

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Period \_\_\_\_\_

## EIGHTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

### “WAR OF 1812”

#### (A Text Book Comparison)

The purpose of this assignment is to help you understand that history is written with a certain viewpoint or perspective. This viewpoint is related to the author’s bias and that of his/her audience.

Both selections are from 8<sup>th</sup> grade history textbooks of the United States (California) and Canada. The U.S. text is America Is pages 1-7 and the Canadian text is Canada: Growth Of A Nation pages 8-11.

What you will be doing is analyzing the similarities and differences of the national histories for the same event—The War of 1812. The events that happened cannot be changed, but how they are written about can be different based on the author’s viewpoint.

#### DIRECTIONS:

Answer the questions on the lines below. Page numbers for most answers are given to help you find the answers at the end of the questions.

Most of your grade will be based on a well-written analytical paragraph for #15.

1. What was happening between Britain and France? P.1

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2. What was Britain doing to American ports and why? P.1

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3. What were the British searching for on American ships? P.1

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4a]. Why did the U.S. pass the Embargo Act? P.1-2

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4b.] Why didn’t the Embargo Act work? P.2

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5a] What does the U.S. text say the British were doing with the Indians of the frontier? P.2

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b] How does the Canadian text report this American claim? P.8

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6a] What does the U.S. text say the “WAR HAWKS” wanted? p.3

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b] What does the Canadian text say the “WAR HAWKS” wanted? P.8

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7a] What were the reasons given for the war in the U.S. text? P.3

1] \_\_\_\_\_

2] \_\_\_\_\_

3] \_\_\_\_\_

4] \_\_\_\_\_

b] What were the reasons given for the war in the Canadian text? P.8

1] (trade) \_\_\_\_\_

2] (sailors) \_\_\_\_\_

3] (Indians) \_\_\_\_\_

4] (Canada) \_\_\_\_\_

8a] According to the U.S. text, why did the Americans think they could win the war? P.3

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b] According to the Canadian text, why did the Americans think they could win the war? P.9

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9a] One of the two texts mentions naval victories. Which text, and what does it say? Pp.4-6; Pp. 9-11

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b] Why do you think the other text does not mention this topic?

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10a] One of the two texts mentions the surrendering of U.S. troops. Which text, and what does it say? Pp.4-6; Pp. 9-11

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b] Why do you think the other text does not mention this topic?

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11a] What does the U.S. text give as a reason for the British burning Washington D.C.? p.5

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b] What does the Canadian text give as a reason for the British burning Washington D.C.? p.11

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12a] Which text mentions the Battle of New Orleans? What does it say? P. 6; P. 11

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b] Why do you think the other text does not mention this topic?

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13. What happened to the Federalist Party after the War of 1812? Why? p.7

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14. What was the general effect of the war on Canada and Britain? p.11

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15. What have you learned about the writing of history after reading these two selections? (Write one paragraph below in correct Language Arts paragraph format: Topic sentence, 3 main points, 2 examples per main point and a concluding sentence. 11 sentences total! Use identifiers!)