



Indian Removal Act Viewing Primary Sources

Name _____

Directions: Use the materials given to you to answer the questions over different view points and policies that involved the Indian Removal to Reservations in Oklahoma.

Document A: Andrew Jackson's Second Annual Message

1. Why does Jackson think that the speedy removal of the Native Americans is an advantage for the United States?
2. Why does President Jackson think that the speedy removal of the Native Americans is an advantage for the Native Americans?

Document B: Worcester v. Georgia (1832) Supreme Court Decision

1. What does the Supreme Court declare the Cherokee nation to be? What is the importance of this?
2. What does the Supreme Court declare about Georgia's actions?

Document C: Excerpts from John Ross's words to delegates of the Iroquois League

1. What is John Ross's opinion about the way the U.S. treated the Indian tribes?
2. What did John Ross mean when he described the Cherokee as "... compared to a solitary tree in an open space, where all the forest trees around have been prostrated by a furious tornado."

Document D: Trail of Tears Painting

1. List 2 images within this picture that show that the Trail of Tears might have been a voluntary removal of Cherokees from their native lands. (Meaning that the Cherokee volunteered to move.)
2. List 2 images from this picture show that this removal was forced by the U.S government and that the Cherokees did not want to leave.

Document E: Recollections of a Survivor, Trail of Tears

1. Describe in your own words the suffering of the Cherokee people.
2. Why do you think they “say nothing” and do not resist?

Document F: John Burnett’s Story of the Trail of Tears

1. Describe three details shared with us about the Trail of Tears? How do you react to what was written?

Document G: Excerpts from the *Treaty of New Echota*

1. How much money did the Cherokee receive from the United States government in return for their land in Georgia?
2. According to the treaty, what do the Cherokee promise to do in return for peace?
3. According to the treaty, which group has the final say in Cherokee possessions, the United States Government or the Cherokee nation?