Cape Breton County

CAPE BRETON ISLAND

Cape Breton County

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Welcome to Cape Breton County!

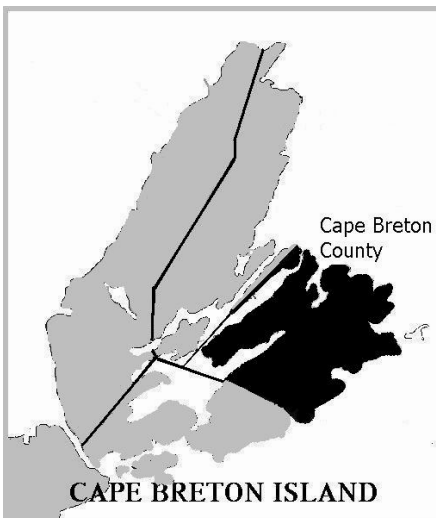| Word Preview			
cape	teeming	especially	valuable
hardy	invaded	scenic	

Have you ever been to Cape Breton? You might be surprised to know that you probably haven't been there. Cape Breton is the most eastern point of Cape Breton Island. Cape Breton is in Cape Breton County and lies near Scaterie Island. There are no roads to Cape Breton. No one lives there. It is a lonely point of land.

So how did Cape Breton Island come to be named after a place that seems so unimportant? For the answer to this, we have to go back more than 500 years. At that time the Atlantic Ocean near Cape Breton Island was teeming with fish, especially northern cod. Fish was an important food for many people who lived in Europe. Northern cod was almost as valuable as gold because it could be salted and dried. Salting and drying

Place Names
- Cape Breton Island
- Scaterie Island
- Atlantic Ocean
- Europe
- North America
- Spain
- France
- England
- Cape Breton County
- Germany

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was the only way, at that time, to keep fish from spoiling.

Even before Columbus discovered North America in 1492, fishermen from Europe were fishing off Cape Breton Island. They were Basque fishermen from northern Spain and Breton fishermen from Brittany, an area in the northwest of France. In the 1400s, these fishermen were coming ashore near Cape Breton in the summer months to dry their catches before going back home. They did not stay through the winters.

Fishermen from other countries came in the years that followed but they still called the island "Cape Breton Island" after those hardy Breton fishermen.

And who were these Breton fishermen who were famous for their bravery and their travels at sea? In the fifth century, they had left England, which was then called Brittania, because England was being invaded by people from the part of Europe that is now Germany. The people from Brittania settled in the northwest of France and the area became known as Brittany. The people who lived there were called Bretons.

Centuries later, people from all over the world came to Cape Breton Island. Some of them stayed and some of them continued on to other places. The greatest number settled in Cape Breton County to work in the coal and steel industries.

Today, when we think of "Cape Breton Island," we think of a scenic island that is home to people of many cultures. Those early Breton fishermen did not know they were giving their name to such an interesting place.

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Using Vocabulary

Fill in the blanks with the word that fits best.

1. A _____ is a high point of land that sticks out into the

   sea.

   (case   care   cape)

2. The Bretons were a _____ breed of fishermen.

   (hardly   hardy   scenic)

3. The movie was about people from Mars who _____ Earth.

   (teeming   invade   invaded)

4. What a _____ road that is!

   (scenic   seen   scene)

5. I'm _____ happy about how things are going at the Learning

   Centre.

   (valued   especially   valuable)

6. The waters here used to be _____ with fish.

   (teams   teeming   teems)

7. Fish were so _____, people sailed half way around the

   world for them.

   (hardy   especially   valuable)

Further Activity

   Look closely at a map of Cape Breton Island. Can you find Cape

Breton and four other capes in Cape Breton County?

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Comprehension Questions

1. Where is Cape Breton?

2. Why did people from France and Spain first come to Cape Breton Island?

3. Why did people salt and dry their fish 500 years ago?

4. Who is Cape Breton Island named after?

5. Why did the Bretons leave their first home?

Something to Think About

If the northern cod off the coast of North America had not been good for salting, fishermen and explorers might not have bothered coming here for a long time. It is surprising to think that such a simple thing started the settlement of Cape Breton Island by Europeans.

But people need food to survive. Therefore, anything that helps keep food from spoiling is important. Keeping food from spoiling (food preservation) is one of the oldest technologies used by human beings.

Today, refrigeration and freezing are the most common ways that people preserve food. Life would be different if we did not have refrigerators or freezers. How would our shopping habits change? What foods would we eat more often and what would we eat less often? What other methods of food preservation would we use? Discuss these questions with your class.

You've Got (Christmas) Mail!

Word Preview			
postmark	envelope	postmistress	cancels
delivers	collectors	specially	designed	surveyors
wreath	Mi'kmaw	buried	community

Why do many people send mail to themselves at Christmas time? Is it because they want to be sure they receive Christmas cards? No.

Place Names
- Christmas Island
- Cape Breton Island

Thousands of people send mail to themselves each year during the holiday season because they want to have the special postmark that is used by the Christmas Island Post Office. A postmark is a special mark the post offices put on stamps to show they have been used. That means we can't take the stamp off mail we have received and use it to send our own mail. When the post office puts this mark on a stamp, we say they have "cancelled" the stamp.

To get the special Christmas postmark people put their name and address on a stamped envelope. Then they put the stamped envelope in a larger envelope that is stamped and addressed to the Christmas Island Post Office. The postmistress opens the larger envelope, takes out the smaller

ones, and cancels the stamps on them with the special Christmas postmark.

Then Canada Post delivers the mail back to the people who sent it.

The Christmas Island postmark is really popular with stamp collectors. Every year, mail comes from all over the world to be postmarked at this Cape Breton Island post office. Other people put their Christmas mail in a large envelope and send it to the post office the same way the collectors do. This way they can send Christmas cards to friends and family with the special holiday post mark. About 15,000 pieces of mail pass through the tiny post office each holiday season.

The idea of a special postmark came from the late Margaret MacNeil, who was postmistress at Christmas Island for more than 30 years.

The postmark was designed by Stephen Slipp of Halifax and looks like a Christmas wreath. It comes in two colours—red and green. The postmistress postmarks the mail by hand. If she has time she will do it in both colours! The Christmas mail then receives special treatment by Canada Post so that it is not marked in any other way.

If you are wondering how Christmas Island got its name, there are two stories that explain this. One is about a Mi'kmaw chief who had the last name of Christmas. He is supposed to be buried on the small island near the community of Christmas Island. The other story tells of a group of surveyors who had been doing a big job in the area. When they finally finished, it was Christmas Eve and they named the area Christmas Island.

If you would like to have one of these collectible postmarks, mail your large envelope to: The Christmas Island Post Office, Christmas Island, N.S., B1T 1A0.

* * * * *

You've Got (Christmas) Mail!   We are an Island

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Comprehension Questions

1. Why do people send mail to themselves through the Christmas Island Post Office?

2. What does the special Christmas Island postmark look like?

Using Vocabulary

Fill in the blanks with the word that fits best.

1. The letter carrier _____ the letters.

(**cancels   designs   delivers**)

2. The postmistress _____ the stamps with the

_____.

(**delivers   cancels   collectors   postmark   envelope**)

3. That dog _____ her bones in my yard.

(**berries   buries**)

4. The _____ told me where my land stops.

(**surprises   specials   surveyors**)

5. The _____ owns that skating rink.

(**community   collectors   communicate**)

6. These two words have silent letters in them: _____

_____.

(**postmark   collectors   designs   delivers   wreath   cancels**)

7. Christmas Island is a _____ place.

(**designed   special   surveyor**)

Suggested Activities

1. Make up a Christmas poem and send it to a classmate—with a Christmas Island postmark on it.

Many Christmas cards use poetry to say a message. There are two features about most poetry: **rhythm** and **rhyming words.**

Rhythm is created by using a syllable pattern in the lines of poetry.

Example: Mer/ry/ Christ/mas/to/you (six syllables)
             Too/bad/you've/got/the/flu (six syllables)
             I've/cooked/up/some/chick/en/stew (seven syllables)
             so/you'll/soon/be/good/as/new. (seven syllables)

Rhyming words help make the message sound better. You can find rhyming words by going through the alphabet.

Example: "day" rhymes with "away", "bay", "cabaret", etc.

Don't forget about words that begin with blended letters such as "th", "sh", and "ch". Example: "they"

2. Have you ever received mail from another country? Did you save the stamps? Bring them in to show others in your class.

3. Do research in your library on how postmarks started.

4. Visit the Canada Post website. Just type in "Canada Post" on your search engine. You can find out lots of interesting information there such as the addresses of important Canadians, how to start a stamp collection and what 18th century letters were like.

The Fortress Town of Louisbourg

Word Preview

probably   understand   craftsmen   settlement

refrigerator   diet   trade   entrance   siege

declared   surrendered   site

Place Names
- Louisbourg
- New York
- Boston
- Charleston
- North America
- New Zealand
- Australia
- Europe
- Scotland
- Baleine
- France
- St. Ann's
- Isle Madame
- Great Britain
- Québec

You have probably heard of Fortress Louisbourg. You may even have been there. You probably know it has a number of large buildings and many people dressed to look like French soldiers in 1744.

You might wonder today how important Louisbourg really was in 1744. To understand this, we can use our imagination to picture the fortress town as it was in 1744.

More than 3,000 people lived in the fortress town. They included soldiers, merchants and craftsmen. There were women and children too, though not as many women as men. There were also hundreds of visiting sailors and fishermen in the streets at different times of the year.

The harbour was often filled with war ships. Over the year, about 100 other ships came carrying goods for trade. Only New York, Boston and Charleston received more ships in North America than Louisbourg.

The town had a bakery and places where visiting ships could buy supplies. Canada's first lighthouse was built at Louisbourg. The town had a hospital. It also had a court to settle disagreements that took place at sea. Louisbourg was well known for having people who were experts on the sea. James Cook, who later became a famous captain, visited Louisbourg before he discovered New Zealand and Australia.

Place Names Continued
- Newfoundland
- Isle Royale
- P.E.I.
- West Indies
- Gulf of St. Lawrence
- England

Other Settlements

Louisbourg was not the first place Europeans had tried to settle in Cape Breton Island. Fishermen from several countries had been fishing near Cape Breton Island each summer for 100 years.

