Beyond Rwanda's Borders

Trace the causes, consequences, and responses to a regional crisis.

MWH.C.7.7 "Analyze recent threats to global security and regional stability. Examine the religious, ethnic, and political origins and the lasting effects of ethnic conflict, modern genocide, and atrocities (e.g., Cambodia's Khmer Rouge..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two causes of the genocide, circle two effects beyond Rwanda, and number two responses 1 and 2. Use your marks to trace how the conflict spread and how people responded.

A Crisis That Crossed Borders

1 At a roadblock in Rwanda in 1994, a person's identity card could determine whether they lived. Belgian colonial officials had made Hutu and Tutsi labels official on identity cards and favored Tutsi people in government and schools. After independence, political power shifted, but discrimination continued. A civil war began in 1990 when the Rwandan Patriotic Front, a rebel force based in Uganda, entered Rwanda. Extremist leaders used fear of that force to turn neighbors against neighbors.

2 After the Rwandan president's plane was shot down in April 1994, Hutu extremists organized the killing of Tutsi people and Hutu opponents. Radio broadcasts urged attacks, while militias set up roadblocks. Over roughly 100 days, about 800,000 people were killed. The United Nations peacekeeping force had a limited mandate, and many foreign governments failed to act quickly. The Rwandan Patriotic Front ended the genocide by taking control of the country in July.

3 Violence did not stop at Rwanda's border. Millions fled, including civilians and armed groups, into neighboring countries, especially Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Armed groups based there helped fuel later wars. An international tribunal prosecuted some leaders, but trials could not undo the deaths or displacement. Rwanda's recovery also depended on cross-border trade for goods and markets. Fighting near trade routes could raise transport costs, showing how regional insecurity harms connected economies.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did an older policy and the civil war help extremist leaders turn people against one another?

2. Explain one way the genocide threatened stability beyond Rwanda.

3. Compare two responses in the passage. What did each accomplish or fail to accomplish?

4. Why could fighting near trade routes hurt Rwanda's recovery?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you advise a regional council after 1994. Propose one action to reduce violence spreading across borders, support it with two details from the passage, and explain one likely drawback.

ANSWER KEY

Beyond Rwanda's Borders

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two causes of the genocide, circle two effects beyond Rwanda, and number two responses 1 and 2. Use your marks to trace how the conflict spread and how people responded. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did an older policy and the civil war help extremist leaders turn people against one another?	**Colonial identity cards made Hutu and Tutsi labels official. Extremist leaders then used fear of the Rwandan Patriotic Front during the civil war to turn neighbors against one another.**
2	Explain one way the genocide threatened stability beyond Rwanda.	**Armed groups fled into neighboring Zaire, where they helped fuel later wars.**
3	Compare two responses in the passage. What did each accomplish or fail to accomplish?	**The Rwandan Patriotic Front ended the genocide by taking control of Rwanda. The United Nations peacekeeping force had a limited mandate and did not stop the killings.**
4	Why could fighting near trade routes hurt Rwanda's recovery?	**Rwanda depended on cross-border trade for goods and markets, and fighting could raise the cost of transporting goods.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would fund border teams to separate armed fighters from civilians seeking safety. Millions fled into nearby countries, and armed groups based in Zaire helped fuel later wars. These teams could reduce attacks while allowing civilians to reach shelter. However, separating people fairly would require trained staff and could delay aid.

Accept other supported causes, cross-border effects, and comparisons of responses. For Your Turn, look for a plausible action, two accurate passage details, and a realistic drawback.