

NAME:

CLASS:

WESTERN EXPANSION DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

Directions: This document-based question consists of two parts; short answer and essay. The question is based on the accompanying documents (1-7). The question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. As you analyze the documents, take into account both the context of each document and any point of view that may be presented in the document.

Historical Context: In the second half of the 19th century, the United States became an increasingly mobile society. An example of this mobility is the settlement of the West by easterners. For many Americans, the movement westward brought new economic opportunities, but for others it meant conflict and the end of a way of life.

Task: Using information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to:

- **Identify and discuss two reasons settlers moved westward.**
- **Describe the impact of railroads on the West.**
- **Explain the impact of this westward movement on the lives of Native American Indians.**

Part A: Short Answer

Directions: Analyze the documents and answer the questions that follow each document in the space provided. Your answers to questions will help you write the essay.

Document 1

INDIAN WOMEN DRESSING HIDES.

Women of the Dakota tribe prepare the hide of a buffalo to be used in making a tipi - hides were also used for food, clothing, and other types of shelters

1. Based on this photograph and caption, what evidence is there that buffaloes were important to Native American Indians?

Document 2

CROSSING OVER THE GREAT PLAINS BY OX-WAGONS

"Altho I was but a girl of 11 years I distinctly remember many things connected with that far-off time when all of our western country was a wilderness... We were six months in crossing the plains in ox-wagons.

In our home, In Illinois, in the early fifties, there was much talk and excitement over the news of the great gold discoveries in California—and equally there was much talk concerning the wonderful fertile valleys of Oregon Territory—an act of Congress giving to actual settlers 640 acres of land.

My father, John Tucker Scott, with much of the pioneer spirit in his blood, became so interested that he decided to "go West"... The spring of 1852 ushered in so many preparations, great work of all kinds. I remember relations coming to sew, of tearful partings, little gifts of remembrances exchanged, the sale of the farm, the buying and breaking in of unruly oxen, the loud voices of the men, and the general confusion."

—Harriet Scott Palmer, 1852

Editor's Note: Spelling reflects that which was used in the original documents.

2. According to the document, what were *two* reasons people wanted to "Go West"?

a.

b.

Document 3

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HOMESTEAD.

Land Office at *Brownville Neb*
January 20th 1868.

CERTIFICATE, }
No. 1 }

} APPLICATION,
} *No. 1*

It is hereby certified, That pursuant to the provisions of the act of Congress, approved May 20, 1862, entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain,"

Daniel Arman has
made payment in full for *1/2 of NW 1/4, SW 1/4 of NW 1/4 and SW 1/4 of SE 1/4* of
Section *Twenty Six (26)* in Township *fourth N*
of Range *five (5) E* containing *160* acres.

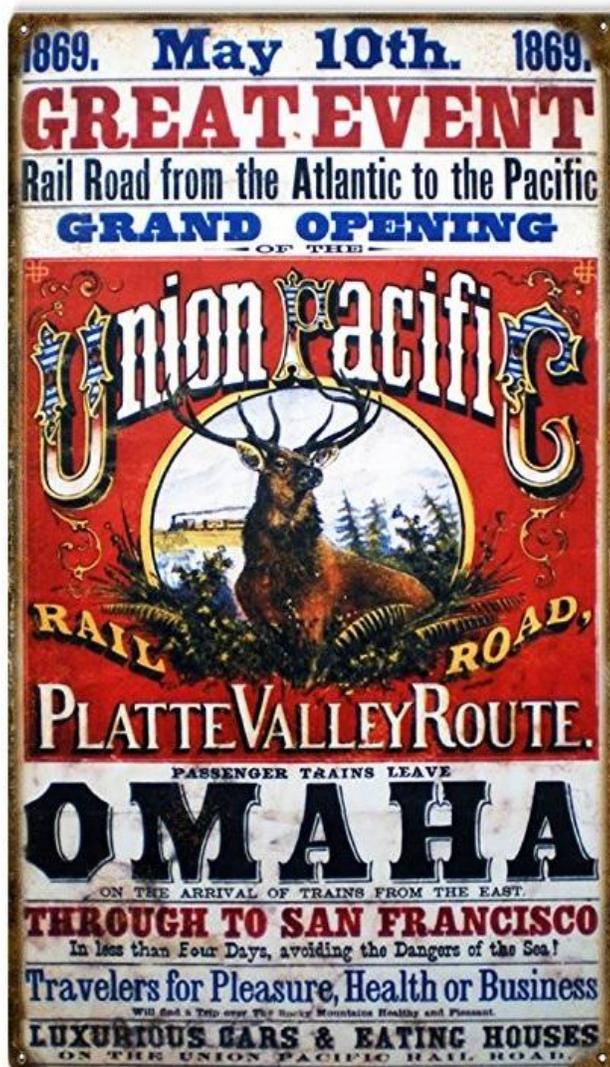
Now, therefore, be it known, That on presentation of this Certificate to the
COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, the said *Daniel*
Arman shall be entitled to a Patent for the Tract of Land above described.

Henry M. Atkinson Register.

Land Deed issued under the Homestead Act, 1868

3. According to this deed, how many acres of land did each homesteader obtain from the government under the Homestead Act?

Document 4



4. Based on this poster, state two reasons people took passage on the railroad from Omaha to San Francisco.

a.

b.

Document 5



5a. According to this engraving, why were men killing buffalo?

b. How did this purpose for hunting differ from those of Native American Indians? (See also Document 1.)

Part B: Essay

Directions:

- Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion.
- Use evidence from ALL of the documents to support your response.
- Include specific related outside information.

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Task: Using information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to:

- Identify and discuss *two* reasons settlers moved westward.
- Describe the impact of railroads on the West.
- Explain the impact of this westward movement on the lives of Native American Indians.

Identify and discuss reasons settlers moved west	Doc	Describe the impact of railroads on the West	Doc	Impact of the westward movement on Native Americans	Doc

SCORING RUBRIC

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- Thoroughly addresses all aspects of the *Task* by accurately analyzing and interpreting ALL documents
- Incorporates information from the documents in the body of the essay
- Incorporates relevant outside information
- Richly supports the theme or problem with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Is a well-developed essay, consistently demonstrating a logical and clear plan of organization
- Introduces the theme or problem by establishing a framework that is beyond a simple restatement of the *Task* or *Historical Context* and concludes with a summation of the theme or problem

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- Addresses most aspects of the *Task* or addresses all aspects of the *Task* in a limited way, using at least four documents
- Incorporates some information from the documents in the body of the essay
- Incorporates limited or no relevant outside information
- Includes some facts, examples, and details, but discussion is more descriptive than analytical
- Is a satisfactorily developed essay, demonstrating a general plan of organization
- Introduces the theme or problem by repeating the *Task* or *Historical Context* and concludes by simply repeating the theme or problem

2

- Attempts to address some aspects of the *Task*, making limited use of the documents
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes few facts, examples, and details; discussion restates contents of the documents
- Is a poorly organized essay, lacking focus
- Fails to introduce or summarize the theme or problem

1

- Shows limited understanding of the *Task* with vague, unclear references to the documents
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes little or no accurate or relevant facts, details, or examples
- Attempts to complete the *Task*, but demonstrates a major weakness in organization
- Fails to introduce or summarize the theme or problem

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- Fails to address the *Task*, is illegible, or is a blank paper