

Nationalism: Identity, Loyalty, and National Interest

This worksheet supports the key outcome that students will understand, assess and respond to the complexities of nationalism ([Topic](#)), addressing both the relationship between identity and nation ([Topic](#)) and the pursuit of national interest ([Topic](#)). Complete each exercise in pencil and show your reasoning where a written response is requested.

Exercises

1. Matching: Perspectives on Nationalism

Nationalism can be understood as an identity, an internalized feeling, or a collective consciousness shared by a people, expressed differently across historical and cultural contexts ([Outcome](#)). Match each term in Column A to its best description in Column B by writing the correct letter on the line.

Column A	Answer	Column B
1. French Revolutionary nationalism	_____	A) Nationalism rooted in a distinct language, culture and territory within a larger federation
2. American nationalism	_____	B) Nationalism tied to shared land, spiritual connection and community across the Arctic
3. Québécois nationalism	_____	C) Nationalism built on ideals of liberty, equality and a common citizenry replacing monarchy
4. First Nations and Métis nationalism	_____	D) Nationalism grounded in treaty rights, self-determination and distinct nationhood
5. Inuit perspectives	_____	E) Nationalism expressed through civic ideals, founding documents and a sense of exceptionalism

2. Multiple Choice: Reconciling Contending Loyalties

Which of the following best describes a challenge involved in reconciling contending nationalist loyalties within Canada ([Outcome](#))?

- A) Ensuring every citizen adopts a single, uniform national identity
- B) Balancing civic nationalism with the distinct nationalist claims of Québécois, First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples
- C) Replacing ethnic nationalism entirely with international law
- D) Eliminating regional identities in favour of a shared economic system

Circle the correct letter: A B C D

3. Short Answer: Nationalism and National Interest

Explain, in two to three sentences, the relationship between nationalism and a state's pursuit of national interest ([Outcome](#)).

4. Multiple Choice: Nationalism and Ultranationalism in Conflict

Which example is most closely associated with ultranationalism during a time of conflict, as studied in relation to the causes and events of the First and Second World Wars ([Outcome](#))?

- A) The negotiation of a peaceful trade agreement between neutral states
- B) Ultranationalism in Japan leading to territorial expansion
- C) A cultural exchange program between allied nations
- D) The founding of an international peacekeeping organization

Circle the correct letter: A B C D

5. Short Answer: Pursuit of National Self-Determination

Choose one example of the pursuit of national self-determination from the list below and explain one impact this pursuit had, historically or in the present day ([Outcome](#)).

Options: successor states / decolonization / Québécois sovereignty movement / First Nations, Métis and Inuit self-government

Chosen example: _____

Impact: _____

6. Extended Response: Nationalism as Collective Consciousness

Nationalism can function as an internalized feeling or collective consciousness shared by a people ([Outcome](#)). In a short paragraph (four to six sentences), compare how nationalism as collective consciousness might be expressed differently by Québécois nationalism and by First Nations and Métis nationalism.

Answer Key

1. 1-C, 2-E, 3-A, 4-D, 5-B
2. B
3. Nationalism can motivate a state to define and defend its national interest, shaping foreign policy, economic priorities and public support for government action ([Outcome](#)).
4. B
5. Answers will vary; students must name one chosen example and describe one accurate historical or contemporary impact tied to that form of self-determination ([Outcome](#)).
6. Answers will vary; responses should accurately describe both Québécois nationalism and First Nations/Métis nationalism as forms of collective consciousness and identify at least one point of comparison or contrast ([Outcome](#)).