

Lesson Plans – Native American Speeches

Objectives:

- The student will be able to respond to text beyond literal statements: analyze, infer, evaluate, compare and contrast.
- The student will be able to respond to reading through oral discussions, writing, and presenting.

Background: Cultural clashes increased as American settlers moved to Ohio in the late 1700's. Native American leaders and others tried to find solutions to the inherent problems. The attached information sheet has excerpts from speeches by three leaders who offered solutions. Logan tried living peaceably and then chose revenge. Tecumseh organized a confederation of all Indians to fight the Americans, but was unsuccessful. Finally, Father Finley recommended assimilating Native Americans as citizens. The U.S. Government rejected his plan.

Procedure:

1. Introduce the three leaders and their speeches.
2. Distribute copies of the information sheet to all students.
3. Allow time for students to read the information.
4. Divide students into groups by choice as follows:
 - a. Group One: Logan's ideas of peace vs. revenge
 - b. Group Two: Those who like Tecumseh's confederation plans
 - c. Group Three: Those who would like to pursue the citizenship plans of Father Finley
5. Give time for groups to formulate a plan to perfect each person's ideas.
6. Return to whole group. Give each group several minutes to present their plan.
7. Have an open forum for discussion of the merits of each plan.
8. For homework, give a writing assignment to compare and contrast the ideas of these three leaders.

Assessment: Evaluate group answers and class participation and writing assignment.



Chief Logan – Mingo Tribe

“Who Is There To Mourn For Logan?”

Chief Logan was a leader of the Mingo in Ohio. He was friendly with the settlers until 1774 when a group of renegade settlers murdered Logan’s family. From that time on, Logan sought revenge. He delivered this speech at the huge elm tree (known as Logan’s Elm) near Chillicothe, Ohio. Logan became a very bitter man.

“I appeal to any white man to say if he ever entered Logan’s cabin hungry and he gave him not meat; if he ever came cold and naked he clothed him not. During the course of the last long and bloody war, Logan remained idle in his cabin, an advocate for peace. ...I had even thought to have lived with you but for the injuries of one man, Colonel Cresap, the last spring, in cold blood and unprovoked, murdered all the relatives of Logan, not even sparing his wives and children. There runs not a drop of my blood in any living creature. This calls on me for revenge. I have sought it; I have killed many; I have grown gluttoned by my vengeance...Logan never felt fear. ...Who is there to mourn for Logan? No one.”



Tecumseh, Shawnee Chief

“Why not sell the air, the great sea, as well as the earth?”

Tecumseh was a Shawnee Chief who tried to unite all Indians against the Americans. Tecumseh believed that the land belonged to all Indians and that signing a treaty with the Americans would mean giving up the Indian way of life. When his plans for an Indian confederation fell apart, he fought with the British against the Americans and died in battle in the War of 1812.

Father James B. Finley



"In a short time, these people (Wyandots) will be well prepared to be admitted as citizens of the State of Ohio; and to remove them ...contrary to their wishes, would be ...a most cruel act."

Father James B. Finley was a Methodist missionary to the Wyandot Indians. He lived among them for 40 years. He pleaded with the government to allow the Wyandots to become citizens of the United States instead of relocating them to western reservations.