



Westward Expansion

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: Grade 5

Part A: Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer for each question.

1. What was the main cause of the California Gold Rush?

- A) The government ordered people to move to California
- B) Gold was discovered at Sutters Mill in 1848
- C) The Transcontinental Railroad reached California
- D) Native Americans invited settlers to California

2. Which was an effect of the Homestead Act of 1862?

- A) Thousands of settlers moved west to claim free land
- B) All Native American tribes received their own states
- C) The Oregon Trail was closed to new travelers
- D) California lost most of its population

3. Why did the United States government pass the Indian Removal Act?

- A) To help Native Americans build better homes
- B) To protect Native American hunting grounds
- C) To open eastern lands for white settlement
- D) To invite Native Americans into the government

4. What effect did the Transcontinental Railroad have on western settlement?

- A) It made travel west much faster and easier
- B) It stopped all migration to the West Coast
- C) It only carried mail and never passengers
- D) It was built entirely by the United States Army

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the correct answer on each line.

1. The Indian Removal Act was signed by President _____ .
2. The Transcontinental Railroad was largely built by Chinese and _____ workers.
3. Settlers who claimed land early in Oklahoma were called _____ .
4. The discovery of _____ at Sutters Mill started the Gold Rush.

5. Lewis and Clark traveled with a group called the Corps of _____ .

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Part B: Fill in the Blank

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1. The Indian Removal Act was signed by President Jackson .
2. The Transcontinental Railroad was largely built by Chinese and Irish workers.
3. Settlers who claimed land early in Oklahoma were called Sooners .
4. The discovery of gold at Sutters Mill started the Gold Rush.