

Quebec's Independence Movement

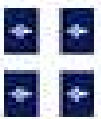
Standards

SS6H5 The student will analyze important contemporary issues in Canada.

a. Describe Quebec's independence movement.

Teachers

Print out the following slide for each student. They should complete the graphic organizer during the presentation.



Quebec's Independence Movement

1. Why is Quebec important to Canada's economy?
2. What is the official language of Quebec? What percentage of Quebec's population speaks this language?
3. Which 2 European countries originally colonized Canada?
4. During the 1900s, which branch of Christianity were most French Canadians? British Canadians? French Canadians –
British Canadians –
5. In the early 1900s, French Canadians moved to big cities in order to find jobs. What language did they have to learn to speak in these cities?
6. What is the main reason why Quebecois want to separate from the rest of Canada?


7. Fill in the chart below with 2 facts in each box about whether or not the Quebecois should separate from the rest of Canada.

Yes—Separate from Canada!	No—Don't Separate from Canada!

8. What were the results of both of the votes on Quebec seceding from Canada?
9. Why does Canada's government not want Quebec to become independent?
A.
B.
C.



10. What are 2 things that Canada's government has done in order to keep Quebecois happy?
A.
B.



Quebec's Independence Movement



Province of Quebec

- Quebec is located in eastern Canada.
- A large part of Canadian industry is centered in Quebec.
 - Many electronics and computer factories are based here.
- French is the official language of business and government in Quebec.
 - 81% of the people speak French as their 1st language.



History Review

- Canada was originally colonized by the French (fur trade).
- Great Britain wanted part of the fur trade, so they fought & won the French and Indian War.
 - They divided Canada into Upper Canada (British) and Lower Canada (French).
 - “Lower Canada” is now called Quebec.
- Canada was united in 1867 with the British North America Act.
 - Quebec is still predominately French.

Early 1900s

- Most French Canadian families had been living in Quebec for hundreds of years.
- They spoke French & had a different culture than English-speaking Canadians.
 - The majority lived on farms and rarely left their villages.
- Most French Canadians were Catholic, while the majority of British Canadians were Protestant.



A Separate Quebec

- The idea of a separate French Canada spread slowly.
- At first, most French Canadians did not think that Quebec needed independence just to be French.
 - By the 1960s, however, thinking had changed...
- Many French Canadians had become Quebec nationalists & thought of themselves as Quebecois, not Canadians.

A Separate Quebec

- By this time, Quebec had changed in many ways...
- Growing populations pushed into farmlands and rural people grew poor.
 - Many chose to leave farms and move to cities.
- Their lives were very different now.
 - They stopped going to Catholic churches.
 - They no longer led a traditional lifestyle.
 - English was spoken in most cities, while French was not.



Independence

- Many French Canadians felt that their language and culture might disappear.
 - French culture was overwhelmed by English.
 - They were tired of feeling like second-class citizens in their own country.
- Most started to think that Quebec should secede from Canada (be independent).
 - Separatists--want Quebec to “separate” from Canada.



Separating - Pros

- Those who support Quebec separatism want:
 - to protect French language and culture
 - to be treated as equals with English-speaking Canadians
 - other Canadians to respect French language and culture
 - to preserve French Canadian culture for future generations

Separating - Cons

- Those who oppose Quebec separatism argue that separatism would:
 - result in economic disaster for Quebec,
 - Ruin national unity and pride, &
 - Make the rest of Canada lose all of Quebec's natural resources.

Let the People Vote

- In 1980 & 1995, the people of Quebec voted whether or not to secede.
 - Both votes were **in favor of staying Canadian.**
 - Last vote--49.4% voted to secede and 50.6% voted to stay Canadian...wow!
- Close results showed that the relationship between Quebec and the rest of Canada will continue to be a controversial issue.

What Now?

- Canada's government does not want to allow Quebec to separate from Canada because Quebec:
 - Is a huge economic help to country,
 - Is rich in natural resources, &
 - Has access to many waterways (shipping & trade).
- The government has made several reforms in an attempt to keep separatists happy.

Reforms

- Canada's government has passed several laws to help Quebec's citizens preserve their language and culture.
- In 1982, the Constitution Act made Canada bilingual.
 - 1. Two official languages (English & French)
 - 2. All government documents must be written in French & English

In Quebec Today...

- French is the only official language.
 - English may be used in advertising, but it must be placed after the French words, and it must be smaller font.
- Some people are happy with these changes, but other people still believe that Quebec should be independent from the rest of Canada.

Political Cartoon Analysis

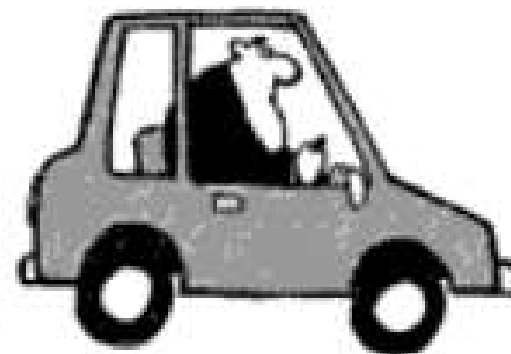
Visuals		Words	
1. List the objects or people you see in the cartoon.		1. Identify the cartoon caption or title:	
		2. Record any important words or dates that appear in the cartoon.	
2. Which of the objects in your list (above) are symbols?		3. Which words in the cartoon appear to be the most significant? Why do you think this is so?	
3. What do you think each symbol means?		4. List some adjectives that describe the emotions portrayed in the cartoon.	
Questions to Consider:			
A. Describe the action taking place in the cartoon:			
B. Explain the message of the cartoon:			
C. What group would agree with the cartoon's message? Why?			
D. What group would disagree with the cartoon's message? Why?			

Q: WHAT ARE THE SIMILARITIES?

KAL SIDE
1998

A

BARK BARK BARK



B



QUEBEC
SOVEREIGNTY
NOW

A: NEITHER HAS A CLUE
WHAT THEY'D DO IF
THEY ACTUALLY GOT IT.

Two Viewpoints

1. On the **left** lens of the glasses, write two reasons why the Quebecois would **want to separate** from Canada and create their own country. *Include an illustration that represents this viewpoint.
2. On the **right** lens of the glasses, write two reasons why the Quebecois **would NOT want to separate** from Canada. *Include an illustration that represents this viewpoint.
3. Color your glasses. Please do not leave any white space on your paper!
4. Cut out your glasses and turn them in. 😊



Teachers

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