Fitzgerald

Model Answer using Evidence found in Documents to respond to a Prompt

Prompt -

* Why were European settlers in North America able to so easily conquer Native tribal groups and take their lands?

Model Answer -

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| Respond to the prompt  State the main idea - the answer to the question found in the documents | Clear reasons other than obviously superior weapons that the European settlers in North America were able to so easily conquer Native tribal groups and take their lands are apparent in the articles provided in the Native American preview packet. |
| Introduce the first reason in a sentence.  Give specific evidence from a document, either paraphrased or in a direct quote.  Name the document containing the evidence by letter, title, and author if given.  Explain   * how that evidence shows the reason * how the reason led to the loss of land | The diversity of Native Americans weakened their ability to fight the organized single government of the European settlers. In the opening ideas of Document D, the reading on Native American culture groups, it stated that Natives were divided into 10 different culture groups and 150 different tribal groups. Though diversity is celebrated in the modern era, if the old saying "United we stand. Divided we fall." is true, the Natives would obviously fall. In an age when travel and communication was difficult and slow, it is difficult to imagine even the greatest leader being able to draw such a diverse group of people together into a single force that could together stand up to European aggression. |
| Introduce the first reason in a sentence.  Give specific evidence from a document, either paraphrased or in a direct quote.  Name the document containing the evidence by letter, title, and author if given.  Explain   * how that evidence shows the reason * how the reason led to the loss of land | The lack of immunity to European disease is a clear cause. In "Massive Population Drop" by Ker Than, published by *National Geographic*, researchers are said to have found that the population of Natives shrunk by half following European colonization. By testing samples of ancient and modern DNA, a team of researchers determined that the low point of the Native population occurred only a few years after Europeans arrived, before extensive European colonization began. So as the major waves of settlers begin to push into Native lands, Natives had already been weakened. The loss of half of a culture's population would not just mean fewer warriors to fight. Death on such a scale would destroy social structures within a tribal group, weakening its ability to organize. |
| Restate the main idea.  Provide a concluding thought on the topic. | A people as diverse as the Natives of North America weakened by the loss of half their population from disease would not be able to withstand the onslaught of a seemingly never-ending number of immigrants wanting their land. Only the Europeans themselves could have prevented this by seeing Native Americans as another group of humans who were to be valued and seeking peaceful co-existence, instead of seeing "savages" to be wiped out. |

(See back for model of how to set up paragraph on lined paper.)