



Name _____ Date _____

TECUMSEH

• PHILOSOPHER • ACTIVIST • WARRIOR •

PART I: — Tecumseh was a versatile leader. Although he is most often remembered as a fearless warrior, he was also an eloquent speaker who rallied Native Americans to resist westward expansion. Answer the following questions about Tecumseh's leadership.

1. As a young man, Tecumseh witnessed the destruction of his people's land by white settlers. What effect did this have on Tecumseh and his opinion of westward expansion?

Answers will vary, but may include: Tecumseh developed a deep disdain for white settlers after witnessing the destruction of his people's land. He strongly disagreed with westward expansion and believed it was unjust.

2. Tecumseh had strong convictions and a clear philosophy when it came to land ownership. Describe Tecumseh's philosophy.

Answers will vary, but may include: Tecumseh believed land was meant to be shared by all people, so it could not be bought or sold by anyone, including Native American chiefs.

3. Tecumseh aimed to unify Native Americans. Why did he believe it was important for all Native Americans to join forces to fight westward expansion?

Answers will vary, but may include: Tecumseh believed Native Americans were stronger together and that a divided population would be defeated easily.



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4. An activist is a person who advocates for social or political change. In what ways was Tecumseh an activist?

Answers will vary, but may include: Tecumseh fought back against the norms of white settlers and organized a confederacy to resist westward expansion. He witnessed the encroachment of settlers and fought back in an effort to hold onto Native American land.

PART II: — Tecumseh traveled far and wide to recruit for his confederacy. With a lofty goal to unify tribes, Tecumseh had to explain his vision and convince potential members to join. Imagine you are Tecumseh on a recruiting trip. How would you convince a tribe from another region to join your confederacy? Be sure to explain what the confederacy is and how it will benefit their tribe and Native Americans as a whole.

Answers will vary, but may include: My confederacy is an organization led by The Prophet and me. We aim to resist white settlement of the land we live on and celebrate Native American culture. If Native American tribes remain divided, we will all be defeated easily and lose our land. If we band together, we can fight back against the American government. If you join us, you will be able to keep your land and culture. If you do not, we will all lose our homes to westward expansion.