



# Louis Riel

## • Reading Comprehension •

### Activity **1** Stop and Think

Read the paragraphs.  
Stop and think as you read.

Louis Riel turns himself in to the police.  
Riel is charged with treason. The jury is made up of six men. The men on the jury speak English. They are Protestants.

**Stop and think:** Imagine you are Riel.  
Are you happy with this jury? Why or why not?

The jury finds Riel guilty. Riel is hanged.

**Stop and think:** Imagine you are on the jury.  
Would you agree to put Riel to death? Why or why not?

Today, many people think Riel is a hero. Riel helped win some rights for the Métis. Schools are named after Riel. Streets are named after Riel.

**Stop and think:** Think about your community.  
What public places are named after people in history?

Good readers are active readers.  
Good readers stop and think about what they are reading. Active reading helps readers understand the ideas.



## Activity 2 Main Idea and Details



Check the details that support each main idea.

The first one is an example.

Good readers can find the main idea and details.

The main idea is the important idea. The details support the main idea.

The details help you understand and remember the main idea.

Main idea	Details
The Métis live in different ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The Métis have farms.</li> <li>✓ The Métis hunt bison.</li> <li>The Métis live in the Red River Colony.</li> </ul>
1. Life in the North-West is hard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a)___ Thousands of Métis move to the North-West.</li> <li>(b)___ The soil is poor in the North-West.</li> <li>(c)___ The bison are gone in the North-West.</li> </ul>
2. Riel helps the Métis in many ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a)___ Riel wins some rights for the Métis.</li> <li>(b)___ Riel helps the Métis defend Red River.</li> <li>(c)___ People think Riel is a hero.</li> </ul>

## Activity 3 Invisible Messages



Read the writer's words. Figure out the invisible message.

Writers do not always explain everything.

Sometimes, writers expect readers to read between the lines. Writers expect readers to figure out the invisible messages.

The writer's words	The invisible message
Riel wants to be the first French Métis priest.	<p><i>There are no French Métis priests.</i> <i>Riel is religious.</i></p>
1. Songs are sung about Riel.	
2. There is a \$5,000 reward for Riel's arrest.	

## Activity 4 Fact and Opinion



Good readers know the difference between facts and opinions.  
Facts can be proven.  
Opinions are ideas or beliefs.

Read the sentences.

Write (F) for fact or (O) for opinion.

- The jury is not fair to Riel. \_\_\_\_  
The jury for the Riel trial is made up of six men. \_\_\_\_
- The government of Canada gives the Métis some land. \_\_\_\_  
The government of Canada does not respect the Métis. \_\_\_\_
- Riel wins some rights for the Métis. \_\_\_\_  
Riel is the only man who can help the Métis. \_\_\_\_

## Activity 5 The Table of Contents



Good readers use the Table of Contents.  
The Table of Contents helps readers find information quickly.

Read each question.

Look at the Contents page in your book.

Which chapter has the answer to the question?

Write the name of the chapter.

Find the answer to the question. Write the answer.

Question	Chapter	Answer
Where does Riel grow up?	Early Years	Red River
1. What causes the North-West Rebellion?		
2. When do the Métis leave Red River?		
3. Why is Riel hanged?		

## Activity **6** Make a Connection

Read the idea from the story.  
Make a connection to your life.

Reading is more than understanding  
the ideas on a page.

Good readers connect the ideas  
to their lives.

**Idea**



**Your Life**

Some people think Riel is a hero.  
Others do not.

Read the following two cases.

Do the people make the right  
decision?

What would you do in each case?

1. A poor man steals food to save his hungry children.
2. A woman dies. She leaves \$15,000 for a casket. Her son donates most of the money to a children's shelter. He buys his mother a cheaper casket.



Life is full of grey areas.

Have you ever done something  
that seems both good and bad  
at the same time?

Describe your experience.

# • Writing •

## Activity 1 Write Your Ideas

Complete these paragraphs about grey areas.  
Use your ideas from page 18.

Your instructor will help you with spelling.

### Paragraph 1

A poor man steals food to save his hungry children.

This is a good decision because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .

It is a bad decision because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .

### Paragraph 2

One time, I \_\_\_\_\_ .

