

AP Practice Essay Test #1 – *THE WEST*

**Analyze the transformation of America as a result of westward expansion.**

**(Underline the focus question)**

**Good or Bad**

- A. The destruction of Native peoples
- B. Reasons for Westward Expansion Movement after the civil war
- C. Key battles and treaties
- D. Impact of westward expansion on ideas of American femininity

**What is the focus question? Underline it.**

**How are you going to talk about the Historical Era?** The West – BAD or GOOD

**Which Historical Themes are you going to use?** Culture/People Politics/Rules maybe Economy

**Which Life Themes are you going to use?** Change Relationships

**Which best describes, Westward Expansion - 1812-1846?**

Transportation and  
communication revolution;  
growth of western cities; access  
to new land; removal of Native  
Americans

**Analyze the transformation of America as a result of westward expansion.**

(Underline the focus question)

BIG IDEA? \_\_\_\_\_

- A. The destruction of Native peoples
- B. Reasons for Westward Expansion Movement after the civil war **1**
- C. Key battles and treaties
- D. Impact of westward expansion on ideas of American femininity

**Source 1**

Many African Americans in the South realized that they were losing what few white political allies they had in their home states. The withdrawal of federal troops in the South, accompanied by a rise in Ku Klux Klan violence and the enactment of the Jim Crow laws, solidified the status of African Americans as second class citizens. In this atmosphere, some African Americans decided to abandon the South. Starting in the late 1870s, a movement of approximately 40,000 African Americans labeled the Exoduster Movement departed from states along the Western tier of the former Confederacy, crossing the Mississippi River to settle in Kansas. Smaller numbers settled in Oklahoma and Colorado. Some Exodusters made it only as far as Missouri. African American activists and white philanthropist established organizations, such as the Colored Relief Board and the Kansas Freedman's Aid Society, to help Exodusters make the journey to Kansas the most successful Exodusters settled in the growing towns of Kansas. **(Reading Level – 15/College)**

Religious  
Technology  
Cultural  
Political  
Economics  
Geographic

Historical

Culture/People

Change

**THINK GOOD  
OR BAD  
CHANGE  
because ...**

**AA EXPLORE  
west.**

Change  
Conflict  
Exploration  
Patterns  
Power  
Structure  
Relationships  
Force

Life

Politics/Rules

Relationships

**THINK - GOOD  
OR BAD  
REALATIONHIP  
because ...**

**AA  
TRANSFORM  
their lives.**

Analyze the transformation of America as a result of westward expansion.

(Underline the focus question)

BIG IDEA? \_\_\_\_\_

- A. The destruction of Native peoples
- B. Reasons for Westward Expansion Movement after the civil war **1**
- C. Key battles and treaties
- D. Impact of westward expansion on ideas of American femininity **2**

Religious  
Technology  
Cultural  
Political  
Economics  
Geographic

Historical

Change  
Conflict  
Exploration  
Patterns  
Power  
Structure  
Relationships  
Force

Life

Source 2

Culture/People

Politics/Rules

Change

[ Relationships ]

Increased migration to the West often lead to violence on the frontier. White settlers increasingly clash with American Indians and Mexican Americans. During westward expansion, women played a variety of roles. The most common was the role of wife and mother. Many people who came West as pioneers did so in family groups. In those days, this meant that the women's main role was to care for the family. They cooked, cleaned and did those sorts of domestic things. However, women did have a greater role in these terms than they did in the more settled East. The reason being, they had to do more things on their own and more things that were economically important to their families. They often had to garden and care for animals. They protected the home when their husbands were away. [In other words, they were more independent and important than women were in the East.] This is one reason why it was western territories that first gave women the right to vote.

(Reading Level – 7)

**THINK GOOD  
OR BAD  
CHANGE  
because...**

**THINK - GOOD  
OR BAD  
RELATIONSHIP  
because  
\_\_\_\_\_...**

**Women SEEN  
AS STRONG.**

**Men and  
women are  
EQUALS**

Analyze the transformation of America as a result of westward expansion.

