Geography Skills
Analyze the maps in “Setting the Stage” for Unit 1 in the Student Text. Then answer the following questions and fill out the map as directed.

1. Locate the region of North America that was claimed by Spain. Shade or outline it in purple on the map.
   Students should shade or outline Spanish land claims in purple.
2. Locate the area in North America that was claimed by France. Shade or outline it in red.
   Students should shade or outline French land claims in red.
3. Locate the British land claims in North America. Shade or outline them in green.
   Students should shade or outline British land claims in green.
4. Locate and label the Appalachian Mountains on your map. These mountains were mainly part of which nation’s land claims?
   Students should label the Appalachian Mountains. The Appalachian Mountains fell mainly within Great Britain’s land claims and bordered French land claims.
5. Locate and label the Rocky Mountains on your map. In which nation’s land claims did these mountains mainly fall?
   Students should label the Rocky Mountains. The Rocky Mountains fell mainly within Spain’s land claims and bordered French and British land claims.
6. Which major rivers flow through the land claimed by France? Label three of them.
   The Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio, Platte, Arkansas, Red, and St. Lawrence rivers flow through the French land claims. Students should have three of these rivers labeled.
7. The colonies that became the original United States were part of which European nation’s land claims?
   The colonies that became the original United States were part of Britain’s land claims.
   What demands did colonists in this region place on the American Indians who lived there?
   The colonists who settled in this region sought American Indians’ land.
8. Locate the following lakes: Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. Collectively, what are these lakes called? How did involvement with Europeans in this region change how American Indians there lived?
   Collectively, these lakes are called the Great Lakes. American Indians hunted more in order to satisfy the French demand for furs.
Critical Thinking
Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

9. In areas where physical geography made farming more difficult for British colonists, what else do you think they might have done for a living?
   Other ways of making a living in these areas might have been hunting, fishing, or manufacturing goods.

10. Suppose you are a settler in the British colonies. You want to settle on land where the Ohio River meets the Mississippi River. What physical feature do you have to cross to reach that area?
    You have to cross the Appalachian Mountains.

   Traveling over land, what might be a good route?
   Possible answer: Traveling over land, a good way to cross the Appalachian Mountains might be to look for lower mountains or a low opening between mountains.

11. Look at the map of physical features of North America in the Student Text. Suppose you were traveling west from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Coast. In terms of elevation, describe the land on your route westward.
    The land rises in elevation from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains. West of the Rocky Mountains, elevation varies from mountains to lower-elevation land between the mountains and along the coast. (Some students may recognize these areas as valleys or coastal plains.)

   Where might farming be easiest in this western region? Why?
   Farming might be easier on flatter land.