South Carolina into North Carolina before the Loyalists had gained complete control of South Carolina. When he made that move, patriots in South Carolina began attacking the Loyalists. In October 1780, part of General Cornwallis' army consisting of Loyalists under the command of Major Patrick Ferguson, was near Kings Mountain, South Carolina. The patriots, helped by colonists from the frontier and led by Colonel William Campbell, attacked on October 7, 1780. One of the officers in the patriot army was Colonel John Sevier, who was later elected the first governor of Tennessee.

As the patriots repeatedly attacked the Loyalist troops, the Loyalists chased them back. Each time, there were patriot soldiers hiding behind rocks and trees to shoot at the Loyalist troops as they chased the patriots. Finally, the patriots reached the top of the ridge. Major Ferguson was killed in the battle. There were many casualties, and about 700 Loyalists were captured. After this battle, General Cornwallis stopped his move into North Carolina and retreated farther into South Carolina.



Vocabulary

Loyalists: American colonists who did not want to be independent from Britain

Loyalists: American colonists
who did not want to be
independent from Britain

Battle of Kings Mountain Facts

1. Date: October 7, 1780

2. Place: Kings Mountain,
South Carolina

3. American leader: Colonel
William Campbell

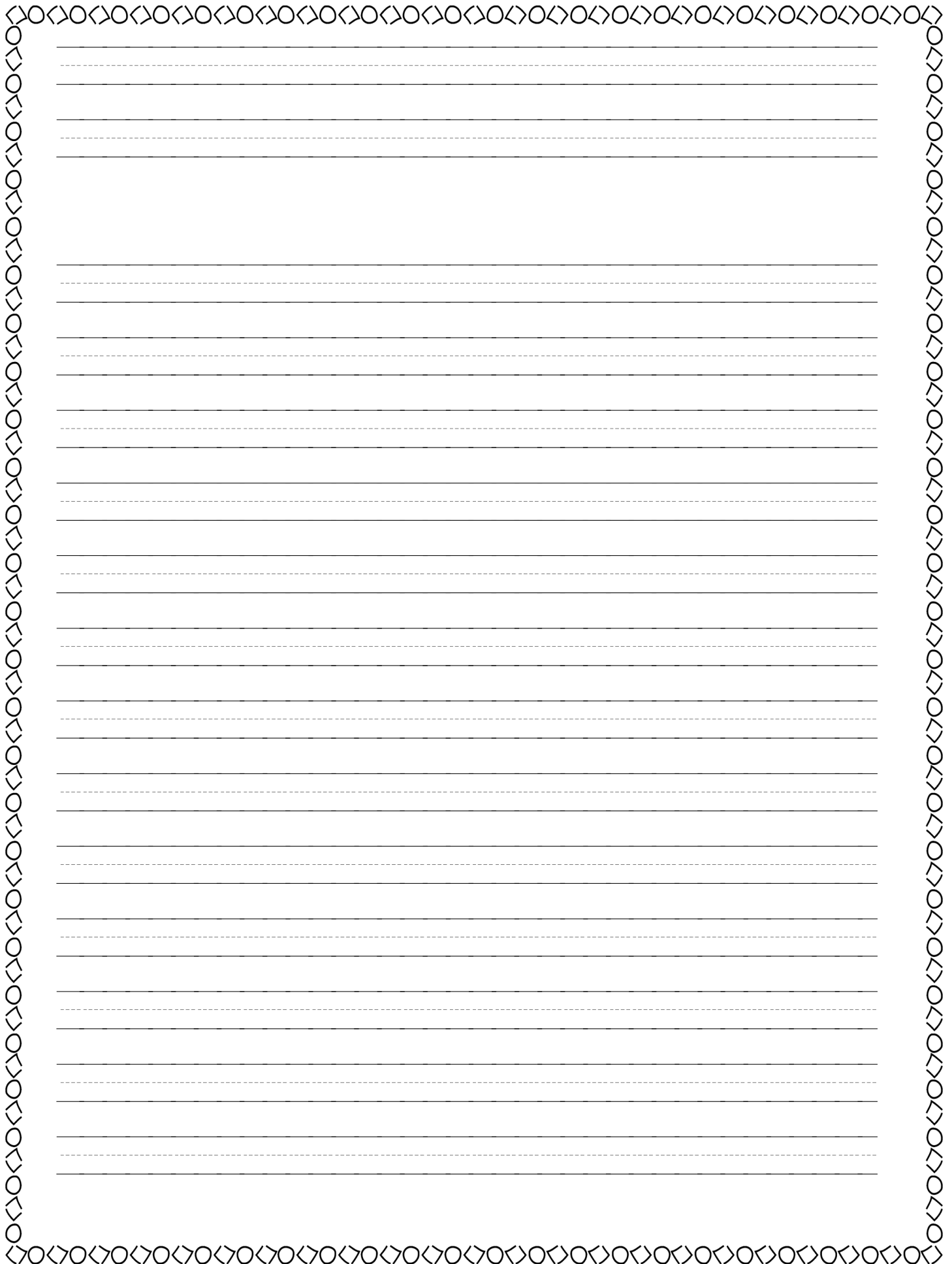
4. British leader: Major Patrick
Ferguson

