

GUIDED READING

A Place Called Mississippi

Chapter 2: Native Mississippians

Section 1 A Pristine Wilderness

Directions: Use the information from pages 44 - 49 to complete the following.

1. The southern environment (area now known as Mississippi) provided a _____ of _____, and the southeastern _____ developed an extensive _____.
2. They grew several varieties of beans and squash, and the _____ was maize, or corn.
3. Maize could be stored in _____ (storehouses for grain) for long periods of time.
4. Storage granaries were _____ sites in Indian villages and were _____ at all costs against the European intruders.
5. Native agriculture was supplemented by _____ and _____, and native Mississippians developed many ingenious _____ and fishing techniques, some of which are still used today.
6. Because _____ are not native to the United States, Indians had never _____ before the expedition of Hernando _____, which began in 1539.
7. To feed his Spanish soldiers, who were called _____ (the Spanish word for conquerors), de Soto brought a large herd of _____ (domestic hogs) on his expedition through the southeastern United States.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

8. The dominant _____ of the Indian nations in the Southeast was Muskogean.
9. The southeastern Indian nations did not have a _____ language, although they did develop a form of written communication called _____.
10. This system used _____ and _____ and was an effective method of communication.
11. Mississippi tribes were _____, which means that they traced the line of descent through the _____ rather than the father.
12. They [Indians] based their social organization on the _____ system.
13. A clan was a group that included several families with a _____ ancestry.
14. They worshipped many _____, some of whom they believed to be kind and friendly, and others they believed to be _____, jealous, and unfriendly. Their _____ beliefs were closely tied to their _____.
15. The most important _____ among the southeastern Indians was the _____ Ceremony (a ritual held in late August in anticipation of a bountiful harvest).
16. _____ traditions among the different Indian nations varied widely.
17. Only the Natchez practiced human _____ upon the death of a tribal chief.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

18. The Chickasaw usually _____ their dead with their favorite _____ below the deceased's cabin floor.
19. The Choctaw first laid their dead on a raised _____ to allow the body to _____. Specially trained people, called "bone pickers," then removed the _____ from the skeleton before it was buried.
20. Among Mississippi Indians, _____ and other sporting events were popular and highly developed.
21. The most popular sport among Mississippi Indians was _____.
22. Most Mississippi _____ were _____ by towns and _____, or _____.
23. Both the Choctaw and Chickasaw developed a tribal _____ composed of _____ called mingos, or _____.
24. These mingos _____ the nation with the advice of _____.
25. The rule of _____ among Mississippi nations followed _____ and _____.
26. Important council meetings were usually opened by _____ the calumet, or _____.

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Chapter 2: Native Mississippians

Section 2

Major Tribes: Natchez, Choctaw, Chickasaw

Directions:

Use the information from pages 50 - 56 to complete the following.

1. The three largest and most prominent _____ [in Mississippi] were the _____, the _____, and the _____.
2. Other small tribes _____ from place to place and often allied themselves with larger Indian nations for _____.
3. These migrations (moving from one area or country to another) were sometimes _____ by _____ on the smaller tribes by European _____, or by larger tribes that were _____ with the slave traders.
4. The first reference to a tribe called the _____ was made in 1682 by La Salle [a French explorer] during his voyage from the French colonies in Canada down the _____.
5. On that historic voyage, La Salle _____ all the land drained by the Mississippi River for _____ and named it Louisiana in honor of Louis XIV, King of France.
6. At the top of the Natchez social structure was the _____, hereditary _____ of all of the Natchez.
7. The Great Sun was the _____ chief but had not binding authority over the five villages, or settlement districts.
8. The villages were _____ by their own chiefs.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

9. The Natchez had established villages along the _____
_____ on the eastern bank of the river [Mississippi].
10. The Natchez also built several _____, where their
religious ceremonies were held.
11. The most important of those mounds was a large structure, called _____
Mound.
12. _____ colonials who settled among the Natchez observed the
_____ of human sacrifice [when the Great Sun died] and attempted to
persuade the Natchez to _____ that _____.
13. From the beginning of French exploration of the lower Mississippi valley, the
_____ and the _____ were _____ toward
each other.
14. As the French population _____ and encroachment on
_____ farmland and hunting grounds expanded, several tribal chiefs
joined with the Natchez in an attempt to _____ the French
_____ the lower Mississippi valley.
15. In 1729, the Natchez _____ the French at Fort Rosalie and killed
about two hundred Frenchmen, and took many prisoners.
16. The next year, the _____ and their _____ allies
recaptured Fort Rosalie and _____ and _____ most of
the _____.
17. The _____ were the second largest and most _____
nation among the southeastern _____.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