In 1629, Lord Ochiltree of Scotland started a settlement at Baleine, a little north of Louisbourg. It didn't last long. That same year a Frenchman, Charles Daniel, destroyed it and built his own fort at St. Ann's. That lasted only 12 years. Also, around this time Nicholas Denys of France started a settlement on Isle Madame, but it was destroyed by fire.

In the mid-1600s, Britain and France both became interested in North America and competed over the new land. By 1713 France had a large settlement in Québec. France had lost Newfoundland and mainland Nova Scotia to Great Britain, though. All France had left on the Atlantic coast was Isle Royale, as they called Cape Breton Island and Isle St. Jean or

Prince Edward Island today. To protect this colony, France sent 250 men, women and children over to start a settlement on Isle Royale at Louisbourg in 1713. Soon after, the French began to turn the settlement into a fortified town with walls and cannons.

Why Louisbourg?

Louisbourg was important because of its location. The location of Louisbourg allowed the French to do three things:

1. French fishermen could fish for cod on the rich fishing grounds off Cape Breton Island. This was important because there were no refrigerators in the 1700s. Dried fish was a big part of the French diet and cod dried well. Fish were also important because most French people were Roman Catholic. There were many days of the year they could not eat meat because of religious reasons.

2. The French could trade at Louisbourg. Trade was with the West Indies and France. These three places formed a triangle of trade.

3. The French could guard the Gulf of St. Lawrence from Louisbourg. The Gulf was the way to Québec.

What Happened to Louisbourg?

Another good thing about the location of Louisbourg was its harbour. The harbour was big, but the opening to it was small. This meant it would be easy to protect with cannons at its entrance. Since the French expected their attackers to come by sea, this was important.

However, that isn't what happened. Instead, Louisbourg fell because of two sieges.

France and England declared war on each other in 1744. In the spring of 1745, forces from New England, with help from England, blocked off the harbour so Louisbourg could not receive supplies or soldiers. Other New Englanders landed behind the low hills that surrounded Louisbourg and snuck up to attack. The fortress was surrounded. The French surrendered on June 27th.

The Treaty of Aix-le-Chapelle gave Isle Royale back to France in 1749. War between France and England broke out again in 1756. In June 1758, British forces landed at Kennington Cove in Gabarus Bay. The next month the strong English navy destroyed the French ships in the Louisbourg harbour. At the same time, British cannons on land broke through the fortress walls. The fortress was surrounded again. The French were fighting larger navies and armies. France was too far away to help. The French surrendered on July 26th. The British destroyed the fortress and sent the people who had lived there to France and Québec.

In the 1900s, Louisbourg was important to Cape Breton Island as a port and a fish processing centre. However, the shipping industry changed and the cod fishery ended because of over-fishing.

Now, it is the fortress that has made Louisbourg important again. Fortress Louisbourg is one of Canada's national historic sites. It brings thousands of visitors to Cape Breton Island every year and employs many people. One-quarter of the town has been rebuilt to look just as it did in 1744. People wear historic costumes and play the parts of soldiers, servants and others who had lived in Louisbourg. By visiting there you can see for yourself what Louisbourg was really like.

* * * * *

Comprehension Questions

1. Where was the first place Europeans tried to settle on Cape Breton Island?

2. Why were fish important to the French?

3. Why was Louisbourg in a good location for trade?

4. People from what places were fighting against Louisbourg?

5. How many times was Louisbourg under siege?

Using Vocabulary

Complete these sentences using the word that fits best.

1. That is the _____ of their new house.

(**site   sit   sight**)

2. Louisbourg was _____ by the enemy.

(**surrendered   surrounded   settlement**)

3. _____ means "there is a good chance."

(**declared   siege   probably**)

4. Now I _____ what you mean!

(**understood   understate   understand**)

5. People can run out of food during a _____.

(**site   siege   settlement**)

6. _____ made many of the things people used in Louisbourg.

(**trade   entrance   craftsmen**)

7. England and France _____ war on each other.

(**surrendered   siege   declared**)

"I" Before "E"

English has many words which use "i" and "e" together. There is a rule which can usually tell you which letter comes first:

"I" before "e" except after "c" or when sounding like "ay" as in "neighbour" and "weigh"

Examples: believe, receive, neighbour

Use this rule to finish these sentences. Remember to check which letter comes before the blank to use the rule.

1. Louisbourg was under s_____ge.

2. That dog is a golden retr_____ver.

3. I love to rec_____ve gifts!

4. My n_____ce is coming home tonight.

5. He wants to lose some w____ght.

6. They spend their summers playing ball on that f____ld.

7. Did you get a rec_____pt when you paid your bill?

8. The party is at th_____r house.

9. I was so rel_____ved to find my wallet!

10. I might get my ears p_____rced.

Something to Think About

1. If you were a commander at Louisbourg and knew there might be a siege, what would you have done?

2. What would Cape Breton Island be like today if the French had won at Louisbourg? How do you think life might be different? Write about it.

Katharine McLennan's Mission in Life

<table>
<tr><td colspan="4">Word Preview</td></tr>
<tr><td>satisfaction</td><td>destroyed</td><td>ruins</td><td>foundations</td></tr>
<tr><td>artifacts</td><td>museum</td><td>wealthy</td><td>considered</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>injured</td><td>sewed</td><td></td></tr>
</table>

Once in a while you meet someone who has a mission in life—there is work they feel they were meant to do. They get great satisfaction from this work. They do it whether they are paid to or not.

For example, Alexander Graham Bell's mission in life was to help deaf people communicate. Some people feel their mission is to write or play music. Others want to climb mountains. For some people, being a good housekeeper is very satisfying. All these people work hard at what they do. They don't feel like they are working, though, because they are so interested in what they are doing.

Place Names
- Sydney
- Louisbourg
- Petersfield
- Sydney Harbour
- Europe
- France
- England

Katharine McLennan, of Sydney, had an unusual mission in life: preserving the fortress at Louisbourg. She got the idea from her father, Senator (Sen.) J.S. McLennan. Sen. McLennan had become wealthy in the coal industry, but he had a strong interest in the fortress. With

Katharine's help he wrote a history of Louisbourg that is still used today.

Louisbourg Destroyed

The British destroyed the Louisbourg fortress after they captured it in 1758. By the early 1900s, when Sen. McLennan became interested, grass had grown over the ruins. The walls had crumbled. Only the foundations of buildings were left.

Sen. McLennan belonged to a group of people that wanted to preserve the old fortress. He hoped the fortress would make us proud of our history. His dream was to build a museum to hold artifacts and papers so other people could study them. After many years, the federal government agreed to provide funding. The museum was finished in 1936.

Katharine's Choices

This is where Katharine McLennan, the senator's daughter, came in. When we think about the things she did, we see how strong her interest in the fortress town was. It became her mission in life.

Katharine was born in 1892. She could have lived a very different life from the one she did. Her family was wealthy. She lived in a beautiful large house in Petersfield, across Sydney Harbour from Sydney. Famous and important people visited her family. She visited Europe often. She didn't have to work.

Some of the people who visited the McLennan home were wealthy people who spent their time trying to help others. When World War I started in 1914, it seemed everyone around her was trying to help win the

war. She felt she should do something, too. When her brother was killed in the war, she knew she had to get involved. She considered all the ways she could help and then chose one. She would help care for injured soldiers in hospitals in France.

Her biggest problem was getting her father to agree to the plan. Nursing was not yet a respected job for women. Besides, he had already lost a son to the war. He didn't want to lose her, too.

She talked to her father but he wouldn't change his mind. She wrote letters to her friends and they tried to change the senator's mind. Still, he would not let her go. Months went by. She passed the time by helping others to send needed things to soldiers. Finally her father changed his mind and let her go.

She spent three years helping in French hospitals. She met soldiers from backgrounds very different from her own. She shared their suffering but she also found satisfaction in helping them. When her work became hard or stressful, she painted water colour pictures to relax. You can see one of her paintings at the end of this section.

By the time she came home from France in 1919, she knew what she wanted to do with her life. She wanted to work for the public good. She used her time and her money for many causes. During World War II (1939-1945) she ran the Red Cross blood donor clinic in Sydney. But, the interest that would last the rest of her life was local history.

Her Interest in Louisbourg

She ran the Fortress Louisbourg museum as a volunteer for 20 years. During these years she:

- built two models of the fortress town that took years to finish.

- used her own money to find and buy back artifacts.

- fitted and glued together pieces of china found at the site.

- sewed French and British flags for her models.

- wrote a short history of Fortress Louisbourg.

- kept a list of all artifacts brought to the museum.

- spent hundreds of hours with her father copying by hand historical documents from Canada, France and England.

Katharine spent her life studying life in the 18th century fortress town. Her friends said she knew more about the people of Louisbourg in the 1700s than she did about people of her own time!

In 1961, the federal government decided to spend $20 million to rebuild the fortress. This would make work for miners and boost tourism.

The work lasted 20 years. Everything was made to look just like it did in 1744, as Sen. McLennan had wanted. By now, Katharine was an expert on the fortress. She shared information with researchers. She knew so much about the people of Louisbourg that her friends said she sounded as if she had been alive in 1744.

Katharine received many awards before she died in 1975. But, her greatest reward was the satisfaction she got from her work. That's what it is to know your mission in life.

* * * * *

Using Vocabulary

Choose a word from the preview words for this lesson to match these

phrases.

A happy or contented state _____

Thought about carefully _____

Harmed _____

What's left of something that was destroyed _____

They support buildings _____

Anything made or changed by man _____

A building where interesting things are preserved and displayed _____

Rich _____

"Sewed" and "Sowed"

Sewed sounds like **sowed**. Do you know the meanings of these words?

Fill in the blanks with the right word.

1. He _____ corn when the spring came.

2. She _____ her wild oats.

3. Frank _____ the button on his coat.

Comprehension Questions

1. What was the fortress like when Sen. McLennan became interested?

2. What kind of life was Katharine born into?

3. Why did she want to work in hospitals in France?

Comprehension Questions Continued

4. Why would her friends say Katharine knew more about life in 1744 than she did about her own time?

Contractions

This story has a number of contractions in it. A contraction is a short form of a phrase made by joining two words together but leaving some letters out. An apostrophe (') goes in the place where we took the letters out.