5. Defeated: British

6. Victory: Americans

7. General Cornwallis

retreated further into South
Carolina



Handwriting practice paper with a decorative border and 20 horizontal lines.

Battle of Cowpens

Major General Nathanael Greene took control of the army in the southern colonies. He divided the army into two smaller armies and put Brigadier General Daniel Morgan in charge of one of them. British Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis was determined to trap General Morgan's army and sent Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton with troops to catch General Morgan's army. General Morgan organized his army into three lines to fight the British and was ready when Colonel Tarleton's troops caught up to him at Cowpens, South Carolina, on January 17, 1781. Colonel Tarleton's dragoons charged the Americans and thought they would retreat. Instead, the American troops fought, and ultimately won, the battle. There were many British casualties, and about 600 British were taken prisoner.



Vocabulary

Dragoons: soldiers who were armed and fought on horseback

Dragoons: soldiers who were
armed and fought on
horseback

Battle of Cowpens

Facts

1. Date: January 17, 1781

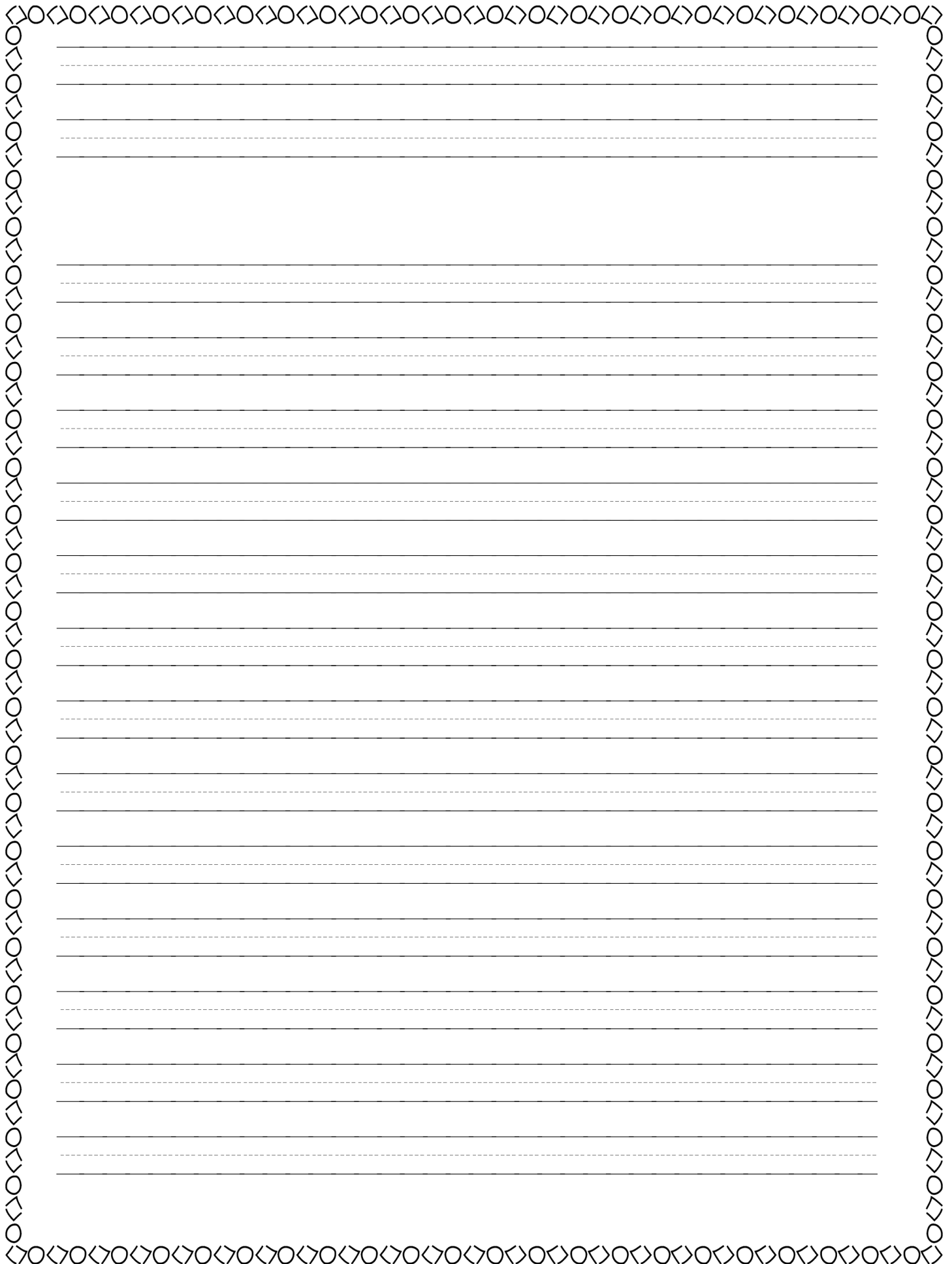
2. Place: Cowpens, South
Carolina

3. American leader: Brigadier
General Daniel Morgan

4. British leader: Lt. Colonel
Banastre Tarleton

5. Defeated: British

6. Victory: Americans



Handwriting practice paper with a decorative border and 20 horizontal lines.

Battle of Guilford Courthouse

After losing the Battle of Cowpens, British Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis was even more determined to stop Brigadier General Daniel Morgan's army. Major General Nathanael Greene rushed to catch up with General Morgan. In February 1781, American forces under General Morgan crossed the Yadkin River in North Carolina and joined forces with General Greene shortly after. General Greene led the army, most of whom were from colonial militias, from this point on and moved them through North Carolina and Virginia. While the army was on the move, more people joined, and the army grew. On March 15, 1781, the British and American armies met at Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina. Although the patriots lost the battle, they badly weakened the British. General Cornwallis lost about one-fourth of his men. He stopped chasing General Morgan's army at this point and went to the area of Wilmington, North Carolina, where he rested his army.



Vocabulary

Militias: groups of individual citizens who band together for military service outside of the organized army

Militias: groups of individual
citizens who band together for
military service outside of the
organized army

