

Chapter Summary

Chapter 6: Refining an Identity: Canada in the Post-War Years

This chapter presents a general overview of Canadian society, economy, and politics in the 1950s. It looks at the post-war population and economic booms and the impact they had on society. The main focus of the chapter is on how Canada dealt with the growing power and influence of the United States. It examines the measures Canada took to define and protect its culture and identity, as well as how the U.S. influenced Canada's international policies. The chapter also looks at the role Canada played in the Cold War, including its contribution to NATO, NORAD, and the UN.

Investigate

Social, Economic, and Political Context

- How did people improve their working conditions after the Second World War?
- How was the role of women redefined after the Second World War ended?
- What were the characteristics of the post-war economic boom?
- How does industrial development affect the environment?
- What was the impact of American investment on the Canadian economy?

Communities, Conflict, and Cooperation

- In what ways did Canadian society change after the Second World War?
- What was Canada's involvement in the Cold War?
- Describe Canada's involvement in the UN.
- What was Canada's response to conflicts during the late 1940s and the 1950s?

Identity, Citizenship, and Heritage

- What challenges did Aboriginal people face in the 1940s and 1950s?
- How was Québec nationalism expressed in the 1940s and 1950s?
- What measures has Canada taken to promote a distinct Canadian identity?

Building Your Inquiry Skills

Analyze Period Advertising and Propaganda

The Building Your Inquiry Skills in Chapter 6 helps you to apply critical thinking skills to analyze period advertising and propaganda. It gives you the tools you need to identify viewpoints, mood, target audience, and attitudes portrayed in ads and propaganda. You are given the opportunity to apply this skill to sources, which will help you critically analyze evidence given throughout the text and in the real world. This skill can be applied to a broad range of ads and is an essential part of media literacy.