Example: In the sentence "They **don't** feel like they are working." **don't** is a contraction. It is a short form of **do not**.

What two words are these contractions made of?

1. don't   _____ _____

2. they're   _____ _____

3. didn't   _____ _____

4. wouldn't   _____ _____

5. that's   _____ _____

6. couldn't   _____ _____

7. she's   _____ _____

8. there'll   _____ _____

9. he'll   _____ _____

10. I'm   _____ _____

Contractions Continued

11. let's   _____ _____

12. it's   _____ _____

Knowing Yourself

Our lives can be happier if we know what we enjoy doing and what we don't enjoy doing. When we know what we are good at and what we are not as good at, we can set realistic goals—goals we will be able to reach if we work at them.

When we set goals we may have to choose from more than one thing we want to do. We may also have to think of more than one thing we can do to reach our goals. It's always good to have backup plans.

Once we know our goals we will get more help from other people if we can explain our ideas and feelings.

We may feel stress if our goals are hard to reach. We can try many things to give us a break from our stress—hobbies, taking a walk, watching a movie or talking with friends.

Knowing ourselves, setting realistic goals, making choices, communicating our ideas and dealing with stress are all part of a healthy lifestyle. Look back over this lesson and see if you think Katharine did all these things.

Something to Think About

1. Have you ever worked hard for a long time at something because you wanted to? Did other people wonder why you worked so hard at it? Describe your feelings as you did the work.

2. Would you say Katharine's interest was unusual? Why or why not?

3. Have you ever seen, or known, someone who had a mission in life? Describe it.

4. Why do you think Katharine's father finally agreed to let her go to France?

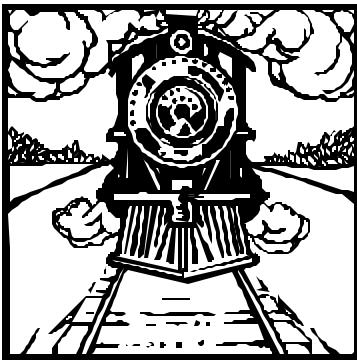## Coal was King

It was the demand for fish in Europe that first brought Europeans

Word Preview

demand   development   Industrial Revolution   orderly

locomotives   factories   companies   produce (verb)

natural gas   diesel   increased   fuel   subsidies

social   announced   steady   depended

economic

to Cape Breton Island. But, it was coal that led to large settlements here.

The role that coal played in the development of Cape Breton Island is a good example of how things here have been shaped by things far away. The steam engine was invented in England in the 1700s. This lead the way to the Industrial Revolution. It took fuel to make steam engines run and coal was a good fuel. Over the next 150 years, the demand for coal jumped as industries developed on both sides

Place Names
- Europe
- Cape Breton Island
- England
- Atlantic Ocean
- Fortress Louisbourg
- North America
- Port Morien
- Canada
- Glace Bay
- Sydney Mines
- New Waterford
- Sydney
- Cape Breton County

of the Atlantic. Coal was needed for new steel mills, ships, train locomotives and factories.

North America's First Coal Mine

Coal mining on Cape Breton Island really started more than 250 years ago. The French had seen coal in the cliffs when they were building Fortress Louisbourg in the early 1700s. In fact, North America's first coal mine was opened in 1720 at Port Morien to supply Louisbourg with coal. But, it wasn't until industry started to grow in Canada that coal mining on Cape Breton Island became important.

Coal Mining Grows on Cape Breton Island

By 1873, there were eight coal companies on Cape Breton Island. Men were paid from 80 cents to $1.50 a day and boys were paid 65 cents. Over the next few years, large mines opened in Glace Bay and Sydney Mines. Soon there were 12 coal mines just in Glace Bay, alone. Coal was king!

In 1894, the government gave mining rights on the island to just one company, the Dominion Coal Company. It was owned by Americans. Coal mines were soon opened all around Glace Bay and New Waterford, as well as Sydney Mines. Cape Breton Island was soon producing nearly three-quarters of the coal used in Canada.

In 1900, a modern new steel mill started production in Sydney. This brought a new demand for coal. Thousands of people from all over the world came to work in the mines. The future of Cape Breton' Island's coal towns looked bright.

Trouble for Coal Mining

By 1950, nearly 12,000 men worked in Cape Breton Island coal mines. But the industry was in trouble. Factories had switched to cheap oil or natural gas. Railways were using diesel oil for their locomotives instead of coal. Between 1961 and 1967, nearly 3,000 coal miners were laid off. The federal government increased its subsidies to the coal company, which was now named Dosco (Dominion Coal and Steel Company). But, that wasn't enough to save the industry. In 1966, Dosco announced it would close its Cape Breton Island coal mines.

Cape Breton County had been a rural area with a small population before the coal mines opened. Most people had farmed or fished for a living. That all changed when the coal mines opened. People left their farms for a steady wage in the mines. Thousands of other people came from other countries. Suddenly, Sydney Mines, Sydney, New Waterford and Glace Bay had become "industrial Cape Breton." These communities depended on coal mining to survive. Loss of coal mining would mean economic hardship and social problems.

To avoid the problems that would come with the end of coal mining, the federal government took over the mines. It formed a new company called the Cape Breton Development Corporation, or Devco. Devco had two goals:

1. To slowly close the coal mines in an orderly way and

2. To encourage other companies to come and create new jobs.

Devco closed its last coal mine in 2001. Its efforts to bring in new

industry were not successful. The steel plant also closed that year. While some new businesses have come to the area, there are not enough jobs to replace the ones lost from coal mining and steel making.

What Will the Industrial Area Be Like 100 Years from Now?

In 2000, the federal and provincial governments created the Cape Breton Growth Fund to help bring economic development here. The two levels of government put in a total of nearly $100 million to help businesses start and grow. Some of the new jobs are expected to be in technology, tourism, oil, gas, and culture. The fund is expected to be used up within four years.

One hundred years ago, the Sydney area suddenly became an industrial center. What will the next 100 years bring?

* * * * *

"Coal was King"

Word Roots

Many of the words in the Word Preview for this lesson have come from **root words**. A root word is a smaller word that has letters added to it to change the meaning slightly.

Examples:

Root Word	New Word
arrange	arrangement
end	ended
order	orderly

What Do These Words Have in Common?

Look up the word "social" in a dictionary. Does your dictionary give the Latin **root** for this word? How many other words in your dictionary begin with "**soci**-"?

Look up the word "popular." What is this word's Latin root? How many other words in the dictionary begin with "**popu**" and are related to "popular?"

Using Vocabulary Continued

Here are a few common word endings.

-s at the end of a noun (a person, place or thing) makes it **plural,** or more than one. Example: one car   two cars

-**ed** is used at the end of a **verb,** or action word**,** to make it **past tense**. Example: learn   learned

-ing is used at the end of a **verb** to make it **present tense**. Example: She is sleeping now.

-**ly** is used at the end of an adjective, or describing word, to make it an adverb, or word that describes how a verb was done. Example: He ran quickly.

There are other common word endings too. See if you can give the **root word** (the word before another part was added) for these words:

Example: miner   mine (root word)

	Root Word			Root Word
demanded	_____	settlements		_____
located	_____	inventing		_____
orderly	_____	sadly		_____
economically	_____	miners		_____
developing	_____	hardly		_____
depended	_____	Americans		_____
products	_____	nearly		_____
announced	_____	wondered		_____
announcements	_____	living		_____
building	_____	farms		_____

Using Vocabulary Continued

demand	development	Industrial Revolution	orderly
locomotives	factories	companies	produce (verb)

Choose words from the word bank above to complete the following sentences.

The _____ caused the _____ for coal to grow. Coal was needed for _____ and _____ . This led to the _____ of the coal industry on Cape Breton Island.

development	depended	diesel oil	produce
natural gas	announced	subsidies	demand

Choose words from the word bank above to complete the following sentences.

By the 1950s, coal was being replaced by _____ and _____. There was no need to _____ coal any more. The government _____ to the coal company were not enough to keep the industry going. The company said it would close. People in mining communities _____ on the coal industry to make a living. They knew the island needed more economic _____.

Comprehension Questions

1. Why was there a demand for coal in the late 1800s and early 1900s?

2. Where did North America's first coal mine open? Who opened it?

3. What hurt the demand for coal? How did this affect mines on Cape Breton Island?

4. Why did the federal government form the Cape Breton Development Corporation?

5. What is the Cape Breton Growth Fund?

Something to Think About

1. What do you think "on both sides of the Atlantic" means?

2. Why did people say "Coal was king?"

3. How did the development of the coal industry change Cape Breton Island? There are many things you could include in your answer. Think about the land, the people and the way people lived.

4. What do you think the industrial area will be like 100 years from now? Again, think about the land, the people and the way people will live when you answer this question.

5. There are still many reminders of coal mining on the island. The industry has left its mark on the land and culture in many ways. For example, there are buildings, monuments, street names, museums, place names, songs

Something to Think About Continued

names, songs and organizations that can be traced to coal mining. How many can you think of?

Further Activities

There are many stories about the early days of Cape Breton Island coal mining. It was an interesting time with new people coming to the area, dangerous and difficult work in the mines and battles between miners and the mining company.

These books tell some of those stories:

- The Glace Bay Miner's Museum, by Sheldon Currie, who was born on Cape Breton Island. This is a book of short stories which includes the story on which the hit movie Margaret's Museum was based.
- The Company Store, a novel of coal mining days in Cape Breton Island in the early 1900s.
- Pit Pony, a novel by Joyce Barkhouse. The movie and television series of the same name were based on this book.
- Black Around the Eyes, a novel by Jeremy Akerman.
- Each Man's Son, by Hugh MacLennan, tells the story of a young man who grew up in a Cape Breton Island coal mining town in the very early 1900s.

The CBC film Pit Pony and Pit Pony television series give a good picture of what life was like in Glace Bay in 1904. The Cape Breton Literacy Network has copies of the first show in the television series.

Notes

Re: Coal was King, "Something to Think About", No. 5

There are many reminders of the coal mining industry on Cape Breton Island. Here are some, but learners may think of many more.

