

JUNIOR ENGLISH-NATIVE AMERICAN TOPICS

1. Was **Chief Joseph** a great leader for his people?
2. Was **Wounded Knee** a Massacre? Could it have been prevented?
3. Was the United States justified in killing all of the **Navajo's livestock** in the 1900's?
4. Would the actions of **Kit Carson** against the Navajo be considered criminal in today's world?
5. Did the members of the **American Indian Movement** use unnecessary force?
6. Were **George A. Custer's** actions at Little Bighorn heroic?
7. Did **Andrew Jackson** have the legal right to order the **trail of tears**?
8. Were **Indian boarding schools** in the best interest of Native Americans?
9. Did the **Indian** seizure of **Alcatraz** island in 1969 help or harm the Native American cause?
10. Should **Blue Lake** have remained part of a National Forest or have been returned to the **Taos Pueblo**?
11. Did the United States government deliberately spread **smallpox** amongst **Native American** tribes?
12. Which was the greater evil **Indian reservations** or **Nazi concentration camps**?
13. Did the **Proclamation of 1763** ultimately harm or help Native Americans?
14. Were the **Five Civilized Tribes** treated unfairly after the **Civil War**?
15. Should **Native American** tribes be allowed to **hunt endangered animals** using traditional hunting methods?
16. Was the **Dawes Act** in the best interest of Native Americans?
17. Was **John Ross** a hero or a traitor to the **Cherokee Nation**?
18. In regards to the **1908 Supreme Court Case Winters v. United States**, was the government protecting the water rights of Native Americans on reservations?
19. Does the Cherokee Nation have the legal right to exclude **Cherokee Freedmen** from membership in their tribes?
20. Should the United States government have intervened with **Ghost Dance movement**?
21. Should **Native Americans** have the right to smoke **Peyote**?
22. Did the slaughter of the **buffalo** foretell an end to the **Plains tribes**?
23. Did the United States government discriminate in their policy of only permitting **Protestant Indian Agents** and missionaries?
24. Did the **Camp Grant Massacre** help or hinder the effort to establish the Apaches on reservations in Arizona?
25. Were **Native Americans** better off when the United States considered them **wards of the state**, sovereign nations, or fellow citizens?
26. Was there a justifiable cause for the **Sand Creek Massacre**?
27. Was **James Carleton's** plan for Native Americans at **Bosque Redondo** realistic?
28. Would the **Five Civilized Tribes** have been better off if the South had won the **Civil War**?
29. Did **Mormon** control of Utah in the 19th Century help or hurt the **Ute** people?
30. Was the **Seminole War** about freed slaves or about land?
31. Did the United States government win the **Seminole War**?
32. Did the **Second Great Awakening** help or ultimately harm **Native American** tribes?
33. Which had the greater impact on **Native American** culture, the **horse** or the **gun**?
34. Was the colony of **Roanoke** destroyed by nearby Native Americans?
35. Did **Wahunsonacock** destroy his people by allying with the English colonists?
36. If **Metacom's** had been able to create an alliance of tribes would his rebellion have been successful?
37. Would **Native Americans** have been better off if the French had won the **French and Indian War**?
38. Who were the worst in their dealings with **Native Americans**: the **French**, the **Spanish**, the **Dutch**, or the **English** (Americans)?
39. Did the United States follow the **1st Amendment** in regards to **Native Americans**, specifically freedom of religion?

JUNIOR TOPICS – AFRICAN AMERICAN TOPICS

- 1) How did *Brown v. Board of Education* impact the Civil Rights Movement?
- 2) Did the *American Revolution* improve or make worse the *lives of slaves* in what would become the United States?
- 3) Did the U.S. Government have legal right to prosecute the men and women aboard the *Amistad* for murder and mutiny?
- 4) Did the *Kansas-Nebraska Act* cause the Civil War to happen prematurely?
- 5) Did the *Compromise of 1850* make the Civil War inevitable?
- 6) Is the *Civil Rights Act of 1964* a just and necessary means to combat racial discrimination in the South?
- 7) Should *Harlem Renaissance* writers and artists primarily seek to integrate with mainstream culture and advance the political goals of the civil rights establishment through their works?
- 8) Did the *black power movement's* message get lost in their methods?
- 9) Was *affirmative action* decrease or increase inequality in the United States?
- 10) Did the judgment in *Plessy v. Ferguson* invalidate the *Civil Rights Act of 1873*?
- 11) Compare the leadership styles of *Martin Luther King, Jr.* and *Malcolm X*, which leader was most effective?

JUNIOR TOPICS – ASIAN AMERICAN TOPICS

- 1) Was the *relocation of Japanese Americans* from the West Coast during WWII necessary to ensure U.S. security against Japan?
- 2) Was the *Chinese Exclusion Act*, which barred Chinese from immigrating to the United States, a violation of the recently passed Civil Rights Amendments (13, 14, 15)?
- 3) Was the *McCarran-Walter Act* an equitable means of determining immigration quotas?
- 4) Was the *Chinese American Citizens Alliance* necessary to protect the rights and freedoms of Chinese Americans?
- 5) Were the *1905 Chinese Boycotts* of American goods effective in changing American policy?
- 6) How did the *Geary Act* reflect American attitudes toward Chinese immigrants?

JUNIOR TOPICS – HISPANIC AMERICAN TOPICS

- 1) Is the government doing enough to protect *migrant farm workers*?
- 2) Should the United States have allowed the *Marielitos* from *Cuba* to emigrate to the U.S.?
- 3) Should *Puerto Rico* remain a U.S. Territory or should it become a state?
- 4) Did the United States enter the *Mexican-American War* as a means of seizing Mexican territory?
- 5) Was the *Mexican "Repatriation" of the 1930's* constitutional?
- 6) Should *refugees* fleeing *economic* crisis rather than *political* instability be allowed asylum in the United States (for example Central America in the 1980's, Haiti, etc.)
- 7) Did the *bracero* program of WWII and the 1950's create the current immigration controversy within the United States?
- 8) Do *ethnic restrictions on immigration* violate the provisions of the constitution, specifically, equal protection under the law?
- 9) Is the different treatment afforded *Cuban refugees* and other *Central American refugees* ethical and legal?