THINK HISTORY CANADIAN HISTORY SINCE 1914

Chapter Summary

Chapter 8: A New Direction: Redefining Our Values at Home and Abroad

This chapter presents a general overview of Canadian politics, society, and economy after 1980. It examines the state of various issues in Canadian history (which have been explored throughout Units 1 and 2) at the end of the millennium. These issues include Aboriginal peoples' responses to challenges, attempts to unify all regions of Canada, national identity, and our social and economic ties to the U.S. You will also explore Canada's place in the larger world, and how globalization and modern conflicts shape its foreign policy and role on the international stage.

Investigate

Social, Economic, and Political Context

- In what ways did Canadian society change after 1982?
- How did changes to social policies affect women and minorities in Canada?
- How did changes to the Constitution affect Canadian society?
- How did the Canadian government respond to economic challenges after 1982?
- How does globalization affect living standards?

Communities, Conflict, and Cooperation

- How did Aboriginal groups respond to challenges in the late 20th century?
- What was Canada's involvement in the Cold War and its end?
- What was Canada's response to modern world conflicts?
- How did Canada participate in UN initiatives?
- What contributed to Canada's world presence?

Identity, Citizenship, and Heritage

- How did Canada's multiculturalism policy affect minority groups?
- What was the impact of Québec nationalism on Canadian unity?
- What measures did Canada take to promote a distinct Canadian identity?

Building Your Inquiry Skills

Defending a Position on an Issue

The Building Your Inquiry Skills in Chapter 8 helps you to apply critical thinking skills to defend a position on an issue. It gives you the tools you need to establish a well-structured argument. The steps emphasize understanding the topic, clearly stating a point of view, knowing and using appropriate vocabulary, and countering objections with well-reasoned and well-supported arguments. You are given the opportunity to apply this skill by examining several positions on Québec sovereignty, and developing your own position on an issue that is important to you. This skill can be applied to a broad range of subjects and is an important part of writing essays and opinion pieces.