ERA 2: COLONIZATION AND SETTLEMENT (1585–1763)
ERA 10: CONTEMPORARY UNITED STATES (1968 TO THE PRESENT)
THEMES: AMERICAN IDENTITY, WAR AND DIPLOMACY

The French and Indian War in Pittsburgh: A Memoir

Benjamin West's depiction of William Johnson sparing Baron Dieskau's life after the battle of Lake George on Septemeber 8, 1755.

Guiding Questions

How do romanticized views of war affect our understanding of history?

How do different texts—cartoons, essays, speeches, etc.—about war shape our perceptions of war?

Focus Question Examples for Task 24

Memoirs about war make readers more supportive of wars in general.

Teacher-to-Teacher

Dillard's contemporary essay not only models effective memoir writing, it shows how people tend to romanticize various historical events. This essay, used in conjunction with a contemporary speech, historical memoir, and three political cartoons demonstrates how purpose, audience, and perception affect not only the creation of text but simultaneously, how texts create perceptions for others. This unit explores the effects of both verbal and visual rhetoric.

Literary Connections: Fenimore Cooper, James, The Leatherstocking Tales; Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth," Evangeline", Demos, John, The Unredeemed Captive, a Family Story from Early America.

Contents

- The French and Indian War in Pittsburgh: A Memior ARTICLE
- "President George W. Bush's Address "Mission Accomplished" Announcing End of Major Combat Operations in Iraq, May 1, 2003 DOCUMENT
- "A French Account of Braddock's Defeat in 1755" DOCUMENT
- "The Revisionist: Lexington, 1775" POLITICAL CARTOON
- "England's Vietnam" POLITICAL CARTOON
- "The War Prayer by Mark Twain" POLITICAL CARTOON
- Explanation of cover photograph of book 'A Hundred Miles of Bad Road' DOCUMENT

Recommended Instructional Strategies

TASK 8: Analyze and Compare Author Purpose
TASK 10: Question the Author
TASK 17: White Out
TASK 23: Claim/Evidence Chart and Summary
TASK 24: QFT (Question Focus Technique)
TASK 25: Document Sourcing

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make history