

## Important Supporting Details: Cherokee

In an informational text, good writers develop the ideas. They do this by:

- sharing facts and details about the topic
- giving examples to explain an idea

**Directions:** Read the text. As you read, think about the most important details about the topic.



Sequoyah developed a written Cherokee language

One of the largest tribes of Native Americans is the Cherokee. The Cherokee moved to the southeastern U.S., around the 1500s. They came from the North. The Cherokee then became trading partners with the British colonists. During the late 1700s and early 1800s, the Cherokee began adopting the Anglo-American culture.

In 1809, a Cherokee silversmith named Sequoyah made a great invention. He began developing a written language for the tribe. This was a major advancement. It was the first written language for a Native American tribe in the United States or Canada.

The Cherokee owned large amounts of land in Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Colonists and settlers moving west wanted these lands, though. In 1838, troops were ordered to force over 16,000 Cherokee to leave.

The Cherokee people were sent to Indian Territory, in what is now Oklahoma. This removal is called the Trail of Tears, since many Cherokee died during the journey. The trip was long and difficult, and many people were not prepared for it. The Cherokee people did not want to leave their land.

The Cherokee tribe's history is full of difficulties, advancements, and success.

**Directions:** Choose the three most important details from the text that support the main idea. Write them in the boxes below. Be sure to write the details in your own words!

Main Idea: The Cherokee tribe has a significant history.

Student answers will vary, but may include:

The Cherokee tribe moved to southeastern states from the north.

The Trail of Tears is when the Cherokee were forced off their land by the United States government.

Sequoyah, a famous Cherokee tribe member, created a written language for the tribe.