The Acadians

Was the expulsion of the Acadians revolutionary?

Background: The French speaking people who settled in Canada’s present-day Nova Scotia in the early 1600s were known as the Acadians and their homeland was referred to as Acadia. The origin of the name “Acadia” is unknown but one possibility is that it came from several words in the Algonquian language spoken by the Aboriginal people of the area. For example, the word “cadie” meant “a piece of land”, while “quoddy” meant “a fertile place.” Still others attribute the term Acadia to the Latin word “archadia”, meaning “lands of a rural place”. Regardless, of the origin of its name, Acadia would symbolize France and England’s struggle for control of North America.

Part 1: The Tug-o-War over Acadia
Watch the video clip from “Claiming the Wilderness (1670-1755)” (Canada: A People’s History) and complete the following questions.

The Oath
1. In what region of Canada is Acadia located?

2. Which European countries had control of Acadia?

3. What was the region officially called?

4. What happened in 1713?

5a. What was it that the Acadians were told they had to do?

5b. Why did the Acadians refuse?

6. In response to England’s control of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, what did France do?

7. How did Governor Richard Phillips get the Acadians to swear an oath of allegiance to England?
**Part 2: Louisbourg - the indestructible fortress?**

As you listen to the presentation on the Fortress of Louisbourg complete the following questions.

1. Where was the Fortress of Louisbourg located?

2. Why did the French construct the Fortress of Louisbourg?

3. Identify 3 defensive weaknesses of Louisbourg.

4. What happened to Louisbourg following its capture by the English in 1758?

**Part 3: Tensions in Louisbourg Intensify**

**The Great Dispersal**

Watch the video clip from "Claiming the Wilderness (1670-1755)" (Canada: A People's History) and complete the following questions.

1. What happened to the Fortress of Louisbourg in 1745?

2. What did England build in 1748?

3a. What did Governor Lawrence (Phillips replacement in Nova Scotia) insist that the Acadians do?

3b. How did the Acadians respond?

3c. How did Governor Lawrence handle the Acadians response to his request?

4a. In the summer of 1755 how many Acadians lived in Nova Scotia?

4b. How many were expelled (kicked out) between 1755-1760?
4c. Where did the exiled Acadians go?

4d. What happened to 1/3 of the Acadians who were deported?

4e. By the end of the deportation how many Acadian families remained in Nova Scotia?

**Part 4: Revolution in Acadia?**

After 1763 a few Acadians were allowed to return to Nova Scotia however most of their farms had been taken by English settlers. As such, many turned to other economic pursuits including fishing and forestry.

The question that lingers from this notably dark chapter in Canadian history is the following:

> Was the expulsion of the Acadians revolutionary? Explain.

Your task is to address this question in a paragraph but to help formulate your opinion first complete the chart below. Note: the paragraph is worth 5 marks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Define the term revolution:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identify the seven different types of revolution.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions to ponder.</th>
<th>Acadian Expulsion (Yes/No response with a point form justification)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Was the expulsion of the Acadians sudden?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Did the expulsion of the Acadians cause radical change?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Were a large number of people affected?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 4. Did the expulsion of the Acadians resemble one of the types of revolution?  
If so, which type does it resemble?  
If not, what aspects are missing? / How is it different from other revolutions? |