<u>Events/Festivals</u>—Davis Day, Coal Dust Days

<u>Place Names</u>—Davis Square (New Waterford), Glace Bay neighbourhoods such as "Number Two" and "Number 11"; "Dominion", "Reserve Mines", street names such as Official Row and Union Street; Colliery Lands Park, and the Colliery Route

<u>Buildings</u>— the Inverness Miners' Museum, the Glace Bay Miners' Museum, various union halls, the former Miners Forum

<u>Culture</u>— the Men of the Deeps, the "Working Man" song, the black in the Cape Breton tartan representing coal, the writing of Sheldon Currie, (author of The Glace Bay Miners Museum and The Company Store), the movie based on The Glace Bay Miners Museum, "Margaret's Museum"

<u>Monuments</u>— the monument to J.B. McLachlan in Glace Bay

<u>Other legacies</u>—Coal miners in Glace Bay can be credited with bringing health care to that town. Through "check-offs" from their paycheques they provided the money to build the town's first two hospitals, St. Joseph's Hospital and the original Glace Bay General Hospital. Before the days of nationalized health care Glace Bay mines also used the check-off system to pay physicians and, later, to pay for medications for miners and their families.

Some historians also credit the work of early unionized miners with helping to end child labour in Canada. The miners unions pressed for labour laws to improve working conditions for a wide range of workers.

Sights and Pictures from Cape Breton County

Wartime painting by Katharine McLennan

Nurse Katharine McLennan

Touring the Miners' Museum in Glace Bay
(ECBC photo)

Coal miners take a break underground.
(ECBC)

Action at Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Park   (ECBC photo)

Polish dancers reflect one of the county's ethnic groups. (ECBC photo)

What Happened to Sydney's Steel Industry?

Word Preview			
production	limestone	future	modernized
results	controlled	semi-finished	retrain
social assistance	responsible	diversified	equipment

The beginning of the 20th century was an exciting time in Sydney. The largest and most up-to-date steel mill in the world had just started production. For a while, there was also another small steel mill in nearby Sydney Mines. Steel was needed all over the world for new railroads, buildings and machines. This made a high demand for steel. This high demand pushed the price for steel up. This was good news for anyone who made steel. Thousands of people were coming to Sydney to work in the steel industry. It looked like Sydney would become Canada's most important steel city.

And why shouldn't Sydney be an important steel city? It had everything that was needed to be one. There was cheap coal nearby for the furnaces used to make steel. Cape Breton Island also had limestone,

Place Names
- Sydney
- Sydney Mines
- Canada
- Newfoundland
- Ontario
- Québec
- Cape Breton Island
- Nova Scotia
- Dartmouth

which was needed to make steel. There was iron ore not too far away in Newfoundland. Sydney had a perfect harbour for shipping steel. And there was already a rail line in Sydney for sending steel to markets.

Henry Melville Whitney was the head of a company called the Dominion Iron and Steel Company (DISCO) and he wanted to build a steel mill in Sydney. When he announced his plan, the government welcomed it. The municipal government in Sydney gave DISCO free land on which to build the mill. It also provided free water and promised not to collect taxes on the land for 30 years. The federal government gave DISCO millions of dollars to make steel in Sydney.

With all this, DISCO had high hopes for a bright future. It started production in 1901. One hundred years later the mill was closed. It had been losing money for more than 30 years. What had gone wrong?

Problems from the Beginning

Sadly, there were problems with the Sydney mill right from the beginning. The mill was new and modern, but mistakes had been made in planning how it would make steel. These mistakes made production costs in the Sydney mill higher than in other mills.

There was another problem, too. Before long, the steel mill came to be controlled by people who were from Central Canada. They only used the Sydney mill to provide semi-finished steel for their other mills in Ontario and Québec. Semi-finished steel is not worth as much as steel that has been made into things. The Central Canada mills used the semi-finished steel to make finished products which they could sell for more money. The

Sydney mill was never changed to let it make finished products. When the economy was bad and there was no demand for semi-finished steel, the Sydney mill had nothing else to sell.

Black Friday

By the 1950s the Sydney mill was no longer modern. The owners had never invested in it by bringing in new technology or changing it to make new products. In 1957 the mill was sold to Hawker Siddley. This company let the mill become run down while it built a new mill in Québec. The Sydney mill was losing money. On Friday, October 13, 1967, people's worst fears came true. Hawker Siddley announced it would close the Sydney steel plant. This day became known as Black Friday.

People in Sydney were shocked and frightened when they heard the announcement. Six thousand people would lose their jobs if the mill closed. About half of them would not find other work. They would have to leave Cape Breton Island, taking their families with them. The Sydney area completely depended on the steel mill. Twenty thousand people marched in the streets of Sydney to show their fear. They wanted government to take the plant over.

The Nova Scotia government had two choices. It could phase the plant out in a planned and orderly way. Or it could invest in the plant so it could keep producing. The government knew it would cost millions of dollars to retrain people, help them move and provide social assistance if the mill closed. The government did not want to pay for all this, so it agreed to take the plant over. But experts now say the province was never really serious

about wanting to run the mill as a business. There were no long term goals or plans for the mill. Because there were no goals or plans for the mill, the managers were not held responsible when things went wrong.
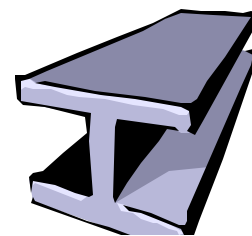
The First Eight Years

The plant, which was now called Sydney Steel Corporation (Sysco), needed to be modernized and diversified quickly so it could produce other products to sell. This is not what happened.

The plant's main product was rails but it also produced wire and nails. Sysco management sold the wire and nail mills to a private owner who received government money to move them to Dartmouth. This made the Sydney mill more dependent than ever on rails and semi-finished steel.

The provincial government planned a $60 million modernization of the plant but said Sysco must pay for the modernization itself. However, the government knew Sysco did not make enough money.

Managers at the plant did not follow the modernization plan put together by experts. Instead, they made expensive mistakes by following other ideas. The mill was getting deeper and deeper into debt. Until 1975, there was a high demand for semi-finished steel. But Sysco's old equipment was breaking down. This meant there were times it could not produce much steel to sell. Sysco missed a good chance

Steel used in construction

to make money during these years. After 1975, there was a long time when there was little demand for semi-finished steel. It was hard to sell semi-finished steel then.

Too Little Too Late

More money was spent on the plant but it was too little, too late. The plant continued to lose money and some taxpayers no longer wanted to pay to keep it open. The workforce got smaller and smaller as steelworkers were laid off. In 2001 the plant was finally closed.

In the end, Sydney's steel industry was phased out, but it was phased out in an unplanned way. Millions and millions of dollars were spent with no good results. Now, as Sydney looks for a new future, we can only wonder what might have been done differently.

* * * * *

Using Vocabulary

Complete each sentence with the word below that fits best.

1. _____ has stopped at the steel mill.

(**Producing**   **Produces**   **Production**)

2. Money was spent to _____ the plant.

(**modern**   **modernization**   **modernize**)

3. _____ businesses don't depend on just one way to make money.

(**Diversification**   **Diversified**   **Diversifying**)

4. The words "plant" and _____ can mean the same thing.

("**limestone**"   "**future**"   "**mill**")

5. Sysco was in _____.

(**debt**   **died**   **date**)

6. Her behaviour is just because of a _____ she is going through.

(**place**   **vase**   **phase**)
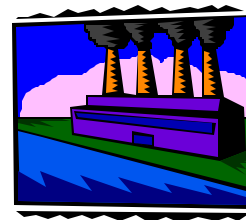
Using Vocabulary Continued

Some words are often used together, such as "goals" and "plans" and "future." Complete these sentences by choosing from these words:

plan   **results**   **goals**   **future**   **responsible**

If we want to have a good _____ we should set

_____. We have to _____ how to reach our

_____, one step at a time. We can tell if we are making

progress by looking at the _____ of what we have done. When

we set _____ and make choices like this, we are being

_____ for our lives. If there are no _____ to

compare our _____ to, then we can't tell if we are getting

anywhere.

Comprehension Questions

1. Why was the price for steel rising around the year 1900?

2. What were five reasons why Sydney was a good place for a steel mill?

3. The Sydney mill mostly made semi-finished steel and rails. How did this

   hurt the mill's chances for success?

4. Why was October 13, 1967 called Black Friday?

5. When did the steel plant close?

What Happened to Sydney's Steel Industry?   We are an Island

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Why We Say the "20th century"

This article started with "The beginning of the 20th century was an exciting time for Sydney." When we say the "20th century," we mean the years between 1901 and 1999.

We start counting years from the time Christ was born. We use B.C.E. (Before the Common Era) to note years before Christ was born. For example, 500 years before the birth of Christ would be written as "500 B.C.E.".

For the first 100 years after the birth of Christ we say "(the year) A.D." For example, "32 A.D.". This means 32 years after Christ was born. The Latin for this is Anno Domini. The short form is A.D. So, 89 years after the birth of Christ would be 89 A.D.

By the time we reach the year 101 we have already counted 100 years, or one century. After that, we go into our second century. So, 135 years after the birth of Christ would be in the second century. That is why we say the "20th century" for 1901 and not the "19th century."

In what century are the following dates? (Remember to add one century for any date past 100.)

2500 _____   32   _____

1492 _____   1086 _____

1776 _____   1200 _____

1. If Robin Hood was born in 1160, what century was he born in?_____

2. If William Shakespeare wrote Romeo and Juliet between 1594 and 1596 what century did he write it in?_____

What Happened to Sydney's Steel Industry?   We are an Island

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Why We Say the "20th Century" Continued

3. By the year 3250 people might be able to travel to other planets easily.

What century would this be? _____

Something to Think About

1. This article mentioned that some of the owners of Sydney's early steel industry did not live in Cape Breton Island. Do you think it would have made any difference if they had?

2. If 6,000 people would have lost their jobs if the steel plant closed in 1967, why did 20,000 march in Sydney to show their feelings about this?

3. Do you think there is any kind of industry that does not need to invest in new ways of doing things? Why or why not?
    Do people also have to invest in their futures? Have you ever made an investment in your future?

4. Sydney has street names, place names, buildings, monuments and organizations that remind us of the city's steel-making days. How many can you think of?

What Happened to Sydney's Steel Industry?   We are an Island

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Sentences: Subjects and Predicates

Every sentences has two parts: a **subject** and a **predicate**.

