***Answers: Assignment #4***

**Trials of Louis Riel \_ 20 pts.**

1. Thomas Scott: Orangeman; From Ontario; Came to Red River as a Land Surveyor; Participated in a Raid on Fort Gary to free it from Metis Control. (4 pts)
2. The Metis executed Thomas Scott. They justified this by claiming it was “Treason” against the Metis Provisional Government. He was technically accused of hostility to Riel’s gov’t and abuse of Metis Guards and inciting other prisoners to violence ( 3pts)
3. In Ontario, this caused protest. Anti-French; Anti-Catholic sentiments flared up. In Quebec they felt this execution was a necessary and legal retribution for Scott’s actions against the Metis, their culture and religion. (2 pts).
4. Louis Riel travelled to Ottawa because he feared being arrested for this execution. (2 pts)
5. Yes. Louis Riel was legally elected twice, but wasn’t allowed to take his seat in the House of Commons in Ottawa.
6. Louis Riel was expelled from the H.O.C, but was granted “Partial Amnesty” so long as he was banished from Canada for 5 years. ( 2pts)
7. Riel suffered from extreme anxiety. (1pt)
8. Riel moved to Montana; Married; Had a family; became a teacher; and traded on the side. (3pts)
9. In July of 1884 Riel returned to Canada at the request of the Metis. He Joined them in North Saskatchewan along the banks of the River at Batoche. (2 pts)

**Native Unrest \_ 10pts**

1. Northwest Rebellion took place in Saskatchewan (started in Manitoba, but moved into Saskatchewan region) 1pt
2. Metis were afraid of loosing their land titles and way of life/culture. (1 pt)
3. The Macdonald government was afraid of violence from the Metis, and sent the North West Mounted Police, to protect the region (1pt)
4. The result of this Rebellion: North West Mounted Police; Treaties; Reservation System.
5. Disappearance of the Buffalo and crop failures plagued the Metis. (1 pt)
6. Crop failures, falling wheat prices and the high costs of transportation (shipping/freight) on the new railway were all issues plaguing the expansion of the West. (1 pt)
7. The people of the West (both white settlers & Metis) sent letters and petitions to Ottawa. (1 pt)

**Ottawa Reacts \_ 20 pts**

1. The government ignored the situation. They should have at least acknowledged the petitions and tried to make concessions or compromise in good faith with the people of the West. (2pts)

1. Groups of settlers at a meeting invited Riel back to Saskatchewan. No, they wanted someone to help them deal with their struggles and mediate with the government. (2 pt)
2. What the Metis demanded: Territorial Concerns; Remote Region; Requesting Self Government; Federal Representation in Ottawa; Guaranteed Land Titles. (4 pts)
3. Riel’s leadership was marred by his fixed delusion of being the prophet “David”, as he saw himself as the deliver of the Metis people. (1 pt)
4. The Metis did need to resort to violence, as there was no other way the Canadian Government would acknowledge their concerns. (2pts)
5. Once the violence started, the White Settlers and the Roman Catholic church withdrew their support. (1pt)
6. The Metis fought at : Duck Lake; Fort Carlton; Battleford; Frog Creek; Fort Pitt. (5 pts)
7. The Government sent General Frederick Middleton, and 2000 troops to crush the rebellion.
8. Guerilla Warfare Tactics: Small groups of combatants, use the land to their advantage. Raids, Sabotage, ambushes; “hit and run” attacks. (2pts)

**Riel’s Trial \_ 10 pts**

1. There was a major French/English division over what punishment Lois Riel should receive for his part in the rebellion. The English (Ontario) wanted his execution; The French (Quebec) saw him as a hero and a defender of rights and culture. (2 pts)
2. Riel was tried for High Treason, in Regina in 1885. (1pt)
3. Riel’s defense lawyer wanted him to plead insanity, but he refused and was convicted. MacDonald was afraid of the backlash, and appointed 3 doctors (medical commission) to verify Riel’s sanity. 2 English 1 French, they claimed he was sane.(3 pts)
4. The penalty was execution by hanging (1 pt).
5. MacDonald did not want Riel to die. He wanted a conviction, but knew that Riel’s death would cause more divide. (2pts)
6. In Quebec, people were angry, and saw Riel as a defender of French/Metis rights. He was a Martyr. Politically, the conservatives lost the vote, and the Liberal government was voted in. (1pt)
7. The rebellion had forced “Justice to be Served” and had saved the concept of the “Pacific Railway”.
8. The Railway gained support because the troops and supplies were delivered quickly. Further supplies were now flowing more plentifully into the region. People supported its completion (financial backing) . (1 pt)
9. The irony:

Riel’s sentence and the Completion of the Railway symbolized both the unification and division of the nation. Physically the nation was tied together by the Railway, but politically and socially, the nation was even deeper divided by Riel’s death penalty. Also the railway went right through Metis lands, so despite facilitating the ‘growth’ of the nation, it also symbolized the ‘demise’ of a nation. (4 pts)