

Unit 4

After Confederation - Part 2

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 12, Lesson 1: Numbered Treaties - Key

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What was the Canadian government's main reason for making the Numbered Treaties?

The Canadian government wanted to make treaties with First Nations so it could gain control of the land and natural resources. The government's immigration plans would fail without these agreements.

2. Why did Prime Minister Macdonald want to avoid conflict with First Nations?

Prime Minister Macdonald wanted to avoid conflict with First Nations because he knew it would cause great suffering, and he knew violence would slow his efforts to expand westward.

3. What were the reasons First Nations had for agreeing to the Numbered Treaties?

First Nations had many reasons for agreeing to the Numbered Treaties.

- First Nations wanted to protect their rights to the land and natural resources.
- First Nations needed the food and money the government promised.
- The treaties were a better alternative than war with newcomers or the government.
- Some felt that the land would be taken from them even if they did not sign the treaties.

4. What did First Nations receive from the government with the treaties?

First Nations received cash payments, goods (fishing gear and farming equipment), services such as education and health care, and land set aside for First Nations' use.

5. What did the Canadian government do to accomplish its goal of assimilation?

The government forced the children of First Nations to attend residential schools. The children were forbidden from speaking their own languages or practising their own beliefs.

Character Sketch: Louis Riel

Character Traits:	For what was he known?
leader, gave his life fighting to help the Métis, strong, well educated	He was the leader of the Métis. He led the Red River Rebellions.
What was his occupation?	Why is he famous?
He was the official leader and spokesperson for the Métis who negotiated with the government for Métis rights.	Some people think he was a traitor to Canada and some think he was a hero. (This caused great debate and tension in Canadian society.) He was put on trial and hanged for treason.