(Underline the focus question)

BIG IDEA? \_\_\_\_\_

Religious  
Technology  
Cultural  
Political  
Economics  
Geographic

Historical

Change  
Conflict  
Exploration  
Patterns  
Power  
Structure  
Relationships  
Force

Life

- A. The destruction of Native peoples **3**
- B. Reasons for Westward Expansion Movement after the civil war **1**
- C. Key battles and treaties
- D. Impact of westward expansion on ideas of American femininity **2**

Source 3

Culture/People

Politics/Rules

Change

[ Relationships ]

As railroads pushed westward, the herds of the American bison also known as the buffalo were wiped out. Railroad workers and passengers went on a killing spree, shooting Buffalo for food and mostly sport. Also, money made from for the hides of Buffalo didn't help. In a matter of decades, the Buffalo herds on the plains were virtually exterminated. [This greatly weakened the Plains Indians, who depended on the buffalo for resources and food.]  
*(Reading Level – 9)*

**THINK GOOD  
OR BAD  
CHANGE  
because ...**

**THINK - GOOD  
OR BAD  
REALATIONHIP  
because ...**

People HURT  
the  
environment.

Settlers DIDN'T  
APPRECIATE  
Native  
American

Analyze the transformation of America as a result of westward expansion.

(Underline the focus question)

BIG IDEA? \_\_\_\_\_

Religious  
Technology  
Cultural  
Political  
Economics  
Geographic

Historical

Change  
Conflict  
Exploration  
Patterns  
Power  
Structure  
Relationships  
Force

Life

- A. The destruction of Native peoples **3**
- B. Reasons for Westward Expansion Movement after the civil war **1**
- C. Key battles and treaties **4**
- D. Impact of westward expansion on ideas of American femininity **2**

Source 4

Culture/People

Politics/Rules

Change

Relationships ]

Southern Plains Indians signed The Treaty of Medicine Lodge in 1867, agreeing to move to a reservation in exchange for government protection of their land from white encroachment. The movement of white settlers put additional pressures on land held by American Indians and caused the federal government to violate treaties it had made with the various tribes. The last battle of the Indian wars was a massacre at Wounded Knee. [US military forces attempted to disarm a group of Sioux Indians camped there, but soon open fire on them. More than 200 Sioux men, women, and children were killed.] (Reading Level – 11)

**THINK GOOD OR BAD CHANGE because ....**

**THINK - GOOD OR BAD REALATIONHIP because...**

**US gov't CAN'T BE TRUSTED**

**US MILITARY KILLS INNOCENT**

transformation of America as a result of westward expansion.

S

□ (TOPIC/QUESTION) were/was a (STRONG adjective).

<i>BIG IDEA OR CHANGE</i>	<i>SMALL IDEA OR CHANGE</i>
SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC CONSEQUENTIAL IMPORTANT	MEAGER NEGLIGIBLE POINTLESS UNIMPORTANT
<i>GOOD IDEA OR CHANGE</i>	<i>BAD IDEA OR CHANGE</i>
CONSIDERABLE RESPECTABLE FLAWLESS DESIRABLE	UNACCEPTABLE UNDESIRABLE OBJECTIONABLE REPUGNANT
<i>CORRECT IDEA OR CHANGE</i>	<i>INCORRECT IDEA OR CHANGE</i>
APPROPRIATE FACTUAL PROPER PRECISE	FALSE INVALID IMPROPER IMPRECISE
<i>SIMILAR IDEAS OR CHANGES</i>	<i>DIFFERENT IDEAS OR CHANGES</i>
COMPARABLE COMPLEMENTARY RELATED IDENTICAL	CONTRASTING DIVERGENT UNALIKE LIKE NIGHT AND DAY

S

Explain (P1) [5 or 15 POINTS]

- The term(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are appropriate because.... (explain why you used adjective)
- It's important to understand this was a time.... (Discuss the historical era & big idea. This should be at least 2 sentences.)
- After analyzing the documents, I see negative AND/OR positive impacts on historical themes: \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_.

Which best describes, Westward Expansion - 1812-1846?

Transportation and communication revolution; growth of western cities; access to new land; removal of Native Americans

**BASIC EMOTIONS**

Anger  
Fear  
Sadness  
Joy  
Trust  
Surprised  
Anticipation

**Human Nature:**

Entertainment or Have fun  
Explore  
Set up Rules  
Indulge or Spoil  
Be Sly or Slick  
Communicate or Learn

**THIS IS A TIME WHEN...(FEELING & HISTORICAL ERA FACT).  
IT'S AN EXAMPLE OF WHY PEOPLE... (HUMAN NATURE).  
EXPLAIN WHY?**

E



Religious  
Technology  
Cultural  
Political  
Economics  
Geographic

**TOPIC SENTENCE: Firstly, westward movement and expansion after the Civil War affected CULTURE of in a positive/negative way based on**

Change  
Conflict  
Exploration  
Patterns  
Power  
Structure  
Relationships  
Force

Historical

**moving AND transformations**

For instance, in source # 1 “.....”.