The subject is the word, or group of words, that is doing the action in the sentence.
Examples: I liked that movie.   I is the subject.
            A flock of geese flew over my house.   A flock of geese is the subject.

The predicate is the part of the sentence that tells what is said about the subject. It must have an action word, or verb, in it such as "is", "liked", "flew", or "feel."
Examples: He is a good fiddle player. is a good fiddle player is the predicate.
            I want to go back to school. want to go back to school is the predicate.
            "Run!" Run is the predicate. The subject, you, is not written but is understood.

If a sentence does not have both a subject and a predicate, it is not a complete sentence. It is a **phrase**.
Examples: His boat is not a complete sentence.
            needs to be painted is not a complete sentence.
            His boat needs to be painted is a complete sentence.

Some of the groups of words below are complete sentences. Some are not. At the end of each group of words write "complete" or "not complete" to say whether it is a complete sentence or not.
1. Life on another planet. _____

2. Standing in the doorway to his living room. _____

3. The young man looked very frightened. _____

4. Everyone wanted to hear his story. _____

Sentences: Subjects and Predicates Continued

5. Sydney was much smaller before the steel plant was built. _____

6. Maybe, if the owners of the steel mill. _____

7. Beginning in early 1900s. _____

8. People came here from many countries. _____

9. As soon as the snow is gone. _____

10. A can of worms, a fishing rod and a lunch. _____

Can you find each phrase (incomplete sentence) below? Which sentence should it go with? Write the complete sentence in the space provided.

Example: I went to buy my ticket. As soon as I could. I didn't want to be too late. <u>I went to buy my ticket as soon as I could.</u>

1. Sometimes we get upset over nothing. The things we think are important. Really are not very important.

_____

_____

2. Sometimes people. Cut in front of us when we are driving. We think we should be angry.

_____

_____

3. Don't get angry. Be glad you are not in such a hurry. That other driver. Must be having a bad day.

_____

_____

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Sentences: Subjects and Predicates Continued

4. So many people spend so much time. Worrying about little things. These people can forget about the good things around them.

_____

_____

5. No one is perfect. You can't be happy if. You are always looking for something wrong about yourself.

_____

_____

6. All you can do. Is your best. Remember the good things about yourself.

_____

_____

Review the rules about sentence punctuation in "Europeans Arrive".
Find each complete sentence below and give it the correct punctuation.

1. how often do you remember to say nice things to people most of us don't do this very often

2. there are reasons why we don't do this we might be too shy

3. maybe we think they already know their good points we could be wrong

4. people need to hear good things about themselves you will feel happier too because you are seeing the good in someone when you say nice things to them

They Came from Everywhere

Word Preview		
industrial	piers	expanding
advertised	immigrants	ethnic
diverse	census	boarding
persecution	dangerous	double
arrived	diversity	benevolent

It is hard for us to picture how much of what came to be known as "Industrial Cape Breton" changed at the beginning of the last century.

Sydney, Glace Bay, New Waterford, Sydney Mines, North Sydney and other communities in the area were not industrial places before the steel plant was built. Cape Breton County was mostly a rural area. People made their living fishing, keeping small farms or working at the piers where boats came to take on coal.

But in the 1890s, the scattered coal mines in the area came under one owner—the Dominion Coal Company. Coal was in demand. The coal company was expanding and needed new workers. There weren't

Place Names
- Industrial Cape Breton
- Sydney
- Glace Bay
- New Waterford
- Sydney Mines
- North Sydney
- Cape Breton County
- Europe
- Caribbean
- Eastern Europe
- Middle East
- Canada
- Montréal
- Whitney Pier
- Dominion
- Newfoundland
- Ukraine
- Italy
- Poland
- Russia
- Germany
- Romania
- Austria

enough men in the area to work in the mines, so the company advertised for miners in newspapers in Europe and the Caribbean.

Then, work was started on a large steel mill in Sydney. More workers were needed. Again advertisements were used to bring workers to the area.

Place Names Continued
- United States
- Croatia
- Hungary
- Lebanon
- China
- Cape Breton Island
- Barbados

Big Changes

The communities went through big changes.

Thousands of immigrants came to the area. They came from Western Europe, Central Europe, countries that were in the former Soviet Union, the Middle East and the Caribbean. They brought with them languages, customs, traditions, foods and ways of worship that were new to Cape Breton Island. They made industrial Cape Breton one of the most ethnically diverse places in Canada east of Montréal.

In the 1890s, only a few hundred people lived in Glace Bay. Before long, hundreds of men began to come to the town each day. Soon there were 8,000 people in Glace Bay. Then, new mines opened just outside the town. Glace Bay quickly grew to 21,000 people.

The Canada Census showed there were 2,427 people living in Sydney in 1891. Some of them lived in the Whitney Pier area of Sydney because it was close to their jobs at the coal loading piers. When the steel plant was built near Whitney Pier, immigrants settled there to be close to the new jobs. By 1903 there were 4,000 people living in the Whitney Pier area of

Sydney. Ten years later there were 8,000 people living in Whitney Pier. The wave of immigration into Industrial Cape Breton lasted until the 1930s. Some of these new Canadians went to other communities in industrial Cape Breton such as Sydney Mines, North Sydney, New Waterford and Dominion.

Where Did They Come From?

The place where the largest number of immigrants came from was Newfoundland. (Newfoundland belonged to England then. It did not join Canada until 1949.) People also came from the Ukraine, Italy, Poland, Russia, Germany, Romania, Austria, the United States, the Caribbean, Croatia, Hungary, Lebanon and China. They came for many of the same reasons people have always moved: to try and make a better living, to escape war or to escape ethnic persecution. In many ways, they were like people who move today to find work. They learned from friends and relatives there was work on Cape Breton Island. When they came, they often lived near their countrymen. In this way they were able to feel more at home. And like people who move today to find work, some of the immigrants stayed, some moved on to other places, and some went back home.

The Early Days

In the beginning, life was hard for these people. Immigrants were given the dirtiest and most dangerous jobs. Also, there was not enough housing for them.

A story from 1901, published in Glace Bay, 1901—1995; Excerpts from the Past and Present, said 1,000 double houses were going up but more men were still coming to the town. Eighteen large boarding houses were

quickly put up for 1,400 men. Other men had made one-room shacks near the mines with up to 15 men living in each shack. In one rooming house, there were six families living in six rooms. When boarders in the same rooming house worked different shifts, the night men jumped into the beds when they ended their shift just as the day men jumped out. The story said the beds were never cold.

It was much the same for steelworkers in Sydney. Boarding houses, many of them owned by the steel company, were crammed with young, single men. Sometimes the housing was so bad that people got diseases and died. Boarding houses came to be "Russian," "Italian," "Caribbean" or whatever ethnic group stayed in them. Later, when women and families came to join the men, houses were built or bought from the steel company or landlords.

Beryl Braithwaite's father came from Barbados to Sydney in 1906. She described what life was like for him in From the Pier, Dear!, a book published by the Whitney Pier Historical Society.

> When my father first came here he worked at the coke ovens…At first he was making twelve cents an hour, and after two years he was getting fourteen cents an hour. That's a big difference in the pay they're getting today. Another difference was, in Barbados, the class system was very well defined; here everyone mixed together. In the Pier, it seemed like everyone was so closely knit and we had so many different nationalities…There were Italians, there were Negroes, there were Hungarians, there were Polish, Ukrainians, French, Indians, Jews. And they all seemed to get along very well together. (Taken from From the Pier, Dear!)

Other communities were also interesting places to live 100 years ago.

Fanny Cohen is a retired school teacher in Glace Bay. In Passage to Glace Bay: Our Community Then and Now, published by the Congregation Sons of Israel, she recalled what it was like to grow up there in the 1920s:

> We lived at Number 4 Pitt Street...All my remembrances are of people. The houses were full of children with one wage earner in the mine. You seldom saw the mothers—they were in the houses bringing up children...

> The neighbourhood people were of all backgrounds—Europe, England, Wales...We had no trouble with all these people. The Polish people [came] to my mother because she spoke it...She came from Poland and so did my father. (Taken from Passage to Glace Bay)

Immigrants Built Communities

The immigrants believed in helping others who had come from the same country. Most groups built their own churches and started benevolent organizations. These organizations helped people in many ways. They gave food or money to families when the man of the household was ill or injured at work. They helped pay for medical care. Many of them paid room and board for new workers who had just arrived. They helped new workers find jobs.

In time, the immigrants came together to form strong unions to speak for steelworkers and coal miners. They also built communities that welcome diversity and sharing. Industrial Cape Breton would be a very different place today if these people had not come here.

* * * * *

Comprehension Questions

1. What was Cape Breton County like before the steel plant was built?

2. How did people in other countries learn about the new jobs in coal and steel on Cape Breton Island?

3. Why did industrial Cape Breton become ethnically diverse?

4. Why was housing a problem in Sydney and Glace Bay?

5. What are some reasons people left their homes to come to Cape Breton Island?

Something to Think About

1. Beginning with the year 1891, list the num-   bers given in the article that show how the towns grew.

   Example: 1891—Sydney has 2,427 people

   　　　　1903—

   Think about these numbers and about how quickly communities changed. Now describe, in sentences, what you think it would be like if this was happening in your own community.

2. Today there are churches for Anglican, Roman Catholic, Salvation Army, Italian, Polish, Ukrainian, Greek and African Orthodox congregations in Whitney Pier. Do you know of any other buildings or events that show the ethnic backgrounds of people in Industrial Cape Breton?

Something to Think About Continued

3. Do you know people who have left Cape Breton Island? How did they hear about these other places? Where did they stay when they first arrived there?

Further Activities

1. For an interesting and colourful history of Whitney Pier see From the Pier, Dear! Images of a Multicultural Community, published by the Whitney Pier Historical Society. You can also visit the Whitney Pier Museum to get a look at the history of this interesting place.

2. In an atlas, find maps of Western Europe, Central Europe and the former Soviet Union (pages 90, 91 and 92 in the Nystrom Canadian Desk Atlas). Find each of the countries listed in the **Place Names** at the beginning of this article and write down whether it is in Western Europe, Central Europe or the former Soviet Union.

