

Gabriel Dumont

These questions can help to guide a student's viewing of the Gabriel Dumont biography.

1. Describe what you learn about the Métis people from the beginning of the film. What symbol appears on their flag? Who are they the descendants of? Why was the buffalo hunt so important to them?
2. Who or what was Gabriel most loyal to during his youth?
3. Describe three influences that helped to shape Gabriel's nomadic character.
4. What was Gabriel's relationship with Louis Riel?
5. Why was Gabriel a respected leader in the Métis community? What characteristics contributed to this? What was his position among the Métis of Saskatchewan by the time he was twenty-five years old?
6. What was Dumont's contribution to the Red River Rebellion of 1870?
7. After 1870, what changes began to affect the Métis people and their nomadic life? How did most Métis deal with these changes?
8. What sort of sentiments began to spread among the plains Métis in the west as a result of their unjust treatments and hardships?
9. What was the reaction of Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald to this feelings?
10. Identify some examples that demonstrate the decline of the Métis way of life.
11. What contributed to Louis Riel's failure to unite the Métis communities?
12. Identify two of the tactics Gabriel employed to frustrate officials.
13. Why was the battle at Fish Creek an embarrassment to Canadian officials?
14. Was Gabriel a resourceful leader? Why or why not? Provide examples from the film to support your answer.
15. What happened to Gabriel after the trial and execution of Louis Riel? What did he become?
16. Why was Gabriel unsuccessful as a politician in Québec?
17. Choose three adjectives to describe Gabriel. Does he deserve to be remembered and studied as an important Canadian? Why or why not?