18. Although few of the Choctaw were allies of the _____, especially the group led by Chief Red Shoe, they usually allied with the _____.
19. Hernando _____ was probably the first _____ to encounter the Choctaw.
20. Gradually the Choctaw _____ or _____ their _____ to the white man — first the French, then the Spanish, then the English, and finally the Americans.
21. During the colonial period, the _____ were clustered in several villages called Long Town in _____ Mississippi and numbered about 4,500.
22. Although their [Chickasaw] _____ and _____ structure was similar to the Choctaw, there were significant _____ between the two nations.
23. The _____ were more _____ and _____ (working as farmers) than the Chickasaw, who were _____ and proud _____.
24. The Chickasaw were _____ allies; they were actively involved with the English in the Indian _____.
25. After the _____ attacked Fort Rosalie in 1729, the Chickasaw _____ members of the Natchez Nation who _____ the French counterattack to _____ among them.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

26. For the next several years, _____ officials at New Orleans and Mobile _____ launching an _____ against the Chickasaw for giving _____ to the Natchez.
27. They also wanted to _____ the _____ from interfering with French _____ on the Mississippi River.
28. In 1736, the _____ mounted a major _____ against the Chickasaw.
29. _____ traders living among the Chickasaw _____ them how to _____ their villages and helped them _____ for the approaching _____.
30. Even as _____ of the British, the Chickasaw could not hold back the western _____ of English _____ from the Atlantic coast.
31. Eventually, the Chickasaw were _____ to _____ their ancestral lands in Mississippi and move to _____.

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Chapter 2: Native Mississippians

Section 3

Small Tribes

Directions:

Use the information from pages 57 - 61 to complete the following.

1. In addition to the three major tribes, there were several _____
_____ or _____ (small groups of Indians) that were
located in the territory that is now _____.
2. In 1699, while searching for the mouth of the Mississippi River along the Gulf Coast, a
small party of French _____ the
_____ Indians.
3. The _____, which spoke a dialect of the
Siouan language apparently _____ to the _____
_____ from the Ohio Valley shortly before the French landed at Ship
Island in 1699.
4. The _____ were known as the "
_____ people."
5. The _____, who probably spoke a Tunican language, numbered about
two hundred and were _____ the
_____ at the beginning of the European period.
6. In the Muskogean language, the word _____ means "people at
the source of a stream."

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

7. This is the name given to a small _____ of about fifty people who were closely related in language and culture to the Chickasaw.
8. A small group of _____ also _____ with the _____.
9. Known as " _____ people" among their neighboring tribes, the _____ were living in the upper Mississippi valley during the early French period.
10. Known among the French as the " _____ people" because of a special kind of _____ they _____, the _____ were closely associated with their Biloxi neighbors.
11. When the European explorers first mentioned the _____ Nation in the 1680s, it was located on the lower Yazoo River near the Tunica and Yazoo and was identified as a small band that spoke the _____ language.
12. Numbering about 1,500 in 1698, the _____ were the closest and most consistent _____ among the Mississippi Indians.
13. The _____ was located on the south bank of a small river that flowed into the Mississippi River.
14. The Yazoo were closely associated with the Koroa and were _____ - _____.

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Section 4 Indian Removal and the Trail of Tears

Directions: Use the information from pages 62 - 64 to complete the following.

1. Most of the people who _____ to Mississippi came to _____ and grow _____.
2. When the farmers arrived in Mississippi, they found that the Choctaw and Chickasaw _____ much of the _____ soil they had come to _____.
3. Many _____ farmers and _____ claimed that the _____ did not use the bountiful land as the Creator had intended.
4. This _____ was the basis for both the state and federal policy known as _____.
5. That official policy authorized the _____ of thousands of Indians to Indian Territory in what is now eastern Oklahoma.
6. The forced removal of _____ from the southeastern United States began with the _____ and eventually included the Chickasaw, Creek, Cherokee, and Seminole, from their _____ lands.
7. During the long and _____ trek to the Indian Territory in _____, many Indians _____ along the way.
8. That _____ is known as the _____ of _____.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

9. Through several _____ (the yielding of land to another party, in this case the U.S. government), the Choctaw Indians ceded or _____ their ancestral lands to the United States.
10. In 1830, they _____ their remaining land in Mississippi for land in Indian Territory.
11. Heads of Choctaw families who wanted to remain in Mississippi were _____ 640 acres of _____, plus additional acres for each child.
12. Few Choctaw _____ received that land.
13. The _____ ceded their land in north Mississippi under the Treaty of Pontotoc in 1832.
14. Chickasaw families were _____ an opportunity to _____ in Mississippi, although they were promised _____ the _____ from the _____ of their land.
15. Like the Choctaw, who received little or none of the land promised them, the Chickasaw tribe received _____ from the sale of their land.
16. The Choctaw and Chickasaw believed the American _____ had tricked them and _____ them out of their land.
17. A small band of _____ Choctaw _____ to leave Mississippi and endured many _____ to retain their tribal identity.
18. In 1918, their _____ was brought to the attention of the federal government. The Bureau of Indian Affairs _____ land for a _____ on which the Choctaw could _____ peacefully and preserve their _____, language, and cultural _____.