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A. 8.43 Explain the causes and consequences of the War of 1812, including major battles, leaders, events and role of Tennessee (E,H,P,TN)

YouTube Video: This is the War of 1812

Unit of the War of 1812 by Mr. Nussbaum — http://mrnussbaum.com/war1812/

War of 1812 Timeline – http://www.warof1812.net/

The United States underwent dramatic changes during the period of Democratic-Republican (also called Jeffersonian Republican, or simply Republican) political leadership in the first decades of the 19th century. The republic’s expansion to the west and renewed military conflict with Indian nations and Great Britain each posed a fundamental challenge to the fragile new republic. All three of these factors played a role in the coming of the War of 1812.
Although the war itself had no decisive outcome, it did serve as a turning point in the history of the young republic. The United States survived a second war with its former colonial ruler and in the process called forth a national effort that helped Americans from distinct regions pull closer together. The war years also led to the final disintegration of the Federalists, whose strength in New England, which, to many, indicated a regional loyalty in conflict with national sentiments given new importance by the war.

( Pictured Above: At the start of the 19th century, much of North America had yet to become a part of the United States.)

The United States developed in a more distinctly American fashion after the War of 1812. The years of the early republic, from the end of the Revolutionary war in 1783 to the end of what is sometimes called the SECOND WAR FOR AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE in 1815, had itself been a period of enormous change that included dramatic political innovations of state and federal constitutions as well as the surge of western settlement. America was growing up.

CAUSES FOR WAR!!!
• Impressment: Britain claimed the right to take any British sailors serving on American merchant ships. In practice, the British took many American sailors and forced them to serve on British ships. This was nothing short of kidnapping.

What does "impressment mean?"

Impressment, colloquially, "the press" or the "press gang", refers to the act of taking men into a navy by force and with or without notice. Navies of several nations used forced recruitment by various means. The large size of the British Royal Navy in the Age of Sail meant impressment was most commonly associated with Britain. It was used by the Royal Navy in wartime, beginning in 1664 and during the 18th and early 19th centuries as a means of crewing warships, although legal sanction for the practice goes back to the time of Edward I of England. The Royal Navy impressed many merchant sailors, as well as some sailors from other nations. People liable to impressment were "eligible men of seafaring habits between the ages of 18 and 55 years". Non-seamen were impressed as well, though rarely.

Impressment was strongly criticized by those who believed it to be contrary to the British constitution; at the time, unlike many of its continental rivals, British subjects were not subject to conscription for any other military service, aside from a brief experiment with army impressment in 1778 to 1780. Though the public opposed conscription in general, impressment was repeatedly upheld by the courts, as it was deemed vital to the strength of the navy and, by extension, to the survival of the realm.

Impressment was essentially a Royal Navy practice, reflecting the size of the British fleet and its substantial manpower demands. While other European navies applied forced recruitment in time of war this was generally as an extension of the practice of formal conscription applied to most European armies from the Napoleonic Wars on. The U.S. Continental Navy did however apply a form of impressment during the American War of Independence.

The impressment of seamen from American ships caused serious tensions between Britain and the United States in the years leading up to the War of 1812. After the defeat of Napoleon in 1814, Britain ended the practice and has never resumed it.

Additional causes of the War of 1812

• In 1807, The British ship Leopard fired on the American frigate Chesapeake. Other American merchant ships came under harassment from the British navy.
• War Hawks in Congress pushed for the conflict.

But the United States was not really ready for war. The Americans hoped to get a jump on the British by conquering Canada in the campaigns of 1812 and 1813. Initial plans called for a three-pronged offensive: from LAKE CHAMPLAIN to Montreal; across the Niagara frontier; and into Upper Canada from Detroit.
War Hawks

What was a War Hawk?

A war hawk, or simply hawk for short, is a term used in politics for someone favoring war in a debate over whether to go to war, or whether to continue or escalate an existing war. War hawks are the opposite of doves. The terms are derived by analogy with the birds of the same name: hawks are predators that attack and eat other animals, whereas doves mostly eat seeds and fruit and are historically a symbol of peace.

The term originated in the run-up to the War of 1812 with the "War Hawks", who consisted of Democratic-Republicans and were primarily from southern and western states. (The American West then consisted of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Ohio, as well as territories in the Northwest Territory that did not yet have votes in Congress.) Largely from the older block of the Congress and encompassing most Republicans, the War Hawks advocated going to war against Britain for reasons related to the interference of the Royal Navy in American shipping, which the War Hawks believed hurt the American economy and injured American prestige, although that did not directly affect the land-locked states. Of more direct concern to them, War Hawks from the western states also believed that the British were instigating American Indians on the frontier to attack American settlements, and so the War Hawks called for an invasion of British Canada to punish the British and end this threat.

