

Name: _____

Hr: _____

8th Grade U.S. History

Ch. 11 Homework Packet Expanding West



Requirements:

- All margin questions must be answered in complete thoughts and sentences.
- Chapter Summary must be completed to the best of your ability.
- Students must make at least three marginal annotations or “mental moves” per page. Marginal annotations should be purposeful and can take the form of any of the following:

Predicting:

I predict that...
In the next part I think...

Visualizing:

I picture...
I can see...

Questioning:

A question I have is...
Could this mean...

Making Connections:

This is like...
This reminds me of...

Identifying a Problem:

I got confused when...
I'm not sure of...

Fixing Problems:

I'll reread this part...
I'll read on and check back...

Summarizing:

The big idea is...
I think the point is...

Expanding West

Section 1



MAIN IDEAS

1. During the early 1800s, Americans moved west of the Rocky Mountains to settle and trade.
2. The Mormons traveled west in search of religious freedom.

Key Terms and People

mountain men fur traders and trappers who traveled to the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Northwest in the early 1800s

John Jacob Astor owner of the American Fur Company who founded the first important settlement in Oregon Country in 1811

Oregon Trail the main route from the Mississippi River to the West Coast in the early 1800s

Santa Fe Trail the route from Independence, Missouri, to Santa Fe, New Mexico

Mormons members of a religious group, formally known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, that moved west during the 1830s and 1840s

Brigham Young Mormon leader who chose Utah as the group's new home

Section Summary

AMERICANS MOVE WEST

In the early 1800s trappers and traders known as **mountain men** worked to supply the eastern fashion for fur hats and clothing. **John Jacob Astor**, owner of the American Fur Company, sent mountain men to the Pacific Northwest region that became known as Oregon Country. At this time Oregon Country was inhabited by Native Americans. However, it was claimed by Russia, Spain, Great Britain, and the United States.

In 1811 Astor founded Astoria, which was the first major non-Native American settlement in the region, at the mouth of the Columbia River. After a series of treaties, Oregon Country soon became jointly occupied by Great Britain and the United

What did mountain men do?

Where was the first major non-native American settlement located?

Section 1, continued

States. Many Americans began to move to the region, most of them following a challenging and dangerous route that became known as the **Oregon Trail**. It was common for families to band together and undertake the perilous six-month journey in wagon trains.

Another well-traveled route west, the **Santa Fe Trail**, was used mainly by traders. They loaded wagon trains with cloth and other manufactured goods that could be traded for horses, mules, and silver in the Mexican settlement of Santa Fe.

What do you think was the main language spoken in Santa Fe at this time?

MORMONS TRAVEL WEST

One large group of settlers traveled west in search of religious freedom. Joseph Smith founded the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1830 in western New York state. Although church membership grew rapidly, the converts, known as **Mormons**, were dogged by local hostility. To protect his growing community from persecution, Smith led his followers to a series of settlements in Ohio, Missouri, and Illinois.

When Smith was murdered by an anti-Mormon mob in 1844, **Brigham Young** led the Mormons to a desert valley near the Great Salt Lake in what is now Utah. There the Mormons planned and built Salt Lake City and settled in the area. By December 1860 the Mormon population of Utah stood at about 40,000.

Do some research on the Mormons. Trace the path that they took from New York to Salt Lake City.

Using the library or an online resource, find out how many members worldwide the Mormon Church has today.

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Drawing Inferences Make a list of supplies that a family of four would need to make a six-month journey by wagon train through the American West during the 1830s.

Expanding West

Section 2



MAIN IDEAS

1. Many American settlers moved to Texas after Mexico achieved independence from Spain.
2. Texans revolted against Mexican rule and established an independent nation.

Key Terms and People

Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla priest who led the first major Mexican revolt against Spanish rule in 1810

empresarios agents of the Mexican republic hired to bring settlers to Texas

Stephen F. Austin empresario who established the first American colony in Texas

Antonio López de Santa Anna Mexican leader who came to power in 1830 and suspended Mexico's constitution

Alamo an old mission in San Antonio occupied by Texan revolutionary forces in 1836

Battle of San Jacinto decisive victory that gave Texas independence from Mexico

Academic Vocabulary

explicit fully revealed without vagueness

Section Summary

AMERICAN SETTLERS MOVE TO TEXAS

In the early 1800s, the region we now know as the American Southwest was part of Mexico, which in turn was part of the vast Spanish empire in the Americas. Mexico struggled against Spanish rule. A revolt led by **Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla** in 1810 failed, but the rebellion he started grew. In 1821 Mexico became independent.