This was a good decision because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .

It was also bad because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .

Read each paragraph out loud.  
Which paragraph do you like better?  
Copy the paragraph on the lines.

Check for capital letters and end punctuation.

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Good writers know that writing is a process.  
Good writers think of ideas before they write.  
Good writers check their writing.



**Activity 2** Organize Ideas

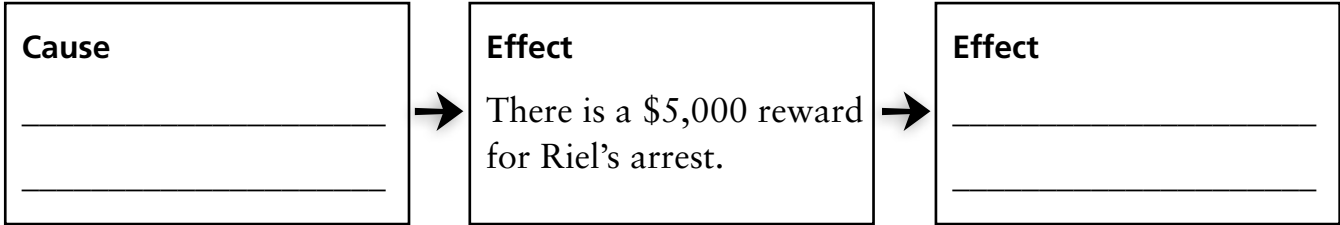


Read the details for Idea Maps 1 and 2.  
Are the details a cause or an effect?  
Copy the details into the correct box.

Good writers know that writing is a process.  
Good writers organize their ideas before they write.  
One way to organize ideas is to use cause and effect.

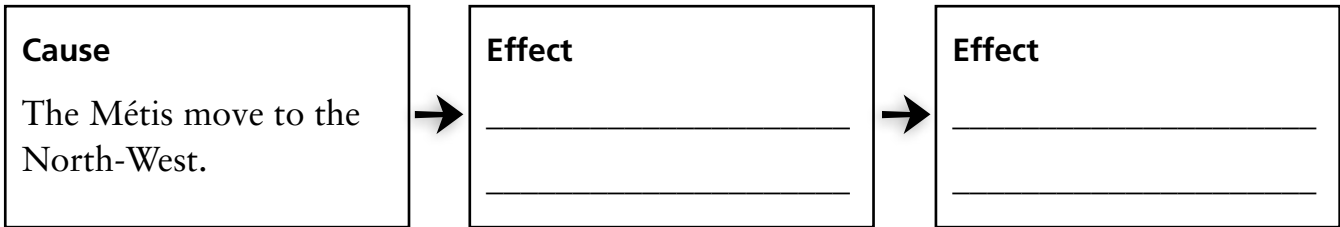
**Idea Map 1**

**Details**  
Riel flees to the U.S.  
People blame Riel for Scott's death.



**Idea Map 2**

**Details**  
Riel helps the Métis.  
The Métis suffer hard times.



Choose details from Idea Maps 1 and 2 to complete the answers.

1. Why does Riel flee to the United States?

Because \_\_\_\_\_ .

2. What happens when the Métis move to the North-West?

\_\_\_\_\_ .

3. Why does Riel help the Métis?

Because \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Activity 3** Use Capital Letters and Punctuation



Read these sentences.

Circle the capital letters and end punctuation.

1. Louis Riel is Métis.
2. He goes to school in Montreal, Canada.
3. Why do the Métis fear they will lose their land?
4. Riel helps the Métis defend Red River.

Read these sentences.

Add capital letters and end punctuation.

5. thomas scott is shot on march 4, 1870
6. why is thomas scott shot
7. riel flees to the united states
8. louis riel is hanged in canada on november 16, 1885
9. there are no métis on the jury

**In this activity...**

**use capital letters**

at the beginning of a sentence,  
with the names of groups of people,  
with names of people and places, and  
with dates.

**use punctuation**

at the end of a sentence.

# • Word Attack Skills •

## Activity

# 1

### Predict the Word



Complete each sentence.

Use the pictures to predict the word.

Readers see new words all the time.  
They need to decode the new words.

Good readers decode words  
in different ways.

