## Cornell Notes

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| **Unit:**  **Topic:** | |
| New words:  Places Mentioned:  Dates Mentioned:  People Mentioned: | NOTES:   * In 1789, France had a revolution – It had violently dethroned its monarch – Louis the 16th. He and his queen, Marie Antoinette, were beheaded by Guillotine. * France changed from a Monarchy to a **Republic** – *a system of government that does not have a monarch (usually a democracy).* * This made many monarchs in Europe very nervous (including Britain’s monarch, King George III) * Many of the European countries ruled by monarchs (which included most European countries at the time) eventually went to war with France. * Napoleon was a French general who was very successful in defending the French republic. * He is known for being a military genius, a great leader, and a strong cultural figure and icon * Although originally a supporter of a French republic, in 1804, he crowned himself Napoleon I – Emperor of France. * He continued to dominate Europe, eventually taking control of most of the continent. * In 1812, the Napoleonic Wars triggered a conflict in North America. * As part of its war against France, Britain shut down trade between France and the US. * It blocked American ships from landing at French ports. * The British Navy began to board American ships looking for British deserters. * To retaliate, the US declared war on the closest piece of British controlled territory in 1812 – British North America (Canada). * In 1811(the year leading up to the war), Upper Canada’s newly appointed administrator and head of military as well as civilian affairs, Major General Sir Isaac Brock knew that British North America was outnumbered by the Americans – because of this, he began to make some necessary changes to the military. * He began to enhance training for soldiers and he made it so that all volunteers could be available at the same time – increasing the total numbers of soldiers. * He continued to strengthen and reinforce defences across Upper and Lower Canada, such as building a new fortified wall around Quebec and increasing the naval presence in the Great Lakes (among other things). * Brock also made it a priority to establish relationships with various First Nations in an attempt to make them allies with the British. * For a short time, he worked closely with the important First Nations Leader, Tecumseh * Tecumseh was the leader of the Shawnee First Nation. * He, as well as many other First Nations leaders, felt that the Americans were far more interested in controlling land than working “with” the First Nations Peoples. They largely feared that they would be driven from their land. * When the war began, he decided to side with the British, and he was also largely responsible for organizing many First Nations to support the British against the Americans. * Read a copy of a speech that he gave to the Osages First Nation during the winter of 1811-1812 – on page 194 in the textbook. * By 1812, the population of Upper Canada included many American-born settlers. Some were United Empire Loyalists, but many were immigrants from the US who had come due to lower taxes and vast amounts of land that were available – they were not necessarily loyal to Britain. * The Americans hoped that the people living in British North America would not oppose their takeover plans. They also hoped that the French “Canadiens” from Lower Canada would join them and rise against their British rulers. * Read Page 191 in text – General William Hull’s proclamation. * Some American settlers in Upper Canada did choose to support the US invasion, but many others decided to not take sides in the conflict and thus did not side with the US. * Most American born settlers were far more concerned with the damage to their land. * Many Canadiens decided to fight for Britain – to the surprise of the Americans - the Catholic Church supported the idea of a Monarchy and thus opposed the idea of the American Republican Government. * In one of the key battles, the Canadien militia, called the Voltigeurs, aided the British and fought off an American attack on Montreal. Montreal was a crutial supply and communications link between Upper and Lower Canada - if the Americans had won this battle, they may have won the war. * After a number of battles the war ended in a stalemate in 1815. With the help of the Canadiens, and the First Nations (and even the American Immigrants to some degree), the British were able to defend British North America from American invasion. * Both sides were quite evenly matched, and neither side really won the war – thus none of the original issues that caused the war in the first place were resolved. Neither side had any reason to continue or any chance of gaining a decisive success which would make the other side want to give up territory. * As a result of this stalemate, the US and Britain came to terms through the Treaty of Ghent - December 1814. * News of the peace treaty took two months to reach North America during which time fighting continued. * The Napoleonic wars came to an end in 1815 with Napoleon’s defeat at Waterloo, Belgium. |
| Summary: | |

**Works Cited:**