Using Vocabulary

piers   **expanding**   **diverse**

immigrants   **advertised**

Fill in the blanks in the sentences below with words from the word bank above.

1. I _____ my pet care business in the newspaper.

2. _____ means "to be making bigger."

3. The people of Whitney Pier have very _____ backgrounds.

4. They built these _____ to ship coal.

5. The towns grew because of the _____ .

Now do the same with the sentences below.

ethnic   **arrived**   **dangerous**   **persecution**

double   **boarding**

1. He just _____ here Tuesday.

2. He is staying in a _____ house.

3. Even today, some people live in fear of _____ because of

   their _____ background.

4. Steel plant work was _____ .

5. At that low price, I can buy _____ the amount of potatoes

   that I did last week.

There's More Than Beauty to the Mira River!

Word Preview

First Nations	harvested	cause	board
descendants	decide	programs	thriving
self-sustaining	interpretive	observatory	

not-for-profit

No visit to Cape Breton County would be complete without a visit to the beautiful Mira River. But there is more than beauty to this river. The Mira area has played, and still plays, an important role for the people who live on Cape Breton Island.

For thousands of years, the Mi'kmaq used the river to travel to other parts of the island. By the 1500s, the Mi'kmaq called the river "sul'a kati" or "place of silver or metal." This tells us the Mi'kmaq were trading with Europeans and got silver or metal from them at the mouth of the Mira. One form of this name appears on a Portuguese map from 1554. As far as we know, this was the first time a First Nations name was

Place Names
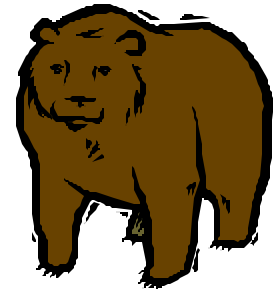- Cape Breton County
- Mira River
- Mouth of the Mira
- Europe
- Portugal
- Canada
- Eastern Cape Breton
- Two Rivers Wildlife Park
- Sable Island

There's More Than Beauty to the Mira River! We are an Island

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used by Europeans for any place in Canada.

The French

The French were quick to see what a good place the Mira River area would be to live in. In the 1700s, they harvested timber and firewood from the river's shores. They also ran two sawmills along the river.

But, it was land for farming that interested them most. The French saw that the Mira River area had the best farm land in eastern Cape Breton Island. By 1738, there were a dozen farms along the river. They produced peas, beans, oats, buckwheat and hay for livestock. But the French were forced to leave their farms after Louisbourg fell to the English in 1758. Some of them were even taken as prisoners.
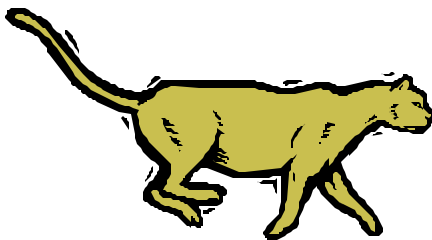
The Huntingtons

About 50 years later an Englishman, Caleb Huntington, saw the area and knew it was good farmland. He settled there and his descendants stayed to run thriving farms and mills.

Two Rivers Wildlife Park

In the mid 1900s, the Nova Scotia government bought the Huntingtons' land and made it into a park. In 1977, a national Girl Guide camp with international guests was held there, bringing 10,000 visitors to the area. Four yea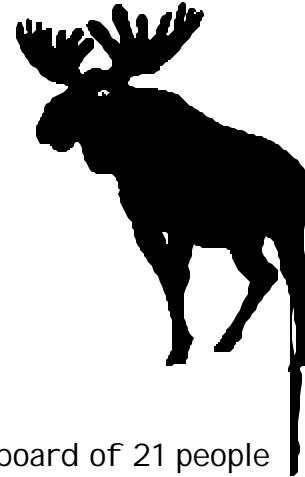rs later, the park became the Two Rivers Wildlife Park. As a park, it was the home for many kinds of animals that could be

There's More Than Beauty to the Mira River!   We are an Island

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seen by the public. It was a popular place in the summertime when Cape Bretoners and visitors went to see the animals.

Determined Volunteers

But, in 1995, the provincial government said it was going to close the park to save money. People who live near the park did not want it to close. After months and months of meetings the people formed a not-for-profit group to run the park.

But this was only the beginning. Today a volunteer board of 21 people decides how the park should be run. There are also many, many volunteers who help care for the wildlife, plan special events and raise money. Other people work at the park. People who want to help but cannot be at the park often can take part in the Adopt-A-Friend and Trees for Tomorrow programs. These programs raise money to care for the animals and grounds. The board developed a five-year plan to become self-sustaining. Four years have passed and the park is well on its way to reaching its goal.

Ideas

The Two Rivers Wildlife Park is a good example of many different types of volunteers working together. In this case, some of the most important things volunteers have given are their ideas. The park has to make enough money to become self-sustaining so it needs ideas on how to do this.

Many of the ideas have already been carried out. Because of these

ideas, the park offers many more things to visitors than it did in the past. It is open all year round now. There is cross country skiing in the winter. At other times of the year there are wagon and pony rides, special events for Groundhog Day, U-fish ponds, interpretive trails, an observatory for looking at stars, swimming, playgrounds and picnic areas.

And, of course, there are animals and birds such as Sable Island horses, moose, eagles, pine martins, porcupines, foxes, black bears, cougars, lynx, bobcats and more.

The Two Rivers Wildlife Park was important to the people of the Mira River when the government ran it. Now, it is even more important. It has given people a cause to work for, even people who don't live near the Mira. Try and visit the park soon. You, too, might want to get involved. You might be surprised at how much this park has for people of all ages.

* * * * *

Some Huntington Humour

Eleanor Huntington is descended from the Huntingtons of the Mira area. For many years she worked at the Cape Breton Post where she wrote about the things she saw in her daily life. Here is one of the stories she loved to tell:

A man was at the Pearly Gates waiting to be allowed into Heaven. He saw a group of people who were also waiting, but St. Peter seemed to be ignoring them. When the man's turn came, he asked St. Peter why the group of people was being kept waiting. St. Peter answered, "They're all from Cape Breton Island. What's the sense in letting them in? As soon as they get inside they'll want to go back home!"

* * * * *

Comprehension Questions

1. What did the Mi'kmaq use the Mira River for?

2. Why did the French like the Mira area?

3. Why did the provincial government want to close the Two Rivers

   Wildlife Park?

4. Who runs the park now?

5. What are some things volunteers do for the park?

Using Vocabulary

Draw a line from each word in Column A to the phrase in Column B that best describes it.

Column A	Column B
First Nations	something worth working for
harvested	no one makes money from it
cause	a place with things for looking at stars
board	supporting itself
descendants	the people who lived in a place first
program	helping to explain something
thriving	gathered a crop
self-sustaining	a set of organized events
interpretive	doing well
observatory	your children's children
not-for-profit	a group of persons who run something

There's More Than Beauty to the Mira River!   We are an Island

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Writing Quotations

Look at the following sentence: St. Peter answered, "They're all from Cape Breton Island."

"They're all from Cape Breton Island," is a direct quotation. A **direct quotation** means these are the words the person being quoted said.

Here is how to write a direct quotation:

1. Write a short sentence on the line below. Remember to start your sentence with a capital letter and end with a period or question mark.

_____

2. Now put quotation marks (" ") before and after it. You have written a direct quotation.
3. At the beginning of your sentence, write the words I said or He said and put a comma (,) after them. Your sentence now shows who said the quoted words.

Here is another way to show who is speaking.

1. Write another short sentence below. Remember to start with a capital letter and end with a period or question mark.
2. Put quotation marks around your sentence.
3. Now change the period or question mark to a comma (,) to show your new sentence is not finished yet.
4. Add the words I said or said Bob to the end of your sentence. Put a period after them.

_____

_____

Your sentences should look like these examples:

I said, "Let's go to the park."

"I like the bobcat the best," said Roy.

Writing Quotations Continued
Circle the correct capitalization or punctuation in the following sentences.

These rules are important to remember:

1. The first letter of the quoted words begins with a capital letter.
2. A comma separates the quoted words from the rest of the sentence.
3. The punctuation mark for the quoted words goes inside the quotation marks.

---

1. "I think Cape Breton Island should have a wildlife park," (Said   said) Ron.

2. Susan asked, "(Are   are) you willing to help?"

3. "We will have to work (hard,"   hard",) said Lynn.

4. Ron thought for a while and then (said   said,) "Yes, I think it is the right thing to do."

Rewrite each of the following sentences using proper punctuation and capitalization.

1. I really like cross county skiing said June _____

_____

2. So I asked where do you go to ski _____

_____

3. I go to the Two Rivers Wildlife Park she said _____

_____

4. Then she said I rent skis there and look at the animals as I ski _____

_____

A Cape Breton Island Hero

Word Preview

heres   usually   experts   education   organize

economics   agriculture   offshore trawlers   labour

encouraged   suggested   cannery   construction

co-operative (n)   aggressive   information

Hollywood makes a lot of movies about heroes. The heroes are usually good-looking. They're usually strong and healthy. And they are usually very likable.

But real-life heroes are not always like this. Cape Breton Island has one hero who was very different. This man came to be known in many countries. Important people came to him for advice. He changed the lives of thousands of people. A community on Cape Breton Island is named after him. But he wasn't anything like a movie hero.

Jimmy Tompkins was born in the Margaree Valley in Inverness County, in 1870. As a child, he was frail and small. Even as an adult, he only reached five feet four inches. He had a sharp nose and a voice that was scratchy

Place Names
- Margaree Valley
- Eastern N.S.
- Antigonish
- Canso
- Dover
- Maritimes
- Canada
- England
- United States
- Reserve Mines
- Cape Breton Island
- North America
- Nova Scotia

and unpleasant. He was often nagging and cranky. He was pushy. When he was interested in something, he thought everyone else should be interested, too.