War Hawks - The War of 1812

http://collections.libraries.iub.edu/warof1812/exhibits/show/warof1812/before/war-hawks

While western movement and policies were reshaping the republic, European wars also presented a major challenge to the new country. The Napoleonic Wars (1802-1815) were a continuation of the conflict begun in the 1790s when Great Britain lead a coalition of European powers against Revolutionary France, though France was now led by the brilliant military strategist Napoleon Bonaparte. As had also been true in the 1790s, neither European superpower respected the neutrality of the United States. Instead, both tried to prevent U.S. ships from carrying goods to their enemy. Both Britain and France imposed blockades to limit American merchants, though the dominant British navy was clearly more successful.

In response to this denial of American sovereignty, President Jefferson and his secretary of state James Madison crafted an imaginative, but fundamentally flawed, policy of economic coercion. Their embargo of 1807 prevented U.S. ships from any trade with Europe in the belief that dependence on American goods would soon force France and England to honor American neutrality. The plan backfired, however, as the Republican leaders failed to understand how deeply committed the superpowers were to carrying on their war despite its high costs.
The Embargo not only failed diplomatically, but also caused enormous domestic dissent. American shippers, who were primarily concentrated in Federalist New England, generally circumvented the unpopular law. Its toll was clearly marked in the sharp decline of American imports from 108 million dollars worth of goods in 1806 to just 22 million in 1808. This unsuccessful diplomatic strategy that mostly punished Americans helped to spur a Federalist revival in the elections of 1808 and 1812. Nevertheless, Republicans from Virginia continued to hold the presidency as James Madison replaced Jefferson in 1808.

Madison faced difficult circumstances in office with increasing Indian violence in the west and war-like conditions on the Atlantic. These combined to push him away from his policy of economic coercion toward an outright declaration of war. This intensification was favored by a group of westerners and southerners in Congress called "WAR HAWKS," who were led by HENRY CLAY of Kentucky and John C. Calhoun of South Carolina.

( Pictured Above: While serving as a Kentucky Representative to the Congress, Henry Clay was a leading "War Hawk," strongly in favor of going to war for a second time with Britain to ensure America’s place in the West.)

Most historians now agree that the WAR OF 1812 was "a western war with eastern labels." By this they mean that the real causes of the war stemmed from desire for control of western Indian lands and clear access to trade through New Orleans. Further, the issue of national sovereignty, so clearly denied by British rejection of American free trade on the Atlantic, provided a more honorable rationale for war. Even with the intense pressure of the War Hawks, the United States entered the war hesitantly and with especially strong opposition from Federalist New England. When Congress declared war in June 1812, its heavily divided votes (19 to 13 in the Senate and 79 to 49 in the House) suggest that the republic entered the war as a divided nation.

The Second War for American Independence

Brain Pop - Tecumseh  Tullahoma City Schools provides Brain Pop for TCS students and teachers.

https://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/famoushistoricalfigures/tecumseh/

Who was Tecumseh?

Tecumseh (/təˈkʌmsə/ KUM-sə; March 1768 – October 5, 1813) was a Native American leader of the Shawnee and a large tribal confederacy (known as Tecumseh's Confederacy) which opposed the United States during Tecumseh’s War and became an ally of Britain in the War of 1812.

Tecumseh grew up in the Ohio Country during the American Revolutionary War and the Northwest Indian War, where he was constantly exposed to warfare. With Americans continuing to move west after the British ceded the
Ohio Valley to the new United States in 1783, the Shawnee moved farther northwest. In 1808, they settled Prop
tetstown in present-day Indiana. With a vision of establishing an independent Native American nation east of
the Mississippi under British protection, Tecumseh worked to recruit additional tribes to the confederacy from the
southern United States.

During the War of 1812, Tecumseh’s confederacy allied with the British and helped in the capture of Fort Detroit
. Prior to the raid, Chief Tecumseh delivered a powerful speech upon a rock that is preserved to this day at Fort
Malden. After the U.S. Navy took control of Lake Erie in 1813, the Native Americans and British retreated.
American forces caught them at the Battle of the Thames, and killed Tecumseh in October 1813. With his death,
his confederation disintegrated, and the Native Americans had to move west again, yet Tecumseh became an iconic
folk hero in American, Aboriginal and Canadian history.

