Critical Thinking: The Seven Years’ War

1. Throughout history, when empires or countries collide, ordinary people are affected. Look in newspapers or magazines for a present-day example of ordinary people whose lives are being changed by colliding countries. Write a paragraph that describes who the people are and how they are being affected.
2. The Canada that we live in today was shaped by events on the Plains of Abraham. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?
3. During the peace negotiations, the British government considered exchanging New France for the island of Guadeloupe in the West Indies. This suggestion was taken seriously because Guadeloupe was a good source of sugar. Sugar was considered to be more valuable than the beaver pelts of North America. Find out more about why the British were attracted to Guadeloupe and why they chose New France instead. If you were asked to advise the British at the peace negotiation, would you persuade them to take New France or Guadeloupe? Give reasons to back up your choice.
4. To be conquered is to be completely taken over by force. In the history of the world, two examples of conquerors were Alexander the Great and Napoleon. But, if New France was conquered, who was the conqueror? No one British general all the major battles. And, Prime Minister William Pitt, who masterminded the victory, never stepped foot on North American soil. Canadian historians refer to the fall of New France as *the conquest.* But, were the French Canadians *conquered*? And should we talk of a *conquest*? Did the French Canadians of the day feel conquered?