

Florida War Causes

Trace why the Seminole Wars began and what changed afterward.

SS.4.A.3.10 "Identify the causes and effects of the Seminole Wars."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each phrase that tells why fighting began, and circle each phrase that tells what happened because of fighting.

Conflict in Florida

- ① During the early 1800s, the United States wanted control of Florida land. Many Seminoles lived in villages there, growing crops and raising cattle. Some Black Seminoles and people who had escaped slavery also lived near Seminole communities. Government leaders wanted Native people moved west. Seminole leaders feared losing their homes, farms, and freedom, so many refused to leave.
- ② The First Seminole War began in 1817 after fighting along the Florida border. United States officials blamed Seminoles for raids, while Seminoles resisted soldiers entering their land. General Andrew Jackson led troops into Spanish Florida and attacked Seminole villages. The war damaged villages and increased pressure on Spain. In 1821, Spain transferred Florida to the United States.
- ③ The Second Seminole War started in 1835 when the army tried to force Seminoles to follow a treaty calling for removal west. Seminoles fought to stay in Florida. Many people died, and many Seminoles were captured or sent west. In 1855, soldiers damaged crops during a land survey, helping start the Third Seminole War. It ended in 1858, with few Seminoles remaining in Florida.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Why did United States government leaders want Native people moved west, and why did many Seminole leaders refuse?

2 What two disagreements helped cause the First Seminole War?

3 What was one effect of the First Seminole War on control of Florida?

4 What helped start the Third Seminole War, and what was one result after it ended?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose two Seminole Wars named in the passage. Write two sentences, one for each war, that name a cause and an effect. Use the word *because* or *so* in each sentence.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each phrase that tells why fighting began, and circle each phrase that tells what happened because of fighting. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did United States government leaders want Native people moved west, and why did many Seminole leaders refuse?	Government leaders wanted control of Florida land. Many Seminole leaders feared losing their homes, farms, and freedom.
2	What two disagreements helped cause the First Seminole War?	United States officials blamed Seminoles for raids, and Seminoles resisted soldiers entering their land.
3	What was one effect of the First Seminole War on control of Florida?	The war increased pressure on Spain, and Spain transferred Florida to the United States in 1821.
4	What helped start the Third Seminole War, and what was one result after it ended?	Soldiers damaged crops during a land survey. After the war ended in 1858, few Seminoles remained in Florida.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The First Seminole War followed border fighting and disputes about soldiers entering Seminole land, so Jackson's campaign damaged villages and increased pressure on Spain. During the Second Seminole War, the army tried to force removal under a treaty, so many Seminoles were captured or sent west.

Accept causes and effects that match the passage and are connected correctly. For the open response, accept any two named wars if each sentence includes a supported cause, a supported effect, and the required connecting word.