Battle of Guilford Courthouse

Facts

1. Date: March 15, 1781

2. Place: Guilford Courthouse,
North Carolina

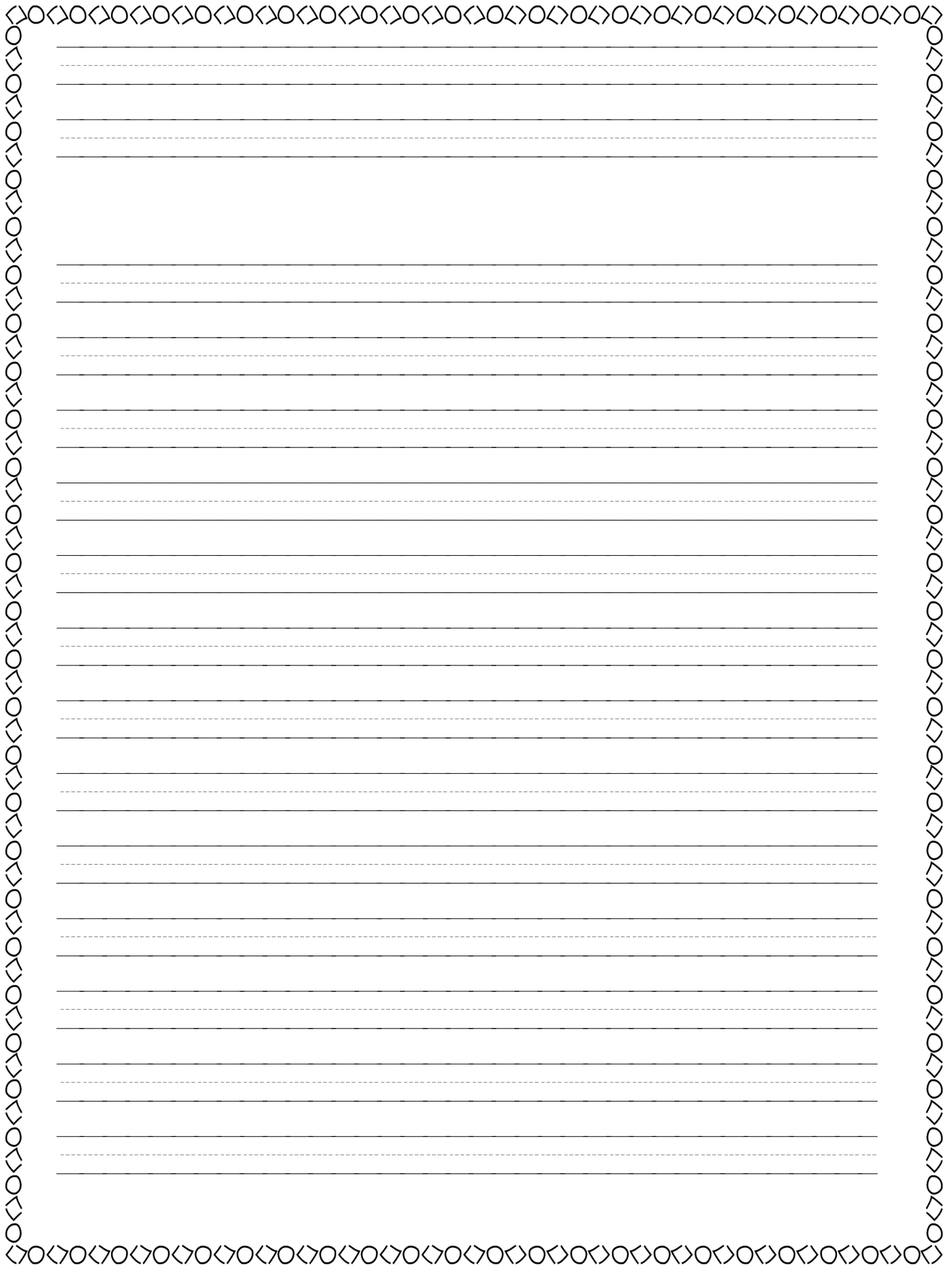
3. American leader: Major
General Nathanael Greene

4. British leader: Lt. General
Charles Cornwallis

5. Defeated: Americans

6. Badly Weakened: British

7. British forces went to area
of Wilmington, North Carolina



Handwriting practice paper with a decorative border and 20 horizontal lines.

Siege of Yorktown

British Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis was ordered to move along the coast in Virginia and get his troops ready to move north. General Cornwallis moved his troops to Yorktown, Virginia. In August 1781, General George Washington found out that a large fleet from France under the command of Admiral François Joseph, Comte de Grasse was headed toward Yorktown to stop General Cornwallis from taking his army out of Virginia by sea. General Washington and French General Jean Rochambeau took their forces to block General Cornwallis so his troops could not escape by land. British ships battled the French fleet at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay, but there was no actual winner in the battles. About a week after arriving, the British ships had to return to New York for repairs.

On September 28, 1781, troops under General Washington and General Rochambeau surrounded the British troops at Yorktown. General Cornwallis decided to move more of his troops inside Yorktown and wait for reinforcements. He commanded his troops to leave the trenches they were in outside of Yorktown. The American and French troops moved into the trenches, causing the British troops to be confined to a smaller area. General Cornwallis tried to move his troops across the York River, but he could not accomplish this because of a storm that came up. American and French troops continually closed in around the British troops, who were running out of supplies. On October 17, 1781, General Cornwallis asked for surrender terms. The British troops formally surrendered on October 19, 1781. After this defeat, Britain began peace talks with America.



