# A Road Through

Trace how a new route changed access to Creek Territory.

**SS24.4.8a** "Summarize how the Federal Road increased access to Creek Territory for settlers and enslaved persons, and explain how their arrival affected Native Americans."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline how the Federal Road changed travel, circle the groups of newcomers who used it, and number two effects on Creek people. Your marks will help you trace what changed and why.

### The Federal Road and Creek Territory

1. Before the Federal Road, travelers followed narrow paths across Creek Territory, the homeland of the Creek people in the Southeast. The United States made an agreement with Creek leaders to build a road through this land. Workers widened part of an older path so wagons could pass. The new route connected Georgia with the Mobile area near the Gulf of Mexico.

2. With a wider road, more people could travel into and across Creek Territory. Some settlers rode in wagons, hoping to start farms on land the Creeks called home. Enslavers also brought enslaved people along the road. These people did not choose to move. They were forced to work. The road did not give travelers ownership of Creek land, but it made reaching that land easier.

3. As newcomers arrived, Creek families faced growing pressure on the places where they lived, farmed, and hunted. Settlers wanted land for their own farms, and conflicts over land grew. Later, the United States forced the Creeks to give up large areas of their homeland. Many Creek people lost access to important places. The road helped bring newcomers in, but Creek people paid a heavy price for that access.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the Federal Road make it easier for newcomers to reach Creek Territory?

2. How did the reasons settlers and enslaved people traveled the road differ?

3. Why did the arrival of settlers increase pressure on Creek families?

4. How did the arrival of newcomers and later United States actions affect Creek people's access to their homeland?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence museum sign titled “One Road, Different Experiences.” In your own words, explain how the road changed travel, why settlers and enslaved people used it differently, and what happened to Creek people as more newcomers arrived.

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## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline how the Federal Road changed travel, circle the groups of newcomers who used it, and number two effects on Creek people. Your marks will help you trace what changed and why. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | How did the Federal Road make it easier for newcomers to reach Creek Territory? | **Workers widened an older path so wagons could pass, making travel into Creek Territory easier.** |
| 2 | How did the reasons settlers and enslaved people traveled the road differ? | **Some settlers hoped to start farms. Enslaved people were brought against their will and forced to work.** |
| 3 | Why did the arrival of settlers increase pressure on Creek families? | **Settlers wanted farms on Creek land, so conflicts grew over places Creek families used to live, farm, and hunt.** |
| 4 | How did the arrival of newcomers and later United States actions affect Creek people's access to their homeland? | **Newcomers increased pressure over land. Later, the United States forced the Creeks to give up large areas, and many lost access to important places.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Federal Road made it easier for wagons to cross Creek Territory. Some settlers chose to use it to seek land for farms. Enslaved people were brought along the road against their will and forced to work. As more newcomers arrived, Creek families faced pressure over land, and the United States later forced them to give up much of their homeland.

Accept answers that connect easier travel to newcomers' arrival and explain the resulting pressure on Creek land. Students should distinguish settlers' choices from the forced movement of enslaved people.