



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

**Background Information:** The Battle of Seven Oaks, fought on June 19, 1816, near modern-day Winnipeg, was a pivotal conflict between the settlers of the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) and the North West Company (NWC) and Metis residing in the Northwest.

### Featured Source:

Lord Selkirk had become one of the largest shareholders in the Hudson's Bay Company, and secured a grant of land on the Red River where in 1812 he established a colony of settlers from Scotland and Ireland. The **Nor'westers** and their Metis (French-Indian), hunters and trappers, fearing that settlement would destroy the fur-trade, opposed Selkirk's scheme. They harassed and drove away the settlers, demolished their buildings and almost **exterminated** the colony. Early in 1816 a body of **halfbreeds** from Qu'Appelle and Portage La Prairie gathered for a raid on the settlement. On June 19th they approached Fort Douglas and the Colony Gardens. Governor Semple led a party out from the fort to intercept them. Semple's party was attacked, and all but six were killed. The total number killed was twenty-three, among them the Governor, his secretary, a doctor and a surgeon. The site, on the northern outskirts of the present city of Winnipeg, is marked by a monument.

**Nor'westers:** Members of the North West Company  
**Exterminate:** Eliminate  
**Halfbreeds:** A person of mixed heritage, typically having one indigenous and one non-indigenous parent. This term is now considered offensive.

**Source:** C.W. Jefferys' notes about this picture from *The Picture Gallery of Canadian History Volume 2*

### Featured Source:

In June, a number of the Brulés [Métis] ... proceeded from the upper part of Red River, toward the place of its entrance into the Lake, in order to guard some property there belonging to the North West Company. On their way, they were **obliged** to pass, for about two miles, over an open plain, directly behind Lord Selkirk's establishment. As soon as they were observed, his people came out in a body, and fired upon them, twice. This was unexpected by the Brulés; neither were they prepared for such an encounter, as many of them had neither gun nor ammunition. Perceiving however, that they must defend themselves or be cut off, those who had arms returned the fire; and the contest continued, until twenty-two of the noble Earl's people fell, and some other were wounded.

**Obliged:** Required

**Source:** Excerpt from the journal of Daniel Williams Harmon, a NWC employee following the battle of Seven Oaks.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Multiple Choice:** What best describes the relationship between the two featured sources?

- a) The sources are contradictory
- b) The sources are contrary
- c) The sources are complimentary
- d) The sources are corroborating

**Short Answer Response:** Explain your reasoning below.