

Viewing Guide for PBS's***The War of 1812*****Parts 1- 5****Introduction**

1. Identify three individuals who were on the British side in the War of 1812 and would gain mythological status in the years after the war.
2. For what three things would the War of 1812 be best remembered in the US?
3. What was the most important outcome of the War of 1812?

1800-1810 - Prelude to War

4. Why did Britain want to stop all shipment of resources from reaching France by sea in the early years of the 19th century?
5. What demand did Britain place on all neutral ships trading with France in 1807?
6. Why had the Royal Navy impressed as many as 6000 sailors off American ships in the years prior to the War of 1812?
7. What happened between the HMS Leopard and USS Chesapeake in 1807?

1810-1811 - Calls to War

8. Who in the US supported the idea of going to war with Britain?
9. Who was William Henry Harrison?
10. Who was Tecumseh?
11. What conflicting goals did Harrison and Tecumseh have?
12. What happened at Prophetstown in November 1811?
13. What action did US President Madison take in response to the outrage along the frontier and amongst the War Hawks at the discovery of British arms in Prophetstown?

June 1812 - Declaration of War

14. Describe the various reactions to Congress's declaration of war on June 04, 1812.
15. What happened in Baltimore after war was declared?
16. What error did the US government make after it declared war?
17. What happened at Fort Mackinac in July 1812?
18. Why was this significant?

Summer 1812 - The Americans Invade

19. What realities did the US ignore when it planned three invasions of Canada in the summer of 1812?

20. What advantages and disadvantages did the British have in Canada in 1812?

21. Compare the forces the British had at their disposal to the American invader's forces?

22. Who was William Hull?

23. Why did the British General Brock and the Shawnee War Chief Tecumseh get along so well?

24. What happened at Detroit in August 1812?

25. Who was Stephen Van Rensselaer?

26. What problems faced him when he attempted to move his troops across the Niagara River in October 1812?

27. Why were the Americans forced to abandon Queenston Heights after the Mohawk began their counterattack?

28. Who was Henry Dearborn?

29. What action did he commence in November 1812? With what result?

Viewing Guide for PBS's

The War of 1812

Parts 1- 5

Introduction

1. (00202) Identify three individuals who were on the British side in the War of 1812 and would gain mythological status in the years after the war. *General Isaac Brock, Canadian housewife Laura Secord, and Shawnee War Chief Tecumseh.*
2. (00222) For what three things would the War of 1812 be best remembered in the US? *Old Ironsides, the slogan "Don't give up the ship", and the Star Spangled Banner.*
3. (00250) What was the most important outcome of the War of 1812? *It would shape how North America would develop in the decades after.*

1800-1810 - Prelude to War

4. (00430) Why did Britain want to stop all shipment of resources from reaching France by sea in the early years of the 19th century? *To deny resources to Napoleon and his allies in the war between Britain and France.*
5. (00520) What demand did Britain place on all neutral ships trading with France in 1807? *That all neutral ships trading with France stop in a British port and pay a duty or be considered hostile.*
6. (00550) Why had the Royal Navy impressed as many as 6000 sailors off American ships in the years prior to the War of 1812? *Needed 10000 to 15000 men per year to replace losses among the 120,000 men serving on the ships in its navy.*
7. (00620) What happened between the HMS Leopard and USS Chesapeake in 1807? *May include: The Leopard demanded that four of the Chesapeake's crew be surrendered as deserters; Chesapeake refused; Leopard opened fire with little warning and forced the Chesapeake to surrender; the four sailors were then seized.*

1810-1811 - Calls to War

8. (00750) Who in the US supported the idea of going to war with Britain? *Varied - may include: younger politicians like Henry Clay (of Kentucky) and John Calhoun (South Carolina) who felt war was needed to preserve American honour in the face of British insults; Republicans from the centre and south who wanted to seize land from the Indians and in Canada; the War Hawks.*
9. (00835) Who was William Henry Harrison? *Varied - may include: Governor of the Indiana Territory; was actively trying to annex Indian lands in the west - established treaties by which western tribes gave up more than 100,000,000 acres in the Ohio Valley.*

