

Name: _____ Period: _____

“The Vietnam Wars”

Directions: Read the Background Information and p. 12 in your workbook. Then, in complete sentences, answer the questions below.

Background Information: In 1885, Vietnam was colonized and as a result of the production of rubber, alcohol, salt and opium became a money-making venture for the French. By 1941, in the midst of World War II, and with much of France occupied by Germany, the Japanese had swept through much of Southeast Asia and took control of Vietnam. With Japan’s defeat in 1945, the Vietnamese were hopeful for independence. However, the French were determined to regain control of their former colony and re-occupied Vietnam. By 1954, despite the aid of the United States, the French reluctantly agreed to leave Vietnam.

1. In paragraph 1 of the section “Doc-Lap at Last,” the author says, “The Americans cringed at the thought of a Communist Vietnam.” The word *cringe* literally means “to bend your head in fear.” What feeling does the word “cringe” give you, and how does that help you understand the main idea of this paragraph?
2. A *peace* accord is a peace agreement. Who agreed to what?
3. What is the significance of the author putting the term in “advisers” in quotes in paragraph three?
4. Based on the tone of the selection, citing specific examples, what can you infer about the author’s perspective toward the Vietnamese people? What specific words or phrases in this section led you to infer that perspective?