

Rank the following reasons for confederation in order of importance. Be prepared to defend your answer.

Threat from USA: Americans believed it was their manifest destiny to take over all of North America. The British colonies that create Canada feared their invasion.

American Civil War: People in the north of America disagreed with those in the south, mostly over the slave trade. As a result the south wanted to separate and while Britain remained neutral, Britain's lack of support bothered the states

Fenian Raids: The Fenians (Irish nationalists) attempted to take over Britain's North American Colonies to help their fight for freedom over seas.

Britain's high defence costs: Britain spend many riches including soldiers and resources to protect its North American colony. It had to help defend the colonies form the Americans and the Fenians.

Cancellation of the Reciprocity Treaty: In 1865 the treaty was cancelled and the colonies no longer enjoyed low tax on trade to the USA. They needed new markets to move the goods from each region.