

Name: _____ Hr: _____

In Search of a Home- Who Would You Take?

You are a farmer living in the year 1849. Imagine you are getting ready to begin your 2,000 mile journey along the Oregon Trail, starting in Independence, Missouri. You will be traveling by wagon train, and are looking for at least 10 additional people to join you and your family. The journey will take 5 months and you will be traveling across some of the harshest territory in the world. You have heard that 1 in 10 people die on the trail from things such as accidents, emigrant attacks, starvation, disease, and even suicide. Considering all of the challenges ahead, choose 10 people from the list below that you would most like to have with you on the trip. Circle the number that corresponds to the person and be prepared to explain your reasoning (can write explanation in margins or on back of this worksheet).

1. 35 year old male, banker, entrepreneur
2. 12 year old male, excellent student, wants to be in law enforcement
3. 59 year old male missionary, wanting to establish mission in Willamette Valley
4. 57 year old female, wife of #3, adult kids
5. 24 year old female, pregnant and expecting twins, hoping to find work in mining camps
6. 40 year old male, trapper and fur trader, mountain man
7. 30 year old female, artisan who specializes in clothes and jewelry, 1 child
8. 12 year old female, child of #7
9. 16 year old male, herdboy, takes care of domestic animals and drives herds of animals
10. 30 year old male, no kids, U.S. government-sponsored explorer
11. 21 year old male, placer miner (gold), hoping to strike it rich in California
12. 70 year old male, retired doctor
13. 50 year old male, gold-seeker, hoping to strike it rich in California
14. 45 year old male, businessman, very wealthy
15. 40 year old male, dentist
16. 22 year old female, Mormon, looking to settle near the Great Salt Lake in Utah
17. 30 year old male, former soldier, skilled with firearms
18. 38 year old female, no kids, teacher
19. 29 year old female, gold-seeker, hoping to strike it rich in California
20. 9 year old male, son of #19
21. 27 year old male, hunter, skilled with animal hides
22. 30 year old female, Native American, widower of fur trapper
23. 30 year old male, farmer, looking to settle in Willamette Valley
24. 60 year old male, experienced woodsman, no wife or kids
25. 52 year old male, fisherman
26. 49 year old male, experienced blacksmith and gunsmith
27. 16 year old female, seamstress
28. 28 year old male, trained musician, trumpet is specialty
29. 33 year old male, carpenter
30. 32 year old female, wife of #29, skilled in sewing/cooking

