Name _____ Date _____

# War of 1812: Causes and Effects

**Directions:** Read the passage. Then use it to answer each question.

## The War of 1812

### A Second War with Britain

In the early 1800s, Britain and France were at war. Each side wanted to cut off the other's trade, so both seized American ships and their cargoes. The British navy was also short of sailors. Its captains stopped American ships at sea and forced thousands of sailors to serve on British warships. This practice, called impressment, angered many Americans, who saw it as an insult to their country's independence.

Trouble also grew in the West. As settlers kept moving onto Native American lands, the Shawnee leader Tecumseh worked to unite Native nations to resist them. Many Americans believed that British officials in Canada were giving these nations weapons. In Congress, young members known as the War Hawks demanded war with Britain.

In June 1812, Congress declared war. Hoping to take Canada from Britain, American armies tried to invade it, but every attempt to conquer it failed. In 1814, British troops burned the White House and the Capitol in Washington. In December 1814, the two sides signed the Treaty of Ghent. The treaty changed no borders. The treaty also said nothing about impressment. News crossed the ocean slowly, so in January 1815, General Andrew Jackson defeated a British army at New Orleans after the treaty had been signed.

The war still had lasting effects. Many Americans felt a new sense of national pride. With British goods cut off by the war, Americans built more of their own factories. Jackson's victory made him a national hero. In New England, many members of the Federalist Party had opposed the war, and after it ended the party lost support and faded away. Many historians say Native American nations lost the most. Tecumseh was killed in battle in 1813, and after the war Britain stopped aiding his allies. Settlers then pushed farther onto Native lands.

**1.** These events happened before and during the War of 1812. Match each cause to its effect, as the passage describes them.

Write the letter of the matching answer on each line.

1. _____ Britain and France each wanted to cut off the other's trade
2. _____ The British navy was short of sailors
3. _____ Settlers kept moving onto Native American lands
4. _____ The United States hoped to take Canada from Britain

Choices for question 1

A. Tecumseh worked to unite Native nations to resist
B. British captains forced sailors from American ships to serve on warships
C. Britain gave Canada to the United States
D. Both nations seized American ships and cargoes
E. American armies tried to invade Canada

**2.** The war also had lasting effects. Match each cause to its effect, as the passage describes them.

Write the letter of the matching answer on each line.

1. _____ British goods were cut off by the war
2. _____ Jackson defeated a British army at New Orleans
3. _____ Many Federalists had opposed the war
4. _____ Tecumseh was killed, and Britain stopped aiding his allies

A. Britain gained new land in the United States
B. The Federalist Party lost support and faded away
C. Settlers pushed farther onto Native American lands
D. Americans built more of their own factories
E. Jackson became a national hero

**3.** Complete the sentences with terms from the word bank.

| **Word bank** |
| --- |
| impressment • Federalists • Loyalists • War Hawks • embargo |

The British practice of forcing sailors from American ships to serve on British warships was called _____. The young members of Congress who demanded war with Britain were known as the _____.

**4.** Why did many Americans blame Britain for the trouble with Native American nations in the West?

A. British settlers were taking Native American lands in the West.
B. Britain had sold the Louisiana Territory to Native nations.
C. The British navy had forced Native Americans to serve on its warships.
D. They believed British officials in Canada were giving weapons to Native nations.

**5.** Which sentence from the passage best shows how many Americans felt about impressment?

A. "The British navy was also short of sailors."

B. "Its captains stopped American ships at sea and forced thousands of sailors to serve on British warships."

C. "This practice, called impressment, angered many Americans, who saw it as an insult to their country's independence."

D. "Trouble also grew in the West."

**6.** According to the passage, why was the Battle of New Orleans fought after the peace treaty had been signed?

A. News of the treaty crossed the ocean slowly.

B. The treaty said the war would last until spring.

C. Jackson refused to obey the Treaty of Ghent.

D. Britain broke the treaty by sending a new army.

**7.** Which two sentences from the passage best support the claim that the Treaty of Ghent left things much as they had been before the war?

☐ A. "The treaty also said nothing about impressment."

☐ B. "Jackson's victory made him a national hero."

☐ C. "In 1814, British troops burned the White House and the Capitol in Washington."

☐ D. "In June 1812, Congress declared war."

☐ E. "The treaty changed no borders."

**8.** The passage describes how the war changed the way many Americans felt about their country. What was that change?

A. Many lost faith in the nation and wanted a king.

B. Many wanted to rejoin the British Empire.

C. Many felt a new sense of national pride.

D. Many decided the nation should stop trading with other countries.