10. (00858) Who was Tecumseh? *Varied - may include: Shawnee war chief who refused to give up lands; a fierce warrior who was still compassionate; refused to make war on women and children.*
11. (01145) What conflicting goals did Harrison and Tecumseh have? *Tecumseh envisaged an Indian confederacy stretching from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico; Harrison saw America's destiny in westward expansion.*
12. (01208) What happened at Prophetstown in November 1811? *Harrison and his 1000 man force were poised to attack Tecumseh's village during his absence when they were attacked by warriors from Prophetstown in the early hours of Nov 27. Harrison would rally his force and the warriors would retreat. Harrison's force burned the village and mutilated their foe; they also found British weapons.*
13. (01500) What action did US President Madison take in response to the outrage along the frontier and amongst the War Hawks at the discovery of British arms in Prophetstown? *Sent a message to both Houses of Congress outlining all the US's grievance with Britain and asking them to decide what action to take.*

June 1812 - Declaration of War

14. (01528) Describe the various reactions to Congress's declaration of war on June 04, 1812. *Various - may include: (01610) Britain - unwelcome: the King is insane, she's at war with Napoleon, and the PM has been shot and killed in Parliament; (01626) Canada - little enthusiasm, knew invasion would follow; (01714) the West - pleased; (01718) New England states - stores closed, flags hung at half masts and church bells tolled in mourning.*
15. (01830) What happened in Baltimore after war was declared? *May include: a mob attacked a newspaper editor who questioned the preparedness of the US to wage war; he and his supporters were taken by the mob from the jail where they were supposedly in protective custody and beaten and some killed.*
16. (02000) What error did the US government make after it declared war? *Sent word of the war to its forces by the post which gave time for the British to take action and catch the American frontier forts by surprise.*
17. (02045) What happened at Fort Mackinac in July 1812? *British surprised the Americans manning this fort, demanded and received their surrender.*
18. (02100) Why was this significant? *It gave the British control of the junction between Lakes Michigan and Huron and even Lake Superior.*

