

- When European settlers first arrived in Canada, relationships between them and the First Nations' peoples they encountered were formed around the _____.
- French and British traders competed with one another to form these trading relationships.
- Indigenous peoples used the _____ between the British and French to their advantage resulting in them frequently demanding, and receiving, better terms and goods in exchange for their partnership.
- European settlers sought out furs from First Nations people, while First Nations people sought out European goods such as metal goods, _____ and weapons.
- The primary unit of currency in the fur trade was one _____.
- A made-beaver was a prime beaver pelt that had been worn until most of the beaver's long _____ had been worn off.
- As the French had originally established themselves in the St. Lawrence River region, their primary First Nations contact was with the _____.
- When the British established their trading forts along Hudson and James Bay, their primary First Nations contact was with the _____ (Swampy Cree) and the Nakota (Assiniboine) until the 1720s.
- Using their preexisting trading alliances, the Ininimowin and Nakota were able to control the _____ in the areas surrounding the HBC posts for decades.
- These First Nations groups served as _____ in the fur trade, Travelling inland to trade for furs with different First Nations' peoples and then transporting those furs to the HBC trading forts.
- One of the main travel routes was the Saskatchewan River, which would allow these First Nations traders to travel as far as the Rocky Mountains and trade with such groups as the Blackfoot, _____ and Plains Cree.
- Over time, many of these middlemen would settle in the areas around HBC trading forts with their families. These would come to be known as the _____.
- Some First Nations people worked directly for the traders, hunting, paddling supply canoes, and making _____.
- As the network of trading forts expanded across the west, the role of the _____ faded as First Nations peoples could trade directly with the HBC.
- In later years, as the HBC ventured out further and further from the Bay, the _____ would supply European traders with food and other supplies.
- Despite the Treaty of Utrecht granting the HBC sole trading rights in Rupert's Land, the desire for more pelts caused French voyageurs to continue their travels further and further _____.
- As a result, with each passing year there were more and more European trappers and traders spending their _____ in and around First Nations communities. Each spring they would transport their accumulated furs to their respective ports. The French to Montreal, and the HBC to Hudson Bay, and each time they would return to the First Nations communities they traded with.

- Unlike their HBC counterparts, who were forbidden from having relationships with First Nations women, many of the French voyageurs took First Nations women as _____ in a formal process known as the *custom of the country*.
- Many First Nations peoples had a history of building alliances and relationships with other tribes through _____, so the practice was easily adapted and accepted with European trappers.
- French authorities accepted and encouraged such relationships as they believed it would strengthen their trade relationships with First Nations peoples as well as encourage First Nations wives and their children to adopt _____ ways of life, including their language, religion and culture.
- This process was known as _____.
- This process of acculturation worked both ways, as many of the French traders adopted the ways of life and _____ of their First Nations wives.
- In time, a new culture people arose from these unions: the _____.
- Metis children were raised with elements of both First Nations and French cultures and were immersed in the _____ culture and economy.
- Even though HBC employees were forbidden from marrying First Nations women, due to the company's concern about the _____ of supporting such families, many HBC employees did marry First Nations women.
- These families often settled around the HBC forts, with many becoming part of the home guard. The children of such marriages were known as _____. These families too, developed a distinct culture apart from First Nations, European and even Metis cultures.
- While many of the European men (especially French voyageurs) would eventually retire to live with their First Nations wife, children and their wife's extended family, many would only stay with their First Nations wives only so long as they were posted in the Northwest returning home to _____ alone, while still others would bring their First Nations wives to Britain when they retired from the fur trade.
- First Nations women were _____ to the fur trade in the northwest. Far from home, First Nations women offered companionship and kinship relationships with First Nations communities that helped to serve the fur trade, as trade could not occur in an indigenous context without a relationship existing between both parties.
- These women provided their husbands with valuable knowledge of how to survive in North America, as well as having _____ of the peoples and geography of the regions they lived in.
- They would serve as _____ and intermediaries between trading post clerks and their home communities.
- They would also _____ with their husbands, helping paddle, serving as guides, providing food, preparing furs and gathering supplies for repairing canoes.

- The lives of many of the First Nations wives of European fur traders was similar to their _____ ways of life. They raised their children, made moccasins, netted snowshoes, cleaned and tanned pelts, snared rabbits and small game, collected berries and other food from the land, tended gardens, fished, dried fish, and made pemmican (a food made of dried bison meat mixed with fat and sometimes berries).
- _____ had long been a staple in the diet of many First Nations communities, and it would become the main food for fur traders be they First Nations, Metis or European.
- The vast majority of people in the past are unknown to us today, this is especially true of women, but not all. One example of a First Nations woman known to us due to her historical significance is _____, a Dene woman born in northern Manitoba in the late 1690s.
- Thanadelthur had been captured by the _____ in 1713 during a raid on the Dene due to the fierce competition between the two groups in the fur trade. She managed to escape in 1714 and made her way to York Factory.
- The chief factor of _____, James Knight, felt that if peace could be established between the Dene and the Ininiw it would be good for the fur trade.
- Accompanied by Thanadelthur, who served as a translator, and 150 Ininiw _____, Knight journeyed more than 1000km to meet with the Dene people. Thanadelthur played a pivotal role in negotiating a peace between the Dene and the Ininimowin.
- This peace led to the building a HBC trading fort to serve the Dene peoples at present-day _____, Manitoba.
- While the presence of European trappers and traders brought wealth to some First Nations communities in the form of European metal goods, weapons and textiles; they also brought with them conflict, alcohol and _____.
- Diseases such as smallpox, measles, _____ and scarlet fever were unknown of in North America prior to the arrival of Europeans. As such First Nations peoples had no means of protecting themselves from such illnesses.
- First Nations peoples around the Atlantic coast and the Great Lakes had been _____ by these diseases, but with few direct contacts with Europeans, the First Nations peoples out west were spared. That is until the fur trade began to expand westward.
- From 1780 to 1784 a major _____ epidemic spread throughout the First Nations communities of the West. Entire communities were wiped out, while others were left so weakened that they were no longer able to care for themselves.
- Just as what happened with those First Nations communities in and around the Great Lakes, the uneven distribution of _____ among First Nations communities led to deadly conflicts between them.

- As _____ for the HBC the Inninimowin and Nakota were among the first groups of First Nations people to receive firearms from the HBC in the West. As a result, they used these weapons to push back other First Nations peoples, taking their territory as a means of securing their position in the fur trade as HBC middlemen.
- This led to conflict between the Inninimowin and the Dene to the north, during which the Inninimowin used the advantage _____ gave them to secure their position as middlemen between the Dene and the HBC.
- _____ too became a very serious problem for First Nations peoples brought to them by European traders.
- As the fur trade developed, expanded and persisted, many First Nations peoples found that they no longer _____ to trade with the voyageurs or the HBC. They had already received everything they needed from the Europeans. They did not need more pots, or knives or blankets. As such their need to provide furs to the Europeans began to wane.
- To keep the flow of furs coming in, many traders turned to alcohol as a trade good. It was highly addictive and _____, which meant that First Nations peoples would need to continue the fur trade if they were to receive the alcohol they were now addicted to.

Formative Assessment 3

1. Thinking in terms of continuity and change, how do you think the cultures of the home guard were affected as they people began living in permanent or semi-permanent villages near the HBC forts? How do you think their cultures changed, and how they remained the same?
2. What does the information in the chart provided tell you about the changes in the lives of First Nations people during this period?
3. Thinking in terms of an ethical perspective, was the introduction of alcohol as a trade good, positive, negative or neutral? Why?