With help from family and friends, the small Jimmy Tompkins became a priest. For many years, he taught at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish.
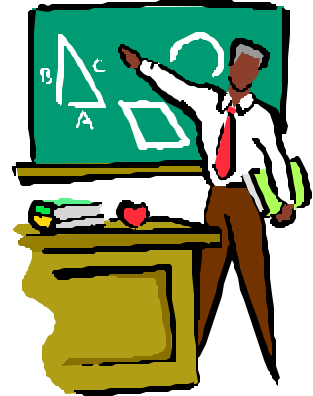
Hard Years

These were hard years for Eastern Nova Scotia. Small family farms could no longer support all the people who lived on them. Young people were leaving rural communities for jobs in other places. On Cape Breton Island, it was no better. Miners often worked 13-hour shifts but only got pennies for their pay. The coal company was taking most of their money back for rent, taxes and things bought at the company store. There was no employment insurance or government help then. Poor people were often hungry. Sometimes their children died before they could grow up.

Father Jimmy had a pleasant life teaching at St. F.X. (St. Francis Xavier University), but he was unhappy with what was happening in the communities around him. He believed if people in these places could get education, and stay there, they could bring new life to the area.

The Time for Learning

When he talked about education he didn't mean school for children. He meant education for adults and he felt strongly about this. "The time for learning anything is when you need it," he always said. He also said, "What the people most need to learn is what they most want to learn."

He felt St. F.X. was not teaching what people needed know to compete in the modern world, so he started a People's School at St. F.X. for farmers. It was free and anyone could attend. People learned things like math, economics, agriculture and public speaking. The People's School was a success and started a new kind of adult education at St. F.X. It was the beginning of the Antigonish Movement, a set of ideas that helped groups of people help themselves to a better life. But this wasn't enough for Father Jimmy. He wanted to make bigger changes in the university. He was far too aggressive for those who were in charge of St. F.X. A year later he was sent away to serve as a parish priest in the foggy, cold, poor community of Canso. He was 52 years old.

Life in Canso

Father Jimmy took his love of education with him to Canso and the nearby community of Dover. Most men in these communities fished in small boats for a living. Many could not read. They caught lots of fish, but stayed very poor.

Father Jimmy felt they would never understand why they were poor if they couldn't read. In Dover, he found someone to teach young people to read and then sat in front of the door so no one could leave.

For five years, he watched the people in their poverty. New offshore trawlers were catching tons of fish in just a few days. It took the little boats weeks to catch that much. The price of fish was going down.

Father Jimmy walked through the community with his pockets stuffed with newspaper stories and information about the trawlers. He encouraged people to read so they would understand what was happening. Some people found him cranky. He rarely smiled or relaxed. But other people found him to be kind and caring. As a priest, he seemed more interested in their well-being than in their sins.

Father Jimmy did not solve people's problems. Instead, he encouraged people to solve their own. One day, he heard fishermen talking about how little money they got for their fish and how much they had to pay for fishing gear. He suggested they hold a meeting about it. He sat back as the fishermen talked about their problems. These fishermen all worked by themselves. At the meeting, they learned they all had the same problems. Father Jimmy formed study groups so the fishermen could learn more about what was happening in the fishery. After a number of meetings, they saw a way out of their poverty: they started a fishermen's co-operative. This would give them some control over how much money they got for their fish and how much they paid for fishing gear. If a co-operative controlled these things, no one would be making an unfair profit off them.
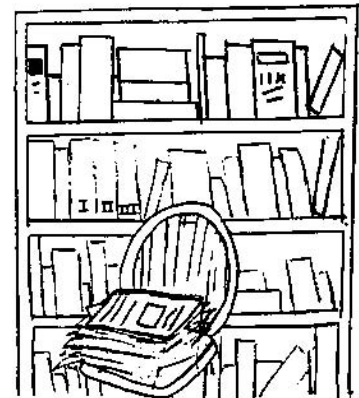
Fishermen Build a Cannery

Father Jimmy lent the fishermen $300 of his own money and got

another $700 loan for them. The fishermen used the money to build a cannery. Instead of working alone, the fishermen fished as a co-operative. Because they were all working together, they got better prices for their fish when they sold them. They also sent some of their lobster to their cannery where they could get even more money for it because it was in cans. Within two months, the loans were paid back. The fishermen were making money for the first time in years. Co-operatives like this one became an important part of the Antigonish Movement. Father Jimmy believed even the poorest of the poor could make better lives for themselves if they learned to work together.

Father Jimmy, his cousin Father Moses Coady, and others soon spread information about co-operatives across the Maritimes. People from other parts of Canada, England and the United States came to learn from them. The Antigonish Movement became famous.

Between 1928 and 1934, Father Jimmy started more study clubs. He turned the front room of his rectory into a reading room. There were newspapers in it from all over the world. By 1934, everyone in Dover was a reader.
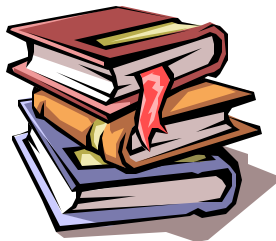
Life in Reserve Mines

In 1935, Father Jimmy went to Reserve Mines on Cape Breton Island. Reserve Mines was a coal mining community. As in other Cape Breton Island coal mining towns, mining families were poor and lived in draughty, damp houses. At times, they had only cabbage, turnip and bread to eat. The

cemetery had many tiny markers to show where babies had been buried. The miners' houses were no place for sick babies.

The miners knew a little about Father Jimmy's ideas. They had already opened a credit union which was like a co-operative bank. They put their savings together so that members could borrow money to make their lives better. But with the mines only working one or two days a week, how could they make life better?

Soon after he got to Reserve Mines, Father Jimmy opened a small library in his house. He found interested men and made sure they read what he wanted them to. "The man who reads is the man who leads," he said. Within four months, he had 2,000 books in the library. Some miners walked eight miles to borrow books and sit in on study groups. Like before, the study groups led to new ideas. Soon, there was a co-operative store in Reserve Mines, where people paid fair prices for things.

One study group met to talk about the biggest problem the families had. That was the poor housing they rented from the coal company. "Why can't we build our own houses?" one miner asked. The miners didn't have enough money to build their own houses. They also didn't know how to build co-operative housing.

Father Jimmy pushed the Nova Scotia government to lend the miners money for housing. The miners would supply the land and labour. He found two experts on co-operative housing to organize the construction. He let the miners buy land from the parish to build the

houses on. The houses were to have six rooms each with bathrooms and plumbing. The women planned the kitchens. Whole families, even children, hammered, sawed, nailed on shingles, and put up gyprock. When one foundation was poured, the men moved on to another. People didn't always get along. They had to learn to work together. But they saw that by co-operating, they could leave the shacks they rented from the coal company. Months later, just before Christmas, nine families moved into their homes. The opening ceremony was the next summer. Five hundred people went to the opening, including 150 from the United States who were interested in co-operatives. The mining families and Father Jimmy had made history. This was the first co-operative housing project of its kind in North America. The miners called their little community Tompkinsville.

Word about Tompkins and co-op housing spread across North America. By 1953, the year Fr. Jimmy died, there were 35 housing co-ops in Nova Scotia. Altogether, that was 4,000 homes.

A small man with poor health, Father Jimmy Tompkins had not looked like a hero. He was not always popular. But his work changed the lives of thousands of people. That made him a hero to the people of Cape Breton Island.

* * * * *

Using Vocabulary

Draw a line to connect the word in Column A with the phrase in Column B that matches it best.

Column A   **Column B**

usually   people who know a lot about something

information   most of the time

encouraged   one way of learning more

heroes   facts

education   to give hope or courage

experts   people we look up to

Use the word bank to complete the sentences below.

   "Cape Breton Island summers are too short," Marge said to her

economics	organize	labour	suggested	construction

husband, Bill. "I want you to build me a greenhouse, so I can start my

garden early." Bill did not like to build things so he _____ his

friends help him. He told them if they gave their _____ he

would _____ the _____ and give them supper. So he

fired up the barbecue and put on steaks. But Bill's friends were big eaters.

He had to buy more steaks. He got a shock when he added up the cost of

the food. It would have been cheaper if Bill had bought a greenhouse,

instead of building one. He had not thought about the _____

of his plan.

Comprehension Questions

1. What was happening in communities in Eastern Nova Scotia in Father Jimmy's time?

2. Why did Father Jimmy start a People's School?

3. What did Father Jimmy stuff his pockets with? Why?

4. What did people think of Father Jimmy?

5. What did Father Jimmy suggest the fishermen do?

6. What idea did the fishermen come up with?

7. What was the biggest problem in Reserve Mines when Father Jimmy went there?

8. How did miners in Reserve Mines make history?

Something to Think About

1. Think about the following statements which Father Jimmy often said:

"The time for learning anything is when you need it."
"What the people most need to learn, is what they most want to learn."
"The man who reads is the man who leads."
"Ideas have hands and feet. They will do work for you."

Pick two statements and explain in your own words what you think Father Jimmy meant.

2. Which do you think is better—government social programs such as employment insurance and social assistance or co-operatives. Why?

Making Plural Words

We can make most words plural by adding s.

Ex: one car   two cars

This does not work for some words.

For words that end in o, s, x, z, ch, sh we add es.

Ex: one hero   two heroes

one church   two churches

If words end in a consonant followed by a y we change the y to i and add es.

Ex: one lady   two ladies

one ferry   two ferries

If there is a vowel before the y we just add s.

Ex: one day   two days

When words end in f or fe we change the f to v and add es.

Ex: one life   two lives

Write the plural form of these words.

1. boy   _____   2. girl   _____

3. half   _____   4. fly   _____

5. miner   _____   6. potato   _____

7. play   _____   8. university _____

9. witch   _____   10. wife   _____

11. house   _____   12. cannery _____

13. library _____   14. hammer _____

Thoughts From

Cape Breton County Learners

The History of Davis Day

On June 11th /1925 a group of 3,000 men and boys most of them miners ,marched to New Waterford lake after the town threatened to cut off their water supply. At that time the miners were on strike, and this is how the town tried to get the miners to go back to work.

Among them was a miner named William Davis. Mr. Davis was one of the people who went out there to support the rest of the miners.

When the crowd reached New Waterford Lake, they were met by 100 policemen. The crowd then attached the police and the police started to firing there guns at the miners.

During the battle the police shot 3 miners. They were Gilbert Watson, Michael O'Handily, and William Davis. Both Watson and O' handily survived from their injuries but William Davis was fatally shot.

The people of New Waterford still gather around a statue of William Davis that stands in the middle of Davis Square located on Plumber Avenue on New Waterford on June 11th every year.

