

Sam Hughes

These questions can help to guide a student's viewing of the Sam Hughes biography.

1. How would you initially describe the character of Sam Hughes based on the information provided by Jack Granatstein, Ronald Haycock, and Desmond Morton during the introduction?
2. Where and when was Hughes born?
3. Identify three of Hughes' accomplishments during his formative years before his election to Parliament.
4. Explain how Hughes promoted his views after his purchase of the Victoria order in 1885?
5. Identify some of the attributes Hughes had that led to his long political career.
6. Did Hughes support Canadian participation in the Boer War? Explain.
7. Explain the story about 27 March 1980. What event occurred? How did the story start? How did news reach Canada?
8. Hughes wrote a letter to a Cape Town newspaper that criticized his superior officers. What was the consequence of this?
9. What was the function of the committee that Prime Minister Laurier asked Hughes to sit on?
10. What was the name of the rifle that Hughes was asked to comment on? Where were they made?
11. In 1911, what portfolio did the new Prime Minister, Robert Borden, offer Hughes?
12. Hughes wanted a new military base when Canada entered the First World War. What was the name of the new base? Where was it located? What did his critics identify as some of the problems associated with setting up this new military base?
13. Why did Prime Minister Borden admire Hughes?
14. Who did Hughes appoint as Brigadier? With whose advice was this decision made?
15. Why was Hughes knighted in 1915?
16. What were some of the problems associated with using the Ross-Rifle in action? What was Hughes response to the replacement of the Ross-Rifle with the Lee-Enfield?

17. Following the scandal over the Ross-Rifle, what three things did Canadians begin to link with Hughes' command?
18. Who was the High Commissioner in London that disliked Hughes? How was he instrumental in removing Hughes from office?
19. Do you think that Prime Minister Borden's decision to remove Hughes from office was unfair?
20. Even after the war, Hughes continued to criticize General Curry? Why?
21. What position did Hughes hold until his death on 24 August 1921?
22. Who planned Hughes' funeral? Where was it held?