**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

**Backcountry Farmer in Virginia**

**Your Role: You are Henry Hillbilly living in the Virginia backcountry. As a former indentured servant, you were too poor to buy land in the fertile regions near the Chesapeake Bay. Instead, you took whatever land was free and available in the backcountry (the are on the edge of the Appalachian Mountains). Here, you struggle to make a living as a subsistence farmer where you grow barely enough food to feed your family and very little tobacco to sell in for profit. This region is under constant attack from local Indians and your family is vulnerable to these attacks. During the French and Indian War, your heard stories about how poorly the British soldiers fought against the guerilla attacks of the Indians. You lack confidence in the army’s ability to defend your home. As a small-scale farmer, your experiences have led you to believe that the most important way to make it in America is to gain good farmland away from the rocky, mountainous area where you currently live. Nothing scares you more than to continue this life of poverty and uncertainty.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Is this a good or bad change? Why?** | **How does this change impact you?** | **What should the government do about it?** |
| **Situation #1** |  |  |  |
| **Situation #2** |  |  |  |
| **Situation #3** |  |  |  |

**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

**Philadelphia Merchant**

**Your Role: You are Milton Moneybags. You have managed to create a profitable shipping business based out of Philadelphia. As a merchant, your largest area of business is to sell grains, tobacco, indigo, and butchered meats from the colonial farmers and sell these products to buyers in Great Britain. You have benefitted greatly from English mercantilism, especially since the Navigation Acts went into effect in 1660, and sell these products to buyers in Great Britain. However, when “that European war” broke out between England and France, you lost a considerable amount of business because colonial farmers had a difficult time farming (affecting your supply) and British customers had a hard time getting your goods due French naval attacks (affecting your demand). You would like to get your business back to where it was before the French and Indian War, but your need to find more farmers to buy from to meet the huge demand for goods in England. While you make a nice living as a merchant, your profits would be greatly reduced by future taxes placed on your trade.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Is this a good or bad change? Why?** | **How does this change impact you?** | **What should the government do about it?** |
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| **Situation #2** |  |  |  |
| **Situation #3** |  |  |  |

**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

**Member of the Ottawa Indian Tribe**

**Your Role: You are Pontiac, chief of the Ottawa tribe. You and your people lived comfortable lives along the Ohio River Valley prior to the arrival of Europeans in the New World. The French colonists proved to be good allies and even better trade partners which helped your tribe increase its power in the region. The French royal governors helped numerous times settle disputes with pesky British farmers who tried to settle in your lands. The English colonists have never respected your claims to the land and nor any treaties you signed with the French. When war broke out between the French and British in 1754, your people willingly came to fight alongside the French soldiers.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

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| **Situation #2** |  |  |  |
| **Situation #3** |  |  |  |

**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

 **South Carolina Plantation Owner**

**Your Role: You are Christopher Cashcrop, the owner of a profitable indigo plantation in Stono, South Carolina. As a cash crop planter whose indigo (dye) is in high demand throughout Europe, you have carved out a nice life for yourself. Merchants in Philadelphia and New York City pay handsomely for your crops, allowing you to buy more slaves and more acreage along the coastal tidewater region in the Southern colonies. When war broke out between England and France in 1754, you did not support the war and vote against sending colonial troops to fight the French and Indians while you served on the South Carolina colonial assembly. During the war, you saw a huge drop in the sale of your indigo and you lost a considerable amount of money. You feel that the French and Indian War was fought only to benefit the mother country and resent that fact that Britain would allow her wars to spill over into the colonies. You have come to learn that British mercantile policies can be beneficial as long as there are no taxes or wars to interfere with business.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

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| **Situation #3** |  |  |  |

**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

**Farmer in Western New York**

**Your Role: You are Gregory Graingrower living in the “bread basket” of the colonial region, an area of fertile lands ideal for wheat and corn farming. As a grain farmer, you have made a modest living for yourself. The Southern colonists have committed to tobacco, rice, and indigo farming and are dependent upon your grains. In addition, the citizens in Great Britain buy a great deal of your corn and wheat as well. Merchants in nearby Philadelphia and New York City give you a fair price for your crops, but any future taxes on the colonies would mean that these merchants would not be able to pay as much. In addition, western New York is becoming a fairly crowded region with almost no areas left that have not been claimed by colonial farmers. Your two sons have dreams of owning their own farm land one day, but that possibility looks bleak. As a farmer, your experiences have led you to believe that the most important way to make it in America is to hang onto precious farmlands.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