Davis Day is important to me because I grew up in New Waterford. Both my Dad and my grandfather worked in and survived the mines. Me and my family use to join everyone in town of New Waterford for special prays and ceremonies.

Davis Day is a civic holiday for the miners and is celebrated in all the small mining communities such as Glace Bay.

This was done by
Keith Fougere
January 8,2002 (10;31 am)

The Dominion Iron and Steel Company

The Dominion Iron and Steel Company (DISCO) were erected in 1900. Then later that in that year December 19,1900 it's doors opened .

Employing many different Ethnic people such as ,Itlian, German, Scandavian, Dutch ,Hungarian, Ukraninian, Polish, Native Indian and British.

DISCO had three decades of uninterrupted prosperity. DISCO during the depression experienced a brief boom occurred during World War II.

After the war Sydney ranked second in size among Canada's steel mills unfortunity the owners could not keep pace with the new plants locating in Canada.

So the owners decided to announce the closure of The Dominion Iron and Steel Company on October 13, 1967. Then the province of Nova Scotia took over the Dominion Iron and Steel Company and named it The Sydney Steel Corporation (SYSCO).

In more recent years the Sydney Steel Corporation has had heavy financial losses leading to the closure of The Sydney Steel Corporation.

Questions and Answers

Q: When was the Dominion Iron and Steel Company erected?
A: The Dominion Iron and Steel Company was erected in 1900.

Q: How many different Ethnic people were employed at the Dominion Iron and Steel Company?
A: There were nine different Ethnic groups of people employed at the Dominion Iron and Steel Company.

Q: How many years did the Dominion Iron and Steel Company prosper uninterrupted?
A: The Dominion Iron and Steel Company prospered three decades uninterrupted.

Q: When did the owners of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company close?
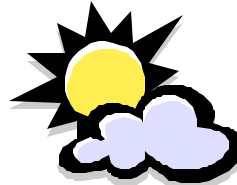A: The Dominion Iron and Steel Company closed October 13, 1967.

Q: Who took over the Dominion Iron and Steel Company?
A; The Dominion Iron and Steel Company was taken over by the Province of Nova Scotia.

Seasons of Sydney

Beautiful trees in the fall
blue skies of clouds of different shapes
traffic driving by
church bells
fresh air
friendship and coffee
the ground underneath us
happy to live here.

Hewer

By Ernest

Sydney Day Class

Mira Gut

Come explore a little piece of heaven called Mira Gut. Mira Gut is twenty minutes from Glace Bay and it is fifteen minutes from Louisbourg. On a lovely summer day you can swim in the blue Atlantic Ocean while relaxing on the sandy beaches. You'll see and hear beautiful bald eagles and sea gulls cawing in the wind. Families will be enjoying a quiet moment together playing in the blue ocean waves. So come explore a lovely drive out to Mira. Just like me, you will see Mira Gut becomes just like home. My husband and I discovered this peace of heaven. When we were looking for a place to live. It's a charming place to sea.

By Crystal Murphy
At Sydney day class

North Sydney Submission
"We Are An Island"

Did you know that there are lots of exciting summer activities in North Sydney? In this essay, we will talk about Canada Day, the Bartown Festival and the Exhibition.

On July 1st, Canada celebrates its birthday. In North Sydney, we have a number of Canada Day activities. The Knights of Columbus put on a breakfast. On Commercial Street they have the opening ceremonies at noon. In the afternoon we have lots of live entertainment at the boardwalk. During this time we also have activities for the children at the fire hall (horseback riding, Dunk Tank, and games). At dusk, we also have fireworks.

Each year in mid-July, North Sydney has Bartown Days. The name

Bartown came from the original name of North Sydney which was North Bar. The name North Bar came from a large sandbar down at Indian Beach. It was changed to North Sydney in 1885. Bartown is a weeklong celebration which includes Bardance, parade, live entertainment and fireworks.

During the middle of August, we celebrate the Cape Breton Farmers' Exhibition. This is a public exhibit of farm animals, vegetables. Horses and other livestock competitions. It also includes talent shows, barbecues, crafts displays, amusement rides and live entertainment. Farmers from across the Atlantic Provinces participate in this weeklong event which runs in the second last week of August.

There are lots of exciting summer activities in North Sydney. After reading this essay, you can see that this is the place to be in the summer.

Commercial Street, Glace Bay
Past, Present and Future

Glace Bay: The Past

In the past, Commercial Street, in Glace Bay, was a busy place to shop. There were a lot of people in the town because there was a lot of employment. The coalmines, fish plants, hospitals and railways had a lot of people working in them. Since Glace Bay was such a large town, it needed to have a big number of different kinds of stores to shop in.   These were the stores that the town o Glace Bay had on Commercial Street in the late 1920's and early 1930's:

1. The Metropolitan Store (department store)
2. Hamburg and Co. (clothing)
3. Borden's Lady's Wear
4. The Leader Store (department store)
5. Jakie Marcus' Grocery
6. McKeigan's Hardware
7.   Gillis' Jewelry Store
8. Viho's Sweets
9. Breton Auto Accessories
10. Lebetzki's (furniture)
11. Glace Bay Shoe Cleaning
12. New Era Café
13. Markadonis Shoe Repair and Smoker's Supplies
14. Layton's Jewelers
15. Markadonis and McCord's Billiard Hall
16. Saul Bernick's Clothing and Footwear
17. Hugh McIntyre's Men's Wear and Tailoring
18. Prowse's Jewelry Store
19. People's (department store)
20. Currie's Beauty Parlor
21. Bay Motors
22.. Medical Hall

23. Louis Burnstein (lady"s wear)

24. Commercial Agencies Insurance Brokers

25. Carroll's Drugstore

26. Bank of Nova Scotia

27. Green's Cash and Credit

28. Salvation Army

29. F. W. Woolworth's Department Store

30. Russell Theatre

31. Rukasin's (furniture)

32. Britis Canadian Co-op

33. Lighter's Jewelry Store

34. Knox church

35. St. Mary's Church

36. St. Paul's Church

37. Chernin Clothing

38. Red and White Grocery Store

39. Marshall's Clothing

40. Samuel's Meat Market

41. YMCA

42. Gallay's (shoes)

43. Bonnell's Furniture

44. Robertson's Dairy

45. Fultz (eye, ear, throat)

46. Dr. Lawley (dentist)

47. Dr. McIsaac and Dr. Taylor (dental surgeons)

48. Joe Smith's Men's Wear

49. Eaton's (department store)

50. Thompson and Sutsherland (furniture)

51. Gordon's Grocery

52. Simpson's (department stores)

53. The Hat Box

54. ARP Pharmacy

55. MacLeod's Bookshop

Glace Bay: The Present

Glace Bay is a nice place to live and shop today. But, there is not many stores on Commercial Street anymore because there are not many people in the town anymore. The coal mines, railways, and most of the fish plants have closed. The stores that are there are not the kind of stores that used to be there. For example, there are no department stores anymore. Now you have to go to Sydney to do your clothes shopping. You can't go to Commercial Street to get your groceries anymore either. Now, it has mostly drugstores and food places. We do have some beautiful parks to go to. The stores that are on Commercial Street now are:

1. Toby's and Ein's (clothes)
2. Bargain Shop
3. Islands Fashion
4. Shopper's Drug Mart
5. Lawton's Drugstore
6. Pharmasave
7. Needs
8. Knox Bowling Alley
9. Highland Chev Olds
10. Webster's Jewelry
11. Arlie's Gifts
12. Mel's This and That
13. Wayne's Trains and Jay's Planes
14. Mtt Rolling Phones
15. Schwartz Furniture
16. Bay Music
17. Marg Ellsworth Flowers
18. Shears 2 U Hair Design
19. Bel's Beauty Boutique
20. The Bay Dollar Store
21. MacLeod's Plumbing and Heating
22. Tim Horton's
23. Huang's Chinese Restaurant
24. Subway

25. A&W
26. Scottie's Pizza
27. Venice Pizza
28. Krisley's Chicken
29. Savoy Theatre
30. Glace Bay Shoe Store
31. H&R Block
32. Scotia Bank
33. Anderson Nathanson Barrister's and Solicitor's
34. Ratchford's Photography
35. Knox Church
36. Doctor's Office
37. Dentist Office
38. Caper Electronics
39. Stepping Stones Play Area

Glace Bay: The Future

We can hope that Glace Bay will have a good future. The natural gas industry may develop here and that might mean that some new stores would come to Commercial Street. A department store would be nice to have here. We hope that some of the old buildings will be replaced with new ones. Maybe we will even et a mall on Commercial Street since people seem to like inside shopping better. We would also like to see the streets and sidewalks fixed and our healthcare improved. It would be nice if we could have our coalmines and railways back. We don't know if these things will ever happen, but we do hope for a good future for the town of Glace Bay.

Submitted By:
Glace Bay Day Class
Karen James, Rose Murphy, Jack Burgess

Historical Information provided by:
Glace Bay Heritage Museum
Inglis MacAulay, Glace Bay Resident

CAPE BRETON COUNTY WEBSITE RESOURCES

1. http://collections.ic.gc.ca/virtualtours/
   Website which gives information on Eskasoni, Point Edward and
   Whitney Pier. Eskasoni pages are broad overview with a timeline
   and brief history of Mi'kmaw people, history of Eskasoni as well as
   native legends. Point Edward pages detail two natural heritage
   sites in the area – the Point Edward Resource Centre Interpretive
   Trail and Petersfield Provincial Park. Whitney Pier pages detail
   the multicultural history of the area's churches.

2. http://collections.ic.gc.ca/co-op
   This website details the cooperative movement in Nova Scotia with
   particular emphasis placed on Father Jimmy Tompkins.

3. http://collections.ic.gc.ca/louisbourg
   Website devoted to aspects of Louisbourg's history.

4. http://collections.ic.gc.ca/coal
   Website devoted to history and methods of coal mining on Cape
   Breton Island. Beautifully created website with black and white
   graphics.

5. http://collections.ic.gc.ca/mclennan
   Website devoted to the McLennan family of Westmount. Explains
   their philanthropic ventures including reconstruction of Louibourg.
   Also relates information about their home at Petersfield. This
   site could be used in conjunction with the "Virtual Tour of Three
   Communities" Digital Collections site.