In order to establish control of Texas, the new Mexican republic hired agents known as **empresarios** to bring settlers there. One of these, **Stephen F. Austin**, selected a site on the lower Colorado River and settled 300 families, mostly from the southern states. These settlers often **explicitly** ignored Mexican laws, including Mexico's law forbidding slavery.

Tension grew between Mexico's central government and the American settlers. Colonists were

During the early 1800s, in what part of Mexico was Texas located?

Use an online browser or another resource to research "the Old 300."

From what region of the United States did most settlers come to Texas?

Section 2, *continued*

angry when **Antonio López de Santa Anna** came to power in 1830 and suspended Mexico's constitution. Austin was imprisoned for a year and a half. When he returned to Texas, he began urging Texans to rebel against Mexico.

Underline the sentence that helps explain why tension grew between the central Mexican government and the American settlers in Texas.

TEXANS REVOLT AGAINST MEXICO

Hostilities began with a battle at Gonzalez in 1835. Santa Anna inflicted two brutal defeats on the Texans at the **Alamo** and Goliad. Within a month, however, Texas forces under Sam Houston had won a decisive victory over Santa Anna at the **Battle of San Jacinto**. Santa Anna signed a treaty giving Texas its independence.

Use the library or an online resource to find an account of the famous siege of the Alamo.

Most people in the new Republic of Texas hoped that Texas would join the United States. However, U.S. President Andrew Jackson was concerned about two factors. He was worried that admitting Texas as a slave state would upset the fragile balance between free and slave states in the Union. Also, Jackson feared that annexing Texas might lead to a war with Mexico.

As the annexation of Texas was delayed, more American settlers came from nearby southern states, often bringing slaves with them to work the land and to grow cotton. Tensions between Mexico and Texas remained high. After a few unsettled years, Texas President Sam Houston signed a peace treaty with Mexico in 1844.

What did many American settlers bring with them to Texas?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Evaluation Take sides in a debate as to whether Texas should join the United States or remain an independent nation. Write an **explicit** defense of your position.

Expanding West

Section 3



MAIN IDEAS

1. Many Americans believed that the nation had a manifest destiny to claim new lands in the West.
2. As a result of the Mexican-American War, the United States added territory in the Southwest.
3. American settlement in the Mexican Cession produced conflict and a blending of cultures.

Key Terms and People

manifest destiny belief that America's fate was to conquer land all the way to the Pacific Ocean

James K. Polk U.S. president, elected in 1844, whose administration annexed both Texas and Oregon

vaqueros cowboys

Californios Spanish colonists and their descendants living in California

Bear Flag Revolt rebellion of American settlers against the Californios in 1846

Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo 1848 peace treaty between Mexico and the United States

Gadsden Purchase purchase from Mexico of the southern parts of present-day New Mexico and Arizona in 1853

Academic Vocabulary

elements a basic part of an individual's surroundings

Section Summary

MANIFEST DESTINY

The idea of **manifest destiny** loomed large in the election of 1844. The new president, **James K. Polk**, promised to annex both Texas and Oregon.

In 1846 Britain and the United States signed a treaty that gave the United States all Oregon land south of the 49th parallel. This treaty drew the present-day border between the United States and Canada. In 1845 the congresses of both the Republic of Texas and the United States approved annexation of Texas.

After winning independence from Spain in 1821, Mexico began changing old policies set by Spain.

Use the library or an online resource for an understanding of why the idea of manifest destiny may have been so attractive during the 1840s.

Section 3, *continued*

Mission lands were broken up into vast ranches. **Vaqueros** managed the herds of cattle and sheep. Settlers, known as **Californios**, felt little connection to their faraway government in Mexico. American settlers also began coming to California and calling for independence from Mexico.

Did the Californios resent the arrival of large numbers of American settlers? Why or why not?

MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR

Since the Texas Revolution the border between Mexico and Texas had been in dispute. Mexico claimed the border lay along the Nueces River while the United States claimed the Rio Grande as the border. In 1845 President Polk sent troops to the Rio Grande. When Mexican soldiers attacked them, Congress declared war on Mexico. Although many Americans thought the war was unjustified, U.S. troops pushed into Mexico, going from victory to victory until they finally captured Mexico City. A successful revolt against the Californios in Sonoma, known as the **Bear Flag Revolt**, proclaimed California to be an independent nation.

Some Americans at the time thought President Polk provoked the Mexican attack by stationing soldiers on the Rio Grande. Do you agree? Explain your answer.

