

War Changes Colonies

Trace how conflict over land reshaped British North America.

SS.8.A.2.6 "Examine the causes, course, and consequences of the French and Indian War."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two causes of the war, number three events in the order they happened, and circle two consequences. These marks will help you trace how one conflict led to major changes.

A Fight for Land and Power

- ① In the 1750s, Britain and France both claimed the Ohio River Valley, a region where rivers linked trade routes and fertile land. French leaders built forts there to protect their claims and trade with American Indian nations. British colonists and land companies wanted to settle west of the Appalachian Mountains. In 1754, Virginia sent young officer George Washington to challenge French control near Fort Duquesne. His clash with French forces helped begin a wider struggle. Many American Indian nations made difficult choices about which side might protect their interests.
- ② At first, French troops, Canadian militia, and allied American Indian warriors won important victories. In 1755, they defeated British General Edward Braddock near Fort Duquesne. Britain then sent more soldiers and money, while colonial troops served beside regular British forces. The conflict became part of the larger Seven Years' War. British victories at Louisbourg in 1758 and Quebec in 1759 weakened French power. Montreal's fall in 1760 completed Britain's conquest of French Canada, although a peace treaty came later.
- ③ The Treaty of Paris, signed in 1763, gave Britain Canada and most French claims east of the Mississippi River. France lost most of its North American empire, changing the balance of power. Yet victory created new problems for Britain. The war had left the government deeply in debt, so Parliament sought revenue from the colonies. To reduce conflict on the frontier after the war, Britain issued the Proclamation of 1763, limiting settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains. Many colonists resented both the limits and later taxes, tensions that helped lead toward revolution.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What two competing goals made the Ohio River Valley a cause of war?

2 How did Britain change its strategy after Braddock's defeat?

3 Which events in 1758 through 1760 showed that French power in North America was weakening?

4 Explain one way the war's cost created tension between Britain and the colonies.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence cause, course, and consequence explanation of the French and Indian War. Include two causes, one event from the fighting, and two consequences, using words such as because and as a result to show connections.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline two causes of the war, number three events in the order they happened, and circle two consequences. These marks will help you trace how one conflict led to major changes. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two competing goals made the Ohio River Valley a cause of war?	France wanted to protect its claims and trade connections, while British colonists and land companies wanted to settle west of the Appalachian Mountains.
2	How did Britain change its strategy after Braddock's defeat?	Britain sent more soldiers and money, and colonial troops served alongside regular British forces.
3	Which events in 1758 through 1760 showed that French power in North America was weakening?	Britain won at Louisbourg in 1758 and Quebec in 1759, and Montreal fell in 1760.
4	Explain one way the war's cost created tension between Britain and the colonies.	The war left Britain deeply in debt, so Parliament sought revenue from the colonies, contributing to colonial resentment.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Britain and France went to war because both claimed the Ohio River Valley, and British colonists wanted western land. Early French victories, including the defeat of Braddock, showed that France had strong support and defenses. As Britain sent more troops and won at Quebec, French power weakened. The Treaty of Paris expanded British territory, but war debt and western settlement limits increased colonial anger.

Accept equivalent cause-and-effect language supported by the passage. For the open response, check for two accurate causes, an accurate course event, two accurate consequences, and clear connections among them.