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| **Situation #3** |  |  |  |

**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

**Yeoman Farmer in Massachusetts**

**Your Role: You are Leonard Littleguy, a small-scale subsistence farmer living in western Massachusetts. As the son and grandson of devout Puritans, you see no reason to try to become rich. You live to provide for your family and to serve God. The land where you live is moderately fertile, but is rocky given its location along the backcountry region of the Appalachian Mountains. Your family farm is located near hostile Indians and you live in constant fear that your territory might be attacked. When the French and Indian War broke out in 1754, you joined the colonial militia to fight alongside the British army in an attempt to remove the “heathen” natives from your backyard. In this area of western Massachusetts, you struggle to make a living and you dream of claiming more land if the opportunity were to arise. Your experiences have led you to believe that the most important way to make it in America is to gain good farmland away from the rocky mountainous area where you currently reside. Nothing scares you more than to continue this life of poverty and uncertainty.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

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| **Situation #3** |  |  |  |

**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

**Virginia Plantation Owner**

**Your Role: You are Steven Stinkyweed, the owner of a profitable tobacco plantation in Richmond, Virginia. As a cash crop planter whose tobacco is in high demand throughout Europe, you have carved out a nice life for yourself. Merchants in Philadelphia and New York City pay handsomely for your cash crops, allowing you to buy more slaves and more acreage along the Cheaspeake region in the Southern colonies. When war broke out between England and France in 1754, you did not support the war and vote against sending colonial troops to fight the French and Indians while you served on the House of Burgesses. During the war, you saw a huge drop in the sale of your tobacco and you lost a considerable amount of money. You feel that the French and Indian War was fought only to benefit the mother country and resent that fact that Britain would allow her wars to spill over into the colonies. You have come to learn that British mercantile policies can be beneficial as long as there are no taxes or wars to interfere with business.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

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**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

**Member of British Parliament in London**

**Your Role: You are Peter Parliament, a member of the British House of Commons (one of the two branches of Parliament in London). Your position in Parliament means that you play a key role in deciding laws and taxes for all citizens living in the British Empire. You supported the French and Indian War when it began in 1754 because you hoped that war with France would increase Britain’s wealth and colonial possessions. You were delighted when the war ended in 1763 with a British victory but were severely disappointed in the colonists’ behavior during the war. You feel that the colonists did not do enough to help pay for the war or fight during the war. As a member of Parliament, you are keenly aware of the millions of dollars of debt that Britain has accumulated as a result of this war. In addition, you are worried about the added debts Britain will gain by having to defend the wild and undisciplined colonists as they sweep across the Appalachian Mountains into formerly French lands.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

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| **Situation #3** |  |  |  |

**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

**King George III of Britain**

**Your Role: You are the king of England, George III. An the royal monarch of the British Empire, you have influence on all laws and taxes for all of your citizens living in England or in colonies (your powers are limited by Parliament, but you are still the king). You supported the French and Indian War when it began in 1754 because you hoped that war with France would increase Britain’s wealth and colonial possessions. You were delighted when the war ended in 1763 with a British victory but were severely disappointed in the colonists’ behavior during the war. You feel that the colonists did not do enough to help pay for the war or fight during the war. As king, you are keenly aware of the millions of dollars of debt that Britain has accumulated as a result of this war. In addition, you are worried about the added debts Britain will gain by having to defend the wild and undisciplined colonists as they sweep across the Appalachian Mountains into formerly French lands.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

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| **Situation #3** |  |  |  |

**After the French & Indian War Role Card:**

**British Merchant in Liverpool, England**

**Your Role: You are Eric Exporter, a merchant in the trade city of Liverpool. As a merchant, your largest area of business is to ship manufactured goods, such as clothing and rifles, to the colonists in America. You have benefitted greatly from English mercantilism, especially since the Navigation Acts gave England exclusive trade rights to America. You supported the French and Indian War because you hoped that it would mean greater profits for both Great Britain and for your own personal trading business. You are happy that Britain won the war, but you have some major concerns. Your major fear is that Parliament might raise taxes to pay for the war which would lower your profits. Also, even though the colonists are important for your business, you are resentful of their lack of contribution to the war effort. You believe that since the war was fought to protect them that they should help to pay for the war.**

**Activity: There have been a lot of changes in North America now that the French & Indian War is over. The teacher will present 3 of these post-war changes. From the perspective on your role card, answer the following questions.**

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