

Why America Fought

Trace the causes and effects of the War of 1812.

SS.5.A.6.5 "Identify the causes and effects of the War of 1812."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the causes of the War of 1812 and circle its effects so you can track how events led to change.

Before and After the War

- ① In the early 1800s, Britain and France were fighting each other in Europe. Both nations tried to stop the United States from trading with the other side. Britain seized American ships and impressed, or forced, some American sailors to serve in the British navy. Many Americans saw these actions as attacks on their rights and trade.
- ② At the same time, some Native American nations resisted U.S. settlement in the Northwest Territory. Leaders called War Hawks believed that Britain supported this resistance from Canada. They also hoped the United States could gain Canada. In June 1812, President James Madison asked Congress for war, and Congress declared war on Britain. This anger helped build support for war.
- ③ The Treaty of Ghent was signed in December 1814 and took effect after ratification in February 1815, ending the war. It required the return of territory captured during the war, so the United States did not gain Canada. Still, many Americans felt stronger national pride after victories such as the January 1815 Battle of New Orleans. Native American resistance in the Northwest grew weaker, and U.S. settlement there increased.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Name two actions by Britain that helped cause the War of 1812.

2 What did the War Hawks believe about Britain, and what land did they hope the United States could gain?

3 What was one effect of the Treaty of Ghent on U.S. territory?

4 Name two effects of the war described in the passage.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a three-sentence cause-and-effect explanation of the War of 1812. Include two causes of the war and one effect that happened after it ended.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the causes of the War of 1812 and circle its effects so you can track how events led to change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name two actions by Britain that helped cause the War of 1812.	Britain seized American ships and impressed American sailors into the British navy.
2	What did the War Hawks believe about Britain, and what land did they hope the United States could gain?	They believed Britain supported Native American resistance from Canada, and they hoped the United States could gain Canada.
3	What was one effect of the Treaty of Ghent on U.S. territory?	The United States did not gain Canada.
4	Name two effects of the war described in the passage.	Answers may include stronger national pride, weaker Native American resistance in the Northwest, and increased U.S. settlement in the Northwest.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Britain's seizure of American ships and its impressment of sailors angered many Americans. War Hawks also believed Britain supported Native American resistance and wanted to gain Canada. These causes helped lead to war, which increased national pride and U.S. settlement in the Northwest.

Accept any two accurate causes and one accurate effect from the passage. The response should clearly show that the causes helped lead to the war and that the stated effect followed it.