Social Studies 10-2

Unit 1: Globalization and identity

Languages and cultures in Canada

Three rooms where a language is public

- Toddlers at a Plains Cree language nest hear nêhiyawêwin from elders through the whole morning, kinship stories included.
- A Blackfoot mentor and apprentice name the coulees in Siksikáíʼpowahsin while they ride a fence line.
- A Francophone Albertan family spends Saturday afternoon at a French play in a cultural centre in Edmonton.

Why people promote a language

- Families promote a language so children can speak it with their grandparents.
- Place names, public decisions, and jobs can stay available in that language.
- Linguistic revitalization is community work, such as language nests and mentor apprentice learning in Michif, Cree, Blackfoot, and Inuktut.
- The Official Languages Act of 1969 sets English and French for federal offices.
- Quebec's 1977 Charter of the French Language sets French for public life there.

Key terms

linguistic revitalization

Linguistic revitalization is organized community work that returns a language to family life, childhood, land activities, and public use.

language legislation

Language legislation is a statute that assigns languages to government, schools, courts, or commerce.

language nest

A language nest is an early childhood program where young children spend the day with fluent speakers and hear the community language throughout care.

mentor-apprentice

Mentor-apprentice learning pairs a fluent speaker with an adult learner for long stretches of daily life conducted in the language.

Key terms

minority language

A minority language is a language spoken by a smaller population inside a country or a continent where another language holds most public life.

Why a community promotes a language

- Children speak with grandparents, and care, school, and media treat the language as worthy. Those reasons are family and dignity.
- Place names, public decisions, and jobs stay available in the language. Those reasons are land, voice, and work.
- Language nests and mentor apprentice pairs in Michif, Cree, Blackfoot, and Inuktut came from communities. The Indigenous Languages Act of 2019 is later federal support.

Language laws



Cree mornings and Michif tasks

- A weekday schedule for a Plains Cree language nest sits beside a short description of a Michif mentor apprentice pair.
- The schedule shows elders and toddlers in nêhiyawêwin all morning. That is evidence of family life and dignity.
- The Michif pair cooks, visits, and tells family stories in Michif. That shows kinship and daily tasks.

Two statutes and an Alberta room

- The Official Languages Act of 1969 makes English and French the official languages of Canada and requires federal institutions to serve the public in both.
- Quebec's 1977 Charter makes French the language of public life in Quebec.
- State a Francophone view of the Charter and an English speaking Quebec view of the same law.
- Francophone Albertan schools and cultural centres keep a French public day in Alberta.

Review

- Close the notes. Scene A: a resident receives French service at a federal tax counter in Ottawa.
- Scene B: Quebec rules set French as the language of public commerce, and the answer states a Francophone view and an English speaking Quebec view.
- Scene C: a Blackfoot mentor and apprentice spend the week naming coulees and moving cattle in Siksikáí’powahsin.

Summary

- Linguistic revitalization is repeated community hours that return a language to family, dignity, land, political voice, and work.
- The 1969 Act sets languages for the federal government, and Quebec's 1977 Charter sets French for public life in Quebec.
- Keep a Francophone view and an English speaking Quebec view in the answer.
- The Indigenous Languages Act of 2019 supports reclamation that communities began, and Francophone Albertan schools and cultural centres promote French inside Alberta.