



Name _____ Date _____

Section 2

Conflict with the Chickasaw

Directions: Read the account of a battle between the French and the Chickasaw and answer the questions that follow.

M. De Bienville, Governor of this Province, being determined to destroy the . . . Chickasaw . . . march[ed] toward them some time ago from New Orleans . . . He dispatched orders . . . to Major Pierre D'Artaguett, the commanding Officer among the Illinois [band of Indians], to join the French the first of April, and to muster [assemble] together as many [Indians] . . . as he could get. Major D'Artaguett [moved so quickly] . . . that he arrived at the rendezvous . . . before the time prescribed; and instead of waiting the coming of [Governor] Bienville, he went to attack the Chickasaws, trusting very much to the bravery of the Illinois, who nevertheless abandoned him at the first fire of the people of [the] Chickasaws. . . . [So] he had no more than 150 men left, both French and . . . Indians, to withstand 800; Therefore the battle did not last long; he was quickly defeated and killed with all the other officers and 48 French[men].

(Excerpt of a letter dated April 30, 1736, and published in the *New England Weekly Journal*)

1. What was Governor Bienville's military objective in this battle? _____

2. Why were Bienville's and D'Artaguett's forces unable to rendezvous (to meet at an agreed time and place)?

3. Which tribe had allied with the French for the battle with the Chickasaw? _____
4. According to this account, what did the Illinois band do when they were first fired upon? _____

5. After the Illinois band left, how badly outnumbered were D'Artaguett's forces? _____

6. What was the outcome of the battle? _____

7. What type of source is the letter excerpt? _____
8. When this letter excerpt is published in a journal account of the battle, what type of source is it? _____