*Tecumseh and the Prophet*

Tecumseh and his brother were Shawnee Indians trying to unite the Indians into a confederation to gain strength. This
growing Indian force threatened American plans to move west and seemed especially dangerous since it received
economic and military support from the British in Canada. In November 1811 the U.S. destroyed Prophetstown
during the BATTLE OF TIPPECANOE, under the leadership of future president WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.
Tecumseh was away at the time recruiting southern Creeks to the confederacy. Outright military conflict with native
groups in the northwest preceded the formal declaration of war in 1812.


Tecumseh’s Curse by Mr. Hughes —— https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCGHwBf_b0Q

History Channel - Tecumseh —— http://www.history.com/topics/native-american-history/tecumseh

( Pictured Above: Tecumseh was a Native American leader of the Shawnee and a large tribal confederacy which opposed the United States during Tecumseh’s War and the War of 1812.)

The U.S. Congress was far from unanimous in its declaration of war. America’s initial invasion of Canada (then ruled by England) in the summer of 1812 was repulsed by Tecumseh and the British. The first American attacks were disjointed and failed. Detroit was surrendered to the British in August 1812. The Americans also lost the BATTLE OF QUEENSTON HEIGHTS in October. Nothing much happened along Lake Champlain and the American forces withdrew in late November. In 1813, the Americans tried an intricate attack on Montreal by a combined land and sea operation. That failed.

Most importantly, the governors of most New England states refused to allow their state militias to join a campaign beyond state boundaries. Similarly, a promising young Congressman from New Hampshire, DANIEL WEBSTER, actually discouraged enlistment in the U.S. army.

( Pictured Above: State militia in New England refused to go into national service during the War of 1812.)
One bright spot for the Americans was OLIVER HAZARD PERRY ‘s destruction of the BRITISH FLEET on Lake Erie in September 1813 that forced the British to flee from Detroit. The British were overtaken in October defeated at the battle of the Thames by Americans led by William Henry Harrison, the future President. It was here that the Shawnee chief, and British ally, Tecumseh fell.

Minor victories aside, things looked bleak for the Americans in 1814. The British were able to devote more men and ships to the American arena after having defeated Napoleon.

England conceived of a three-pronged attack focusing on controlling major waterways. Control of the Hudson River in New York would seal off New England; seizing New Orleans would seal up the Mississippi River and seriously disrupt the farmers and traders of the Midwest; and by attacking the Chesapeake Bay, the British hoped to threaten Washington, D.C. and put an end to the war and pressure the U.S. into ceding territory in a peace treaty.

**What was the Battle of Horseshoe Bend?**

The Battle of Horseshoe Bend — [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSshJelzNeY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSshJelzNeY)

The Battle of Horseshoe Bend (also known as Tehoepeka, Tohopeka, Cholocco Litabixbee, or The Horseshoe), was fought during the War of 1812 in the Mississippi Territory, now central Alabama. On March 27, 1814, United States forces and Indian allies under Major General Andrew Jackson defeated the Red Sticks, a part of the Creek Indian tribe who opposed American expansion, effectively ending the Creek War.

The Creek Indians of Georgia and the eastern part of the Mississippi Territory had become divided into two factions: the Upper Creeks (or Red Sticks), a majority who opposed American expansion and sided with the British and the colonial authorities of Spanish Florida during the War of 1812; and the Lower Creek, who were more assimilated into the Anglo culture, had a stronger relationship with the U.S. Indian Agent Benjamin Hawkins, and sought to remain on good terms with the Americans.

The Shawnee leader Tecumseh visited Creek and other Southeast Indian towns in 1811–1812 to recruit warriors to join his war against American territorial encroachment. The Red Sticks, young men who wanted to revive traditional
religious and cultural practices, were already forming, resisting assimilation. They began to raid American frontier settlements. When the Lower Creek helped U.S. forces to capture and punish leading raiders, the Lower Creek were punished in turn by the Red Sticks.

In 1813, militia troops intercepted a Red Stick party returning from obtaining arms in (Spanish colonial) Pensacola. While they were looting the material, the Red Sticks returned and defeated them, at what became known as the Battle of Burnt Corn. Red Sticks’ raiding of enemy settlements continued; and in August 1813 they attacked Fort Mims, in retaliation for the Burnt Corn attack.

