

Pressure and Removal

Tracing the causes of Cherokee removal from Georgia

SS8H4.e "Analyze how key people (John Ross, John Marshall, and Andrew Jackson) and events (Dahlonega Gold Rush and Worcester v. Georgia) led to the removal of the Cherokees from Georgia known as the Trail of Tears."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each named person, underline statements that show one event or action caused another, and write 1, 2, and 3 beside three steps that led toward removal.

How Removal Became Possible

- ① In 1828, gold was discovered near Dahlonega in Cherokee territory. News of the Dahlonega Gold Rush brought miners and settlers who wanted access to the land. Georgia leaders increased pressure to take Cherokee lands and extend state laws there. John Ross, the principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, argued that the Cherokees were a separate nation with rights to govern their homeland. He used speeches, petitions, and court cases to resist removal. The gold rush made that resistance harder because valuable land attracted powerful outside interests.
- ② One court case tested Georgia's power. In Worcester v. Georgia, Samuel Worcester was convicted under a Georgia law for living in Cherokee territory without a state license. In 1832, Chief Justice John Marshall wrote the United States Supreme Court's decision. The Court ruled that Georgia's laws had no force in Cherokee territory, because relations with Native nations belonged to the federal government. The ruling supported the Cherokee position, but it did not stop removal. President Andrew Jackson did not enforce the decision, leaving Georgia free to continue its pressure.
- ③ Jackson had already signed the Indian Removal Act of 1830, which authorized the federal government to negotiate removal treaties. Ross continued to challenge removal, but a small group of Cherokees signed the Treaty of New Echota in 1835. The United States Senate ratified it despite Ross's objections. In 1838, federal troops forced most Cherokees west to Indian Territory. Thousands died during the journey called the Trail of Tears. Gold, Georgia's actions, an unenforced Court decision, and federal policy combined to make removal happen.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the Dahlonega Gold Rush increase pressure on the Cherokee Nation?

2 What did John Marshall's Supreme Court decision say about Georgia's laws in Cherokee territory?

3 How did John Ross and Andrew Jackson respond differently to Cherokee removal?

4 Why did Worcester v. Georgia fail to stop Cherokee removal? Use two details from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly four sentences that explain a chain of causes leading to the Trail of Tears. Include John Ross, John Marshall, Andrew Jackson, and either the Dahlonega Gold Rush or Worcester v. Georgia.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each named person, underline statements that show one event or action caused another, and write 1, 2, and 3 beside three steps that led toward removal. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Dahlonega Gold Rush increase pressure on the Cherokee Nation?	The discovery brought miners and settlers who wanted Cherokee land, increasing pressure to take that land.
2	What did John Marshall's Supreme Court decision say about Georgia's laws in Cherokee territory?	The Court ruled that Georgia's laws had no force in Cherokee territory because relations with Native nations belonged to the federal government.
3	How did John Ross and Andrew Jackson respond differently to Cherokee removal?	Ross resisted removal through speeches, petitions, and court cases. Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act and did not enforce the Worcester decision.
4	Why did Worcester v. Georgia fail to stop Cherokee removal? Use two details from the passage.	Although the Court supported the Cherokee position, Jackson did not enforce the ruling. Georgia continued its pressure, and federal removal policy continued.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Dahlonega Gold Rush increased demand for Cherokee land. John Ross resisted by arguing that the Cherokee Nation had the right to govern itself, and John Marshall's Court decision supported that claim. Andrew Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act and did not enforce the Court's ruling. As Georgia and the federal government kept pressuring the Cherokee Nation, removal led to the Trail of Tears.

Accept equivalent cause-and-effect explanations supported by the passage. For the open response, check that all three people, one named event, and a clear connection to removal appear in exactly four sentences.