Vocabulary

Siege: a long attack by an army trying to cause an opponent to surrender

Siege: a long attack by an
army trying to cause an
opponent to surrender

Siege of Yorktown

Facts

1. Date: Sept. 28–Oct. 17, 1781

2. Place: Yorktown, Virginia

3. American leader: General
George Washington

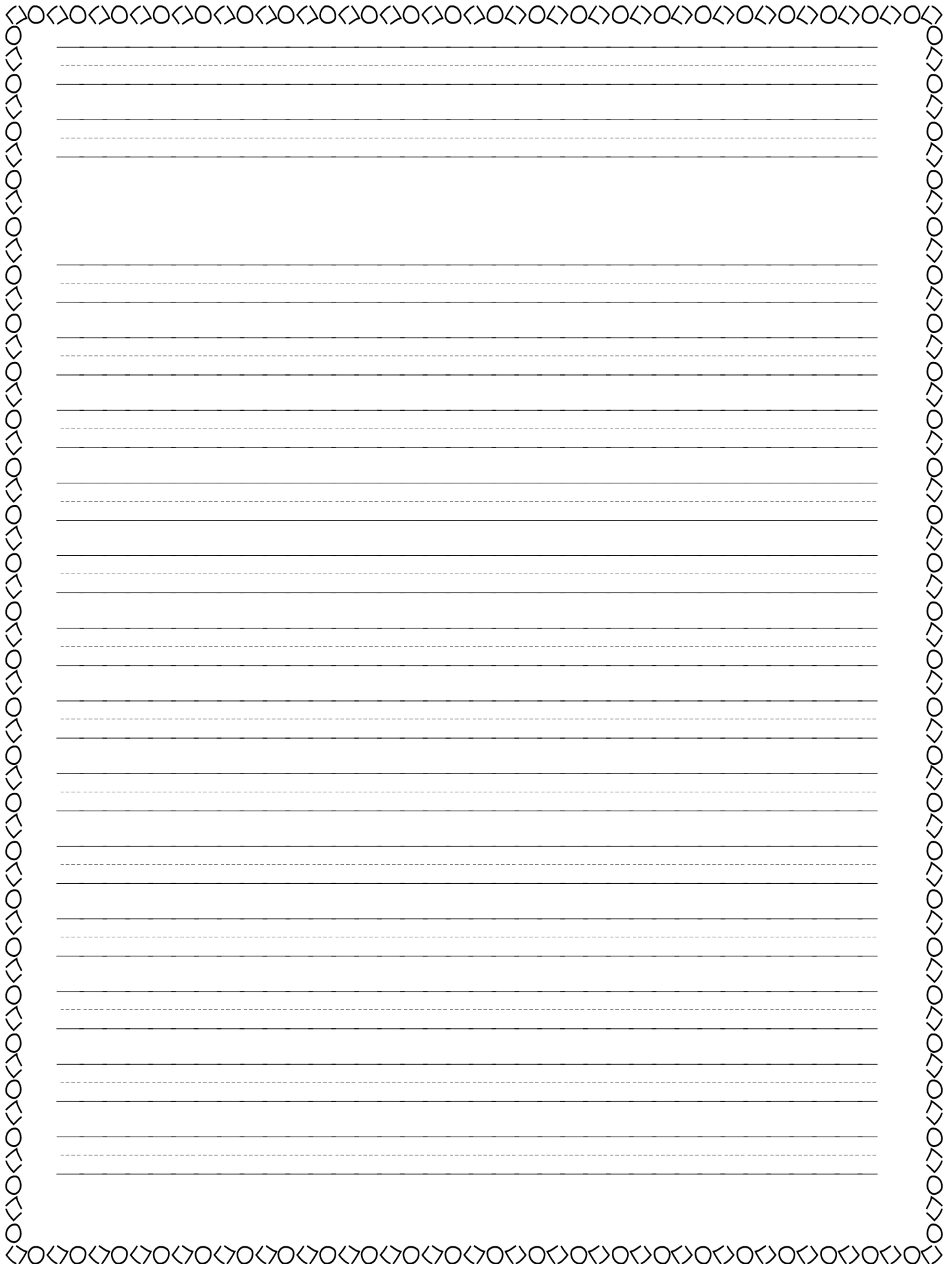
4. British leader: Lt. General
Charles Cornwallis

5. Americans aided by French
troops

6. Americans aided by French
fleet

7. Surrendered: British

8. Last major battle of the
Revolutionary War



Handwriting practice paper with a decorative border and 20 horizontal lines.

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