They use pictures to predict words.  
They use meaning clues to predict words.

These are two ways to decode words.



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1. The \_\_\_\_\_ are  
flat and empty.



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2. These Métis use \_\_\_\_\_  
to move their things.

Complete each sentence.

Use meaning clues to predict the word.

3. The Métis want Riel to be their \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. Many Métis die from \_\_\_\_\_. The bison are gone. There is little food.
5. Riel becomes a \_\_\_\_\_ in a school in Montana.



## Activity 2 Find Common Patterns

Look at each word in the box.  
Each word has a common pattern.  
Group the words under the correct pattern.

<i>title</i> ✓	<i>thick</i>	<i>gentle</i>	<i>crack</i>
<i>attack</i>	<i>stick</i>	<i>back</i>	<i>pick</i>
<i>sick</i>	<i>battle</i>	<i>settle</i>	<i>black</i>

Good readers look for common patterns in words.  
This is another way to decode words.

**tle**

**ack**

**ick**

*title*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read the sentences in the box.  
Circle the words that have one of these patterns:

**tle   ack   ick**

Many words have common patterns.  
The patterns look and sound the same.

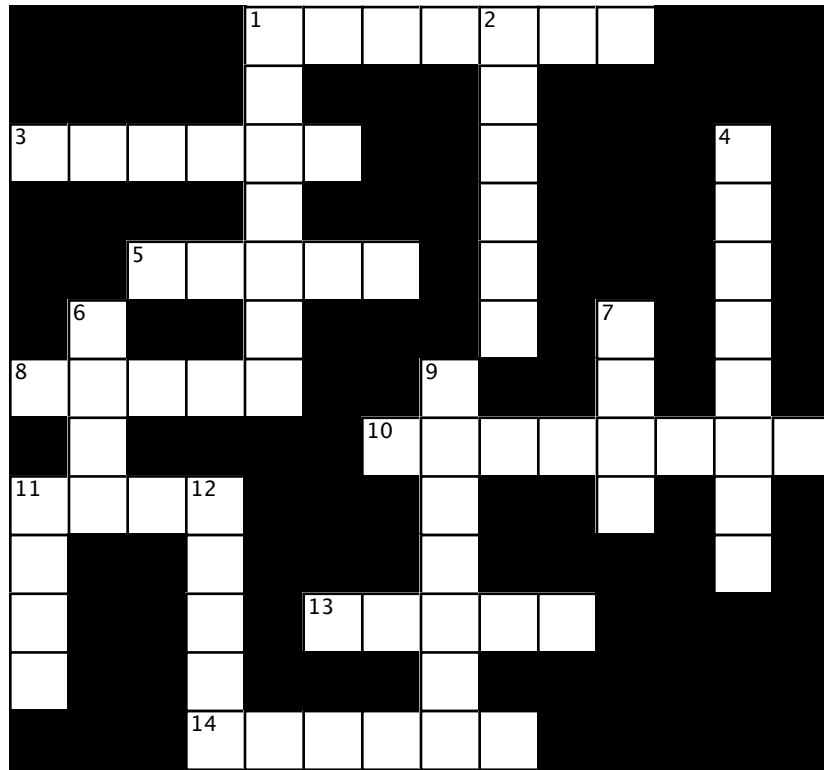
### Find the Common Patterns



1. The Métis do not have legal title to the land.
2. They fight a battle to defend their land.
3. Riel goes back to Canada to help the Métis.
4. Some Métis leaders decide to attack.
5. Riel suffers from stress. He gets sick.
6. He picks Montana to start a new life.

# • Crossword •

Louis Riel



## Crossword Clues

All the answers to the clues are from Louis Riel's biography.

### ACROSS

1. a person who betrays his country
3. kill someone
5. another word for buffalo
8. opposite of teach
10. flat grassy lands
11. dirt; ground (rhymes with boil)
13. "I didn't do it. He did!"
14. a person who leads

### DOWN

1. the act of betraying your country  
(rhymes with season)
2. take a trip
4. people who settle in a new place
6. a brave person who does great things  
(rhymes with zero)
7. group of 6 to 12 people who make a  
decision in a court of law
9. get ready
11. not well; ill
12. opposite of illegal