After the Fort Mims massacre, frontier settlers appealed to the government for help. Since Federal military forces were committed to waging the War of 1812 against Great Britain, the governments of Tennessee, Georgia, and the Mississippi Territory organized militia forces, which together with Lower Creek and Cherokee allies, fought against the Red Sticks.

Andrew Jackson and his forces won the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in 1814. Horseshoe Bend was the major battle of the Creek War, in which Jackson sought to "clear" the Mississippi Territory for American settlement. He commanded an army of Tennessee militia men, which he had turned into a well-trained fighting force. Added to the militia units were the 39th United States Infantry and about 600 Cherokee, Choctaw, and Lower Creek, fighting against the Red Stick Creek warriors.

After leaving Fort Williams in the spring of 1814, Jackson’s army cut its way through the forest to within six miles (10 km) of Chief Menawa’s Red Stick camp Tehopeka, near a bend in the Tallapoosa River called "Horseshoe Bend" – located in what is now central Alabama, 12 miles (19 km) east of present-day Alexander City.

On March 27, 1814, General Andrew Jackson led troops consisting of 2,600 American soldiers, 500 Cherokee, and 100 Lower Creek allies up a steep hill near Tehopeka. From this vantage point, Jackson would begin his attack on the Red Stick fortification. At 6:30am, he split his troops and sent roughly 1300 men to cross the Tallapoosa River and surround the Creek village. Then, at 10:30 a.m., Jackson’s remaining troops began an artillery barrage which consisted of two cannons firing for about two hours. Little damage was caused to the Red Sticks or their 400-yard-long, log-and-dirt fortifications. In fact, Jackson was quite impressed with the measures the Red Sticks took to protect their position. As he later wrote:

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<td>&quot;It is impossible to conceive a situation more eligible for defence than the one they had chosen and the skill which they manifested in their breastwork was really astonishing. It extended across the point in such a direction as that a force approaching would be exposed to a double fire, while they lay entirely safe behind it. It would have been impossible to have raked it with cannon to any advantage even if we had had possession of one extremity.&quot;</td>
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Soon, Jackson ordered a bayonet charge. The 39th U.S. Infantry, led by Colonel John Williams, charged the breastworks and engaged the Red Sticks in hand-to-hand combat. Sam Houston (the future statesman and leader of Texas) served as a third lieutenant in Jackson’s army. Houston was one of the first to make it over the log barricade alive and received a wound from a Creek arrow that troubled him for the rest of his life.

Meanwhile, the troops under the command of General John Coffee had successfully crossed the river and surrounded the encampment. They joined the fight and gave Jackson a great advantage. The Creek warriors refused to surrender,
though, and the battle lasted for more than five hours. At the end, roughly 800 of the 1000 Red Stick warriors present at the battle were killed. In contrast, Jackson lost fewer than 50 men during the fight and reported 154 wounded. Chief Menawa was severely wounded but survived; he led about 200 of the original 1,000 warriors across the river and toward safety, to join the Seminole tribe in Spanish Florida.

![Figure 1.4](http://www.nps.gov/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/54horseshoe/54horseshoe.htm)

The Battle of Horseshoe Bend - [http://www.nps.gov/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/54horseshoe/54horseshoe.htm](http://www.nps.gov/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/54horseshoe/54horseshoe.htm)

In March 1814 Andrew Jackson, a Tennessee officer, led a battle against the Creek Indians. The Creek Indians had attacked several southern American settlements. With help from the Cherokees, Jackson won a victory at Horseshoe Bend.

![TN History for Kids!](http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/places/horseshoe_bend)

For a virtual tour of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend check out this website: [http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/places/horseshoe_bend](http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/places/horseshoe_bend)

The Burning of Washington DC — [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_LgV6KIDtoE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_LgV6KIDtoE)

and....
British military dominance was even clearer in the Atlantic and this naval superiority allowed it to deliver a shaming blow to the fragile United States in the summer of 1814. With Napoleon’s French forces failing in Europe, Britain
committed more of its resources to the American war and in August sailed up the Potomac River to occupy Washington D.C. and burn the White House and other government buildings. Dolley Madison, the president’s wife, saved many important papers and a painting of George Washington from the burning White House. On the edge of national bankruptcy and with the capital largely in ashes, total American disaster was averted when the British failed to capture FT. MCHENRY that protected nearby Baltimore.

( Pictured Above: This engraving, The Taking of the City of Washington in America, illustrates British forces storming Washington D.C. in 1814 and burning several significant structures including the White House and the Library of Congress.)

