

# ***How should the events of the Northwest in 1885 be remembered in Canadian history?***

“No figure in Canadian history has stirred as much controversy as Louis Riel. His fight for the rights of the Red River Metis has become an iconic piece of Canadian history. Passions still run high around this man whose impact on Canada was monumental.” *Horizons* 2<sup>nd</sup> edition

Similar to the events in the Red River Valley in 1869-70, there is extensive debate amongst historians, politicians, and Canadians on how the events of the Northwest in 1885 should be remembered in our nation’s history.

Your task is to write an essay on the following topic:

**Should the events of the 1885 Northwest Uprising be remembered  
as rebellion or resistance?**

**Use the following structure to organize your paper:**

**Introduction:**

Briefly explain the topic and issue – Who is living in the region? What is happening to them? Why are they upset? In your last sentence, state *your* position (thesis).

**Body Paragraph 1:**

*Concede the “other side”*: Identify reasons that disagree with your thesis. Offer any arguments that might be used to support the counter-argument to your thesis.

**Body Paragraph 2:**

*Prove your side*: Explain and support the reasons for your position (thesis). Offer arguments that prove and support your thesis.

**Conclusion:**

Compose a conclusion that summarizes both arguments and restate your position (thesis). End with an idea/sentence that leaves the reader intrigued.

**Things to consider – a well written paper...**

- Is organized into 4 paragraphs
- Discusses both sides of the issue
- Is persuasive and convincing = “proves its thesis”
- Uses specific events in history as evidence to prove the argument/counter-argument
- Is well written and easy to read
- Is proofread for spelling and grammar errors

**Assessment: 48 marks**

**Should the events of the 1885 Northwest Uprising be remembered as rebellion or resistance?**

Analyze the Timeline events from your booklet (p. 5-7) for evidence to support both sides of the argument.

<div>Resistance</div> <div><u>Definition:</u> the act or power of resisting and opposing</div> <div><u>Synonyms:</u> opposition, defiance</div>	<div>Rebellion</div> <div><u>Definition:</u> open, organized, and armed action against one’s government or ruler; defiance of any authority</div> <div><u>Synonyms:</u> mutiny, insubordination, disobedience</div>

## ***Essay Outline***

### **Introduction:**

Briefly explain the topic, issue, and state *your* position (thesis), but DO NOT present any reasons.

### ***Body Paragraph: "counter argument"***

***Topic Sentence:***

***Conclusion Sentence:***

**Body Paragraph: “prove your thesis”**

**Topic Sentence:**

**Conclusion Sentence:**

**Conclusion:**

Compose a conclusion that summarizes both arguments and restate your position (thesis). End with an idea/sentence that leaves the reader intrigued.