

Discussion Questions

1. How was the Natchez Trace used by both European/American travelers and Native Americans, specifically the Chickasaws?
2. How was the Natchez Trace economically advantageous to the Chickasaws?
3. Having the Natchez Trace run through the heart of your homeland may be economically advantageous; however, this greatly increases the frequency of non-native traders, travelers and potential non-native settlers within and around your boundaries. Please provide a short argument for and against this influx of people into your nation.
4. By 1821, the U.S. mail, along with many travelers, was using new roads navigating around Chickasaw country. Please provide one negative and one positive result of this interaction between Chickasaws and encroaching settlers.
5. The Treaty of Pontotoc Creek was signed in 1832, giving the American government all that remained of the Chickasaw homelands. Please provide a response to how you and your family would feel if you had to leave your home and numerous personal items behind.