

Blockades, Mills, Tariffs

Trace how war changed trade, prices, and American industry.

8.13.A “analyze the economic effects of the War of 1812; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline effects that harmed people or businesses, circle effects that helped domestic manufacturing, and number each cause-and-effect link you find.

Economic Changes During and After the War

- ① Before the War of 1812, many American merchants earned money by shipping cotton, grain, and other goods across the Atlantic. The British navy blockaded American ports during the war, making ocean trade dangerous or impossible. Exports fell, and merchants, sailors, dockworkers, and farmers who depended on foreign buyers lost income. Imported goods also became scarce. Families and shops often paid higher prices for cloth, tools, and other items that had usually arrived by ship before.
- ② Shortages pushed some Americans to make goods at home. Investors put money into textile mills, and workers moved into jobs that spun thread or wove cloth. These businesses could sell products because British manufactured goods were harder to obtain. The war therefore hurt trade but encouraged manufacturing. This change did not help every worker or business equally, yet it showed that the United States could produce more of the goods it had previously imported from overseas.
- ③ After peace came in 1815, foreign goods returned, and American manufacturers faced new competition. Many people worried that cheaper British cloth would close young mills. Congress passed the Tariff of 1816, a tax on certain imported goods. The tax raised the price of imports and gave some American factories a better chance to compete. The war's economic effects were mixed: it caused losses and higher prices during fighting, while also strengthening interest in domestic industry and protective tariffs afterward.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the British blockade affect workers and businesses connected to ocean trade?

2 Explain how wartime shortages helped textile mills grow.

3 What was the economic purpose of the Tariff of 1816?

4 Give one harmful economic effect of the war and one effect that encouraged American industry.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine you own a textile mill in 1816. Write a four-sentence note explaining whether you support the Tariff of 1816. Use one effect from the war and one effect of the tariff to support your decision.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline effects that harmed people or businesses, circle effects that helped domestic manufacturing, and number each cause-and-effect link you find. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the British blockade affect workers and businesses connected to ocean trade?	It made trade dangerous or impossible, causing exports to fall and reducing income for merchants, sailors, dockworkers, and farmers who relied on foreign buyers.
2	Explain how wartime shortages helped textile mills grow.	British manufactured goods were harder to obtain, so American textile mills could sell more cloth made at home.
3	What was the economic purpose of the Tariff of 1816?	It raised the price of certain imported goods so American factories had a better chance to compete with foreign products.
4	Give one harmful economic effect of the war and one effect that encouraged American industry.	Harmful effects included lost trade income and higher prices for scarce imports. The war encouraged industry because shortages led investors and workers to support domestic manufacturing.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

As a textile-mill owner, I support the Tariff of 1816. During the war, shortages of British cloth helped my mill sell more fabric. After peace, cheaper British cloth threatened my business. The tariff makes imports cost more, so my mill has a better chance to compete.

Accept equivalent cause-and-effect explanations grounded in the passage. For the open response, accept either position if the student accurately explains a wartime economic effect and the tariff's effect on imported goods and American factories.