

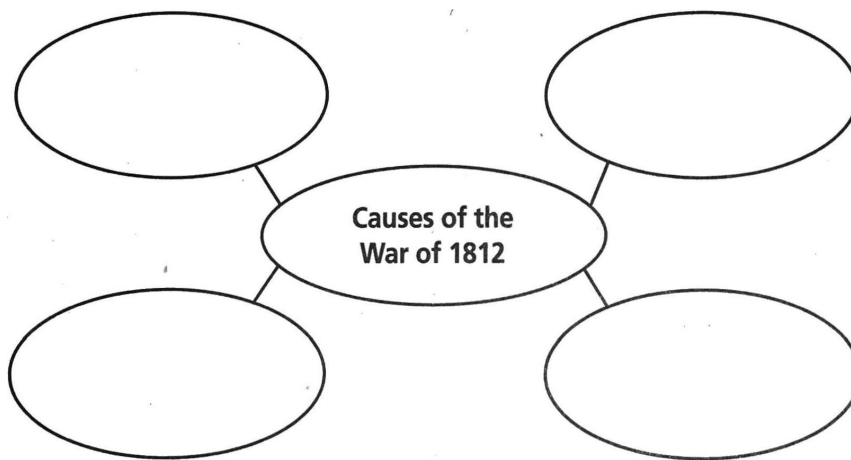
Chapter **10** Section 3 (pages 326–329)**Problems with Foreign Powers****BEFORE YOU READ**

In the last section, you read about the Louisiana Purchase and explorations of this area.

In this section, you will learn how Jefferson handled foreign affairs during his presidency.

AS YOU READ

Use this diagram to take notes on the causes of the declaration of war on Britain in 1812.

**TERMS & NAMES**

impressment Kidnapping of sailors to work on ships

Embargo Act of 1807 An act passed by Congress to stop all foreign trade with the United States

Tecumseh A Shawnee chief who tried to unite Native American tribes

War Hawks Westerners who called for war against Britain

Jefferson's Foreign Policy (pages 326–327)

What kind of foreign policy did Jefferson want?

When Jefferson took office, he hoped to keep the United States from getting involved with other countries. He was not successful for many reasons. One reason was that American merchants were already trading with countries all over the world. Another reason was that the purchase of Louisiana opened the country to westward expansion. This also brought Americans into contact with people from other nations. Finally, the United States had little control over the actions of other countries.

1. What was Jefferson's foreign policy plan?**Problems with France and England**

(page 327)

How did Britain interfere with American trade?

For years after the French Revolution, Europe was at war. For a while, the United States managed to stay out of these conflicts. At first, the country even benefited from the wars. France had sold Louisiana to the United States, partly as a result of the war. And U.S. merchants took over much of Europe's trade.

By 1805, however, the British began to clamp down on U.S. shipping. They did not want Americans to provide their enemies with food and supplies. The actions of the British angered France, which made its own laws to control foreign shipping.

These changes put American merchants in a tough position. If they obeyed the French rules, their ships could be taken by the British. If they obeyed the British rules, their ships could be taken by the French.

Britain also interfered with U.S. shipping by **impressment**—the kidnapping of American sailors to work on British ships. One of the worst incidents of impressment occurred in 1807. Off the coast of Virginia, the British ship *Leopard* attacked the American ship *Chesapeake*. The British killed three U.S. sailors in the battle. The attack angered Americans, many of whom wanted war.

2. How did the British interfere with U.S. trade?

Trade as a Weapon (pages 327–328)

What did Jefferson decide to do about the attack on the *Chesapeake*?

Jefferson did not declare war against Britain. Instead, he asked Congress to pass trade laws to punish Britain and France. Congress passed the **Embargo Act of 1807** to stop all foreign trade. The act prohibited U.S. ships from sailing to foreign ports. It also closed American ports to British ships.

Jefferson's policy was a disaster. It was more harmful to Americans—especially farmers and merchants—than to the British and French. Many shippers violated the embargo by making false claims about where they were going. Congress *repealed* the embargo in 1809. Madison became the next president in 1809. He reopened trade with all countries except France and Britain. Trade with these countries would begin again when they agreed to respect U.S. ships. Madison's policy was not effective either.

3. How did Jefferson react to the British attack on the *Chesapeake*?

Tecumseh and Native American Unity; War Hawks (pages 328–329)

Why were Americans angry with the British?

Americans were angry with the British for their interference with American shipping and impressment of U.S. citizens. British actions in the Northwest also angered Americans. Many thought that the British were stirring up Native American resistance to American settlements.

After the Battle of Fallen Timbers, thousands of white settlers had moved into Ohio and Indiana.

Tecumseh, a Shawnee chief, wanted to stop the loss of Native American land. He believed that Native American tribes would have to work together if they wanted to stop the loss of land. Events in 1809 proved him right.

That September, the governor of the Indiana Territory signed the Treaty of Fort Wayne. Chiefs of the Miami, Delaware, and Potawatomi tribes agreed to sell over three million acres of land to the United States. Tecumseh said the treaty was worthless. He said that the land belonged to all tribes and could not be sold without the *consent* of all tribes.

After the Treaty of Fort Wayne, many Native Americans began to follow Tecumseh's advice. But this progress did not last. In November 1811, while Tecumseh was away recruiting tribes for his alliance, U.S. forces defeated the Shawnee at the Battle of Tippecanoe. It was a major set back for Tecumseh.

After the battle, Tecumseh and his followers fled to Canada. They received a warm welcome from the British. Americans, already upset by British interference at sea, became even angrier. Many westerners demanded war. Urged on by the **War Hawks**, as these westerners were called, Congress declared war on Britain on June 18, 1812.

4. Why did Congress declare war on Britain in 1812?