Use the library or an online resource to find a map showing the territorial growth of the United States during this period.

AMERICAN SETTLEMENT IN THE MEXICAN CESSION

The **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo**, which ended the Mexican War in 1848, increased the land area of the United States by almost 25 percent. A few years later, in 1853, the **Gadsden Purchase** fixed the continental boundaries of the United States.

As American settlers flooded the Southwest, the **elements** of life changed. Cultural encounters often led to conflict and violence. New settlers usually ignored Mexican legal ideas, such as community property and water rights. However, traditional knowledge and customs gradually shaped local economies, and new and mutually beneficial trade patterns began to emerge.

Why is the issue of water rights much more serious in the West than it is in the East?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Identify Cause and Effect Write a law regulating water rights.

Expanding West

Section 4



MAIN IDEAS

1. The discovery of gold brought settlers to California.
2. The gold rush had a lasting impact on California's population and economy.

Key Terms and People

John Sutter Swiss immigrant who started the first Anglo-Californian colony in 1839

Donner party a group of western travelers who were trapped crossing the Sierra Nevada Mountains in the winter of 1846–47

forty-niners gold-seeking migrants who traveled to California in 1849

prospect search for gold

placer miners miners who used pans or other devices to wash gold nuggets from loose rock or gravel

Section Summary

DISCOVERY OF GOLD BRINGS SETTLERS

Before 1840 few Americans settled in California, although there was considerable trade between merchants from Mexico and the United States. However, after Mexico allowed **John Sutter** to establish a colony in 1839, American settlers began arriving in greater numbers. In a tragic incident, heavy snows in the Sierra Nevada Mountains trapped a group of travelers known as the **Donner party**. Half of the travelers either froze or starved to death.

When gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill in 1848, the news spread across the country. During 1849 about 80,000 **forty-niners** came to California hoping to strike it rich. Most of them arrived in the small port town of San Francisco. Within a year, the population of San Francisco grew from around 800 to more than 25,000.

Mining methods varied by the time of year and the location of the claim. **Placer miners** would **prospect** by using pans or other devices to wash gold nuggets out of the loose rock and gravel. Richer miners established companies to dig shafts and tunnels. Many individual success stories

What country was California part of in 1840?

Would mining experience have helped the average forty-niner? Explain your answer.

Section 4, *continued*

inspired prospectors. However, the good luck that made some miners wealthy never came to thousands of gold seekers. Most of them found little except misery and debt.

Mining camps sprang up wherever enough people gathered to look for gold. Among the gold seekers were thousands of immigrants from Mexico, China, Europe, and South America. Many found that they could earn a living by supplying miners with basic services like cooking, washing clothes, operating boardinghouses, or even providing legal services. Bidy Mason and her family, slaves brought to California by a forty-niner from Georgia, gained their freedom and managed to buy some land near the village of Los Angeles. Soon Mason became one of the wealthiest landowners in California.

Who had more "job security," the miners or the service providers? Why?

IMPACT ON CALIFORNIA

The forty-niners brought a population explosion and an economic boom to California. It became the 31st state of the Union in 1850. As the gold rush faded, many Californians took to farming and ranching. However, California remained isolated from the rest of the country until the transcontinental railroad was completed in 1869.

What consequence of the gold rush made California eligible for statehood?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Drawing Inferences Design and write a brochure inviting easterners to come to Sutter's colony in California and start a new life.

Expanding West

CHAPTER SUMMARY

Date	Event
1811	John Jacob Astor founds Astoria
1819	Adams-Onís Treaty
1821	Agustin de Iturbide wins Mexican freedom
1830	Joseph Smith founds Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints
1835	Texas Revolution begins in Gonzales
1836	
1839	John Sutter starts his colony in California
1844	Brigham Young leads Mormons to Utah
1846	Treaty with British gives U.S. all Oregon land south of 49 th parallel
1846	
1847	Brigham Young founds Salt Lake City
1848	
1853	
1869	Transcontinental railroad completed

COMPREHENSION AND CRITICAL THINKING

As you read the section summaries, complete the table above and answer the questions below.

- 1. Recall and Identify** Add the following events to the graphic organizer. Gadsden Purchase; California becomes 31st state; Fall of the Alamo; Bear Flag Revolt.
- 2. Sequence** How many years passed between the first gathering of the Mormons and their final settlement in Utah?

- 3. Evaluate** Some would say that the events listed above demonstrate the validity of manifest destiny. Do you agree? Why or why not?
