

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

TO
THE
PAST

Directions: : After reading the background information and examining the source, answer the questions below.

Background Information: The Laws of St. Laurent were a set of rules established by the Métis in 1873 to regulate bison hunting and maintain order in their community near the St. Laurent settlement in present-day Saskatchewan.

Featured Source:

The hunters left as usual under the leadership of brave Gabriel Dumont...After twelve day's march they began to sight buffalo which gave them courage and hope. [Then they learned] that many Metis [of another community] without respect for the laws and rules [of St. Laurent] and without concern for their brothers went on ahead. Immediately it was decided in a general meeting that it was necessary at any cost, and in the interest of everyone to observe the laws.

The leader [Dumont], with his captains and soldiers, faithfully carried out the decision of the meeting, brought to the camp **willy-nilly** all the **delinquents** with the exceptions of two who preferred to pay an **indemnity** which was granted to them on condition that they would go immediately to Carlton.

Hardly had they arrived at Fort Carlton when they complained of having been maltreated, robbed, almost assassinated. They knew whom to make these complaints to; it was to the people who had looked **askance** at the creation of the laws of the Colonies. If one were to believe the celebrated **knave** and his agents, the Metis of Carlton [St. Laurent], joined with the Indians, were in full revolution against the Dominion of Canada.

Source: An excerpt written by a priest from the St. Laurent community regarding the 1875 bison hunt arrests made by Dumont.

Willy-Nilly: Haphazard /
Not systematically
Delinquents: Lawbreakers
Indemnity: Fine

Askance: Disapprovingly
Knave: Dishonest Person

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Your Task: Examine the inferences below and return to the text. Which inference is best supported by the source?

Inferences	
Person 1:	The author of the source wants to portray the Metis as responsible and fair.
Person 2:	The author of the source seems to suggest that Dumont had a significant amount of power and likely would soon rebel against the Canadian government.

Multiple Choice: Which inference is most plausible?

- a) Person 1's inference is most plausible.
- b) Person 2's inference is most plausible.
- c) Both Person 1 and Person 2's inferences are equally plausible.
- d) Neither meaning is plausible.