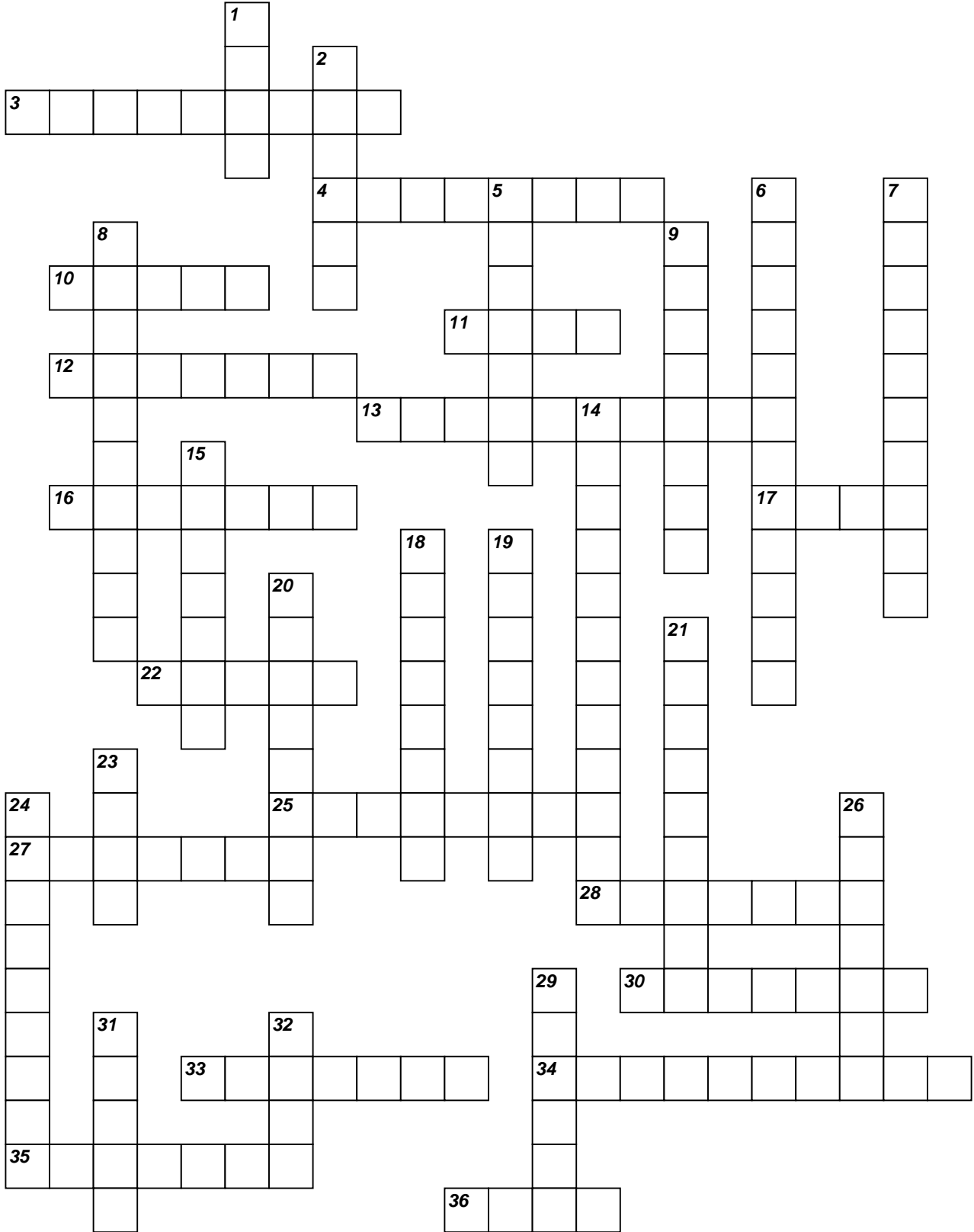
Summer 1812 - The Americans Invade

19. (02150) What realities did the US ignore when it planned three invasions of Canada in the summer of 1812? *No roads; transportation was by water; the British held the St. Lawrence; towns on the frontier were out of touch with each other; no communications between the three US invasion forces.*
20. (02210) What advantages and disadvantages did the British have in Canada in 1812? *Advantages included good planning and leaders (e.g. George Prevost and Isaac Brock); disadvantages included large territory, small population and no strong fortifications.*
21. (02435) Compare the forces the British had at their disposal to the American invader's forces? *British - a professional force of 1200 regulars - mainly veterans of the European war - supported by militia and Indian warriors - good generals; Americans: ill-trained militia with more loyalty to their state than the nation - poor generals.*

22. (02700) Who was William Hull? *Varied - may include: a 58 year old veteran of the Revolutionary War who was way past his prime; accepted a generalship and command of one of the invasion forces of Canada; had many misgivings and little chance of success; had a great fear of Indians.*
23. (02915) Why did the British General Brock and the Shawnee War Chief Tecumseh get along so well? *Varied - may include: both were charismatic leaders; both had been "professional" soldiers since their teens; both had lost kin to the Americans - Brock's older brother in the American Revolution, Tecumseh's brothers and father.*
24. (02940) What happened at Detroit in August 1812? *Varied - should include details of Brock's attack and how he used his Indian allies to play on Hull's fears of the Indians and persuade him to surrender with little fighting.*
25. (03455) Who was Stephen Van Rensselaer? *Varied - the general in charge of the second invasion attempt in October 1812; one of the richest men in the US; an honourable man but with no military experience.*
26. (03445) What problems faced him when he attempted to move his troops across the Niagara River in October 1812? *Varied - difficult river to cross, especially in the early dawn; no experienced boatmen; only had 13 boats to transport 100s of troops; the British commanded the heights above the crossing.*
27. (03700) Why were the Americans forced to abandon Queenston Heights after the Mohawk began their counterattack? *Varied - caught by surprise; the militia were unwilling to cross the river to come to the aid of their fellows on the Heights because they were afraid of the Indians.*
28. (03830) Who was Henry Dearborn? *Varied - Revolutionary War veteran who had served with Benedict Arnold in his invasion of Canada and later under George Washington; he was conservative, sickly and aging at this point in his life; referred to as "Granny Dearborn" by some of his officers.*
29. (03850) What action did he commence in November 1812? With what result? *Varied - may include: sent out 4000 men to march down the St. Lawrence River in two columns; confusion reigned and units opened fire on each other; two-thirds of his militia refused to cross the border - and he called off the invasion.*