Fort McHenry

Watching the failed attack on Ft. McHenry as a prisoner of the British, FRANCIS SCOTT KEY wrote a poem later called "THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER" which was set to the tune of an English drinking song. It became the official NATIONAL ANTHEM of the United States of America in 1931.

( Pictured Above: Fort McHenry is considered the "Home of the National Anthem" because it was here, during a battle in the War of 1812, that Francis Scott Key was inspired to write his famous poem.)

Smithsonian Video of For McHenry


But the Americans put up a strong opposition in Baltimore and the British were forced to pull back from that city. In the north, about 10,000 British army veterans advanced into the United States via Montreal: their goal was New York City. With American fortunes looking their bleakest, American CAPTAIN THOMAS MACDONOUGH won the naval battle of Lake Champlain destroying the British fleet. The British army, fearful of not being supplied by the British navy, retreated into Canada.

The War of 1812 came to an end largely because the British public had grown tired of the sacrifice and expense of their twenty-year war against France. Now that Napoleon was all but finally defeated, the minor war against the United States in North America lost popular support. Negotiations began in August 1814 and on Christmas Eve the TREATY OF GHENT was signed in Belgium. The treaty called for the mutual restoration of territory based on pre-war boundaries and with the European war now over, the issue of American neutrality had no significance.

In effect, the treaty didn’t change anything and hardly justified three years of war and the deep divide in American politics that it exacerbated.

The most critical moment of the War of 1812, however, may not have been a battle, but rather a political meeting called by the Massachusetts legislature. Beginning in December 1814, 26 Federalists representing New England
states met at the HARTFORD CONVENTION to discuss how to reverse the decline of their party and the region. Although manufacturing was booming and contraband trade brought riches to the region, "MR. MADISON’S WAR", as many called the war, and its expenses proved hard to swallow for New Englanders.

Holding this meeting during the war was deeply controversial. Although more moderate leaders voted down extremists who called for New England to secede from the United States, most Republicans believed that the Hartford Convention was an act of treason.

Federalist New England’s opposition to national policies had been demonstrated in numerous ways from circumventing trade restrictions as early as 1807, to voting against the initial declaration of war in 1812, refusing to contribute state militia to the national army, and now its representatives were moving on a dangerous course of semi-autonomy during war time.

If a peace treaty ending the War of 1812 had not been signed while the Hartford Convention was still meeting, New England may have seriously debated seceding from the Union.

**The Battle of New Orleans**

*From Johnny Horton’s song The Battle of New Orleans.....learn about this battle.*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DSTKE85yXI4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DSTKE85yXI4)

The Battle of New Orleans was a series of engagements fought between December 24, 1814 through January 8, 1815 and was the final major battle of the War of 1812. American combatants, commanded by Major General Andrew Jackson, prevented an invading British Army, commanded by General Edward Pakenham, and Royal Navy, commanded by Admiral Alexander Cochrane, from seizing New Orleans as a strategic tool to end the war. The Treaty of Ghent was signed on December 24, 1814 (but was not ratified by the US Government until February
1815), and hostilities would continue in Louisiana until January 18 when all of the British forces had retreated, finally putting an end to the Battle of New Orleans.

Watch and read about the Battle of New Orleans from the History Channel.

http://www.history.com/topics/battle-of-new-orleans

Popular memory of the War of 1812 might have been quite so dour had it not been for a major victory won by American forces at New Orleans on January 8, 1815. Although the peace treaty had already been signed, news of it had not yet arrived on the battlefront where GENERAL ANDREW JACKSON led a decisive victory resulting in 700 British casualties versus only 13 American deaths. Of course, the BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS had no military or diplomatic significance, but it did allow Americans to swagger with the claim of a great win.

Future President Andrew Jackson seized the day by defeating the British at the Battle of New Orleans in January, 1815. Unfortunately, neither army had learned that the War of 1812 ended on Christmas Eve, 2 weeks earlier.


Furthermore, the victory launched the public career of Andrew Jackson as a new kind of American leader totally different from those who had guided the nation through the Revolution and early republic. The Battle of New Orleans vaunted Jackson to heroic status and he became a symbol of the new American nation emerging in the early 19th century.

Other source to consider using:
Here is a link to Crash Course on Youtube about the War of 1812 (lasts about 12 minutes). The title of the video is The War of 1812 - Crash Course US History #11

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMXqg2PKJZU

This is a link to a documentary about the War of 1812 (about 1:55 mins long). Might want to use segments from it and not the whole thing.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKVW67GosXY