

Name: _____ Hour: _____

Crash Course U.S. History #24: Westward Expansion - <https://nerdfighteria.info/v/Q16OZkgSXfM/>

Introduction: “The Wild West” still looms large in American mythology as being full of _____ and _____ and free from interference by the _____. In reality, however, it was probably not as _____ as we’ve been told.

I. Turner’s Frontier Thesis

- (A) In 1893, _____ gave a famous lecture about the American frontier.
- (B) He argued that the West was responsible for important characteristics of American culture:
 - 1. Belief in _____
 - 2. Political _____
 - 3. _____
- (C) The frontier represented the chance to _____ and possible even become rich, all through your own _____.
- (D) In reality, most western settlers weren’t wild, restless young men seeking their fortune in empty, untamed territories...
 - 1. Most traveled as part of a _____ or _____.
 - 2. The frontier wasn’t empty - it was already inhabited by _____.
 - 3. Many western settlers weren’t even “white” - they included _____, _____, and former _____.
 - 4. Many were only there b/c the federal government passed _____.

II. Railroads

- (A) Railroads made it much easier for people to settle in the West...
 - 1. They made it possible to get _____ to markets (where they could be sold).
 - 2. They made it easier for people in the west to get _____.
 - 3. They allowed the frontier to remain connected to _____.
- (B) The federal government provided much of the funding for the _____ (although states provided money as well) and helped promote settlement by clearing out the _____ who lived on the Great Plains.

Thought Bubble: Indian Removal after the Civil War

- Initially, the government wanted to remove Amerindians to make room for railroads and so _____ could begin farming the land.
- Later, minerals like _____ and _____ were discovered, which brought in even more white people wanting to control the land.
- The increase in white expansion from 1850 - 1890 sparked increasingly serious violence with Amerindians. Eventually the white strategy became to destroy the Amerindians' _____, especially by killing off all of the _____.
- By the late 1800s, many Amerindians had turned to the _____ religion. They believed if they _____ and followed the other requirements of the religion, eventually the _____ would disappear and both _____ and _____ would return.
- The movement was crushed (at Wounded Knee) and Amerindian resistance on the Great Plains was effectively ended.

III. The Dawes Act

- (A) The Dawes Act of 1887 ended federal recognition of TRIBAL land and instead only recognized land belonging to _____.
- (B) Amerindians who agreed to _____ became American citizens and would supposedly be protected from whites trying to take their land.
- (C) Before long, Amerindians had lost most of their land through scams, trickery, or manipulation.

IV. Boarding Schools

- (A) The Bureau of Indian Affairs began requiring Amerindian youth to attend _____ in order to become "_____."
- (B) They were taught _____, forced to wear white people clothes, change their names to white people names, cut their hair to look like white people's hair, etc.
- (C) The goal was to "Kill the _____; save the _____."

V. The End of Cowboys & Cattle Drives

By the mid-1880s, the days of open-range ranching were coming to an end, as ranchers began to enclose more and more land, and set up their businesses closer to railroad stations

VI. Western Agriculture

- (A) Most farming in the west was a _____ affair (including women).
- (B) Many produced _____ and _____ for both national and _____ markets.
- (C) American farmers were often competing with farmers all over the globe, which pushed down _____. (This was good for everyone buying, but not great for those growing.)
- (D) Farming on the Great Plains also benefited from massive _____ projects. These were expensive, which meant that more and more agriculture was run by big businesses instead of _____.
- (E) Most modern conveniences, as well as the lifestyles most of us enjoy today, are only possible thanks to massive agricultural _____ and efficient _____ able to get food from farms to Wal-Mart so quickly.
- (F) While life in the west may have been very different from life in the east in big cities and huge factories, it wasn't as different as we sometimes like to believe. The Wild West, like the rest of the industrialized world, was incentivized to increase productivity, and was shaped by an increasingly international economic system.

1. "incentivized" (plain, simple English): _____

2. "productivity" (plain, simple English): _____

3. "international" (plain, simple English): _____

So, what does it mean to say that the Wild West was "incentivized to increase productivity, and was shaped by an increasingly international economic system"? (In plain, simple English, please):