PBS's The War of 1812

Parts 1 - 5 (A)



PBS's The War of 1812

Parts 1 - 5 (A)

ACROSS

- 3 Steven van Rensselaer led the second invasion of Canada in October 1812 which culminated in a battle at _____.
- 4 This aging Revolutionary War veteran led the November 1812 invasion of Canada which was intended to march down the St. Lawrence and capture Montreal.
- 10 This British General would achieve mythological status in Canada for his part in the War of 1812.
- 11 The hymn "_____ Spangled Banner" was one of the few things remembered about the War of 1812 in the US.
- 12 A young politician from Kentucky who felt that war with Britain was necessary to preserve American honour in the face of British actions such as those of HMS Leopard..
- 13 In 1807 this US frigate was forced to surrender and give up four of its crew to HMS Leopard after the Leopard opened fire without warning.
- 16 In June 1812 this President would ask Congress what action the US should take in light of all its grievances with Britain.
- 17 British General Wellington once described Britain's soldiers as the "_____ of the earth" but acknowledged they were professionals!
- 22 This British general would prove to be a very good combat commander in the British war effort in Canada.
- 25 He led France in a world war between France and Britain in the early years of the 19th century.
- 27 They formed the American's fighting forces at the start of the War of 1812.
- 28 This British ship forced a US frigate to surrender four of its crew in 1807.
- 30 In 1807 Britain demanded all _____ ships trading with France first land in Britain and pay a tax or be considered hostile.
- 33 This British commander would prove to be a very good planner in the British war effort in Canada.
- 34 (2 words) Many in these US states were not pleased by the declaration of war on Britain.
- 35 Brock and Tecumseh captured this American fort in August 1812.
- 36 A young politician from Kentucky who felt that war with Britain was necessary to preserve American honour in the face of British policies such as impressment.

DOWN

- 1 The US government sent word of the Declaration of War to its forces on the frontier by _____.
- 2 Two thirds of the soldiers in General Dearborn's November 1812 invasion of Canada refused to cross the Canadian _____.
- 5 They controlled the transportation of goods along the frontier at the start of the war in 1812.
- 6 William Harrison led a 1000 man force to attack and destroy this Indian town in Indiana.
- 7 These American troops refused to cross the Niagara River and come to the aid of the regular American soldiers fighting on Queenston Heights.
- 8 (2 words) Tecumseh envisaged an Indian confederacy stretching from the _____ to the Gulf of Mexico.
- 9 (2 words) A group of Americans who supported war to seize land from the Indians and in Canada.
- 14 In 1812 Britain had a huge _____ army - in Europe.

PBS's The War of 1812

Parts 1 - 5 (A)

- 15** The October 1812 American invasion force chose to cross this river below Queenston Heights.
- 18** He negotiated treaties with western Indian chiefs by which the US gained title to more than 100 million acres in the Ohio River Valley.
- 19** This Shawnee War Chief would achieve mythological status in the US for his part in the War of 1812.
- 20** The British captured this strategic US fort at the junction of Lakes Huron and Michigan in July 1812.
- 21** A newspaper editor in this city was severely beaten after he questioned the war in June 1812.
- 23** This Revolutionary War veteran was given command of one of the invasions of the Niagara Peninsula in 1812.
- 24** The Royal Navy _____ American sailors in the years prior to the War of 1812.
- 26** William Harrison was the governor of this territory prior to the start of the War of 1812.
- 29** The British colonies in _____ had little enthusiasm for war in 1812 because they knew they would be invaded.
- 31** The War of 1812 would shape the development of _____ America.
- 32** Harrison saw America's destiny in expansion to the _____.

PBS's The War of 1812

Parts 1 - 5 (A)

Solution:

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14 P
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15 N
16 M A D I S O N
17 S C U M M E N
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33 P R E V O S T
34 N E W E N G L A N D
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35 D E T R O I T
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36 C L A Y