In addition, it states, “.....”.

Life

Culture/People

This allows us to see... \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

Politics/Rules

Change

**Basically, AAs wanted to improve their lives and they had to leave the south and go west & many tried to make sure AA were able to get a fair start at transforming their lives. THE WAY PEOPLE LIVED (OPTIONAL) ..... ..**

Relationships ]

AA want to improve their lives and they had to leave the south and go west.

Many tried to make sure AA were able to get a fair start at transforming their lives.

Enactment of the Jim Crow laws, solidified the status of African Americans as second class citizens. In this atmosphere, some African Americans decided to abandon the South. Starting in the late 1870s, a movement of approximately 40,000 African Americans labeled the Exoduster Movement departed from states along the Western tier of the former Confederacy, crossing the Mississippi River to settle in Kansas. Smaller numbers settled in Oklahoma and Colorado. Some Exodusters made it only as far as Missouri. African American activists and white philanthropist established organizations, such as the Colored Relief Board and the Kansas Freedman’s Aid Society, to help Exodusters make the journey to Kansas the most successful Exodusters settled in the growing towns of Kansas. (Reading Level – 15/College)

THINK GOOD OR BAD CHANGE because \_\_\_\_\_.

THINK - GOOD OR BAD REALATIONHIP because \_\_\_\_\_.

X 1



Religious  
Technology  
Cultural  
Political  
Economics  
Geographic

Historical

**TOPIC SENTENCE:** Secondly, *the impact of westward expansion on ideas of American femininity* affected **CULTURE** of the time in a positive/negative way based on

women

AND

equality

Change  
Conflict  
Exploration  
Patterns  
Power  
Structure  
Relationships  
Force

Life

For instance, in source # 2, states, ".....".

In addition, it states, ".....".

This allows us to see... \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

Culture/People

Politics/Rules

Change

Relationships ]

This allows us to see, **women were no longer looked at as timid and weak & men and women are considered equals in the West.**

**THE WAY PEOPLE LIVED (OPTIONAL) ..... ..**

Women were no longer looked at as timid & weak.

**THINK GOOD OR BAD CHANGE because** \_\_\_\_\_.

During westward expansion, women played a variety of roles. The most common was the role of wife and mother. Many people who came West as pioneers did so in family groups. In those days, this meant that the women's main role was to care for the family. They cooked, cleaned and did those sorts of domestic things. However, women did have a greater role in these terms than they did in the more settled East. The reason being, they had to do more things on their own and more things that were economically important to their families. They often had to garden and care for animals. They protected the home when their husbands were away. [In other words, they were more independent and important than women were in the East.] This is one reason why it was western territories that first gave women the right to vote.

(Reading Level – 7)

Men and women are considered equals in the West.

**THINK - GOOD OR BAD REALATIONHIP because** \_\_\_\_\_.

X 2

Religious  
Technology  
Cultural  
Political  
Economics  
Geographic

Historical

**TOPIC SENTENCE:** Thirdly, the destruction of Native peoples affected **POLITICS** of the time in positive/negative way based on environmental AND relationships

Change  
Conflict  
Exploration  
Patterns  
Power  
Structure  
Relationships  
Force

Life

For instance, in source # 3, states, ".....".

In addition, it states, ".....".

This allows us to see... \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

Culture/People

Politics/Rules

Change

Relationships ]

Although people had a harmful impact on the environment & many settlers did not appreciate the Native American culture.

The RULES & LAWS (OPTIONAL) ..... ..

Source 3

As railroads pushed westward, the herds of the American bison also known as the buffalo were wiped out. Railroad workers and passengers went on a killing spree, shooting Buffalo for food and mostly sport. Also, money made from for the hides of Buffalo didn't help. In a matter of decades, the Buffalo herds on the plains were virtually exterminated. [This greatly weakened the Plains Indians, who depended on the buffalo for resources and food.]  
(Reading Level – 9)

People had a harmful impact on the environment.

THINK GOOD OR BAD CHANGE because \_\_\_\_\_.

Many settlers did not appreciate the Native American culture.

THINK - GOOD OR BAD REALATIONHIP because \_\_\_\_\_.

X 3

Religious  
Technology  
Cultural  
Political  
Economics  
Geographic

Historical

**TOPIC SENTENCE:** Also, key battles and treaties affected **POLITICS** of the time in positive/negative way based on

**government**

**AND**

**military**

For instance, in source # 4, “.....”.

In addition, it states, “.....”.

This allows us to see... \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

Change  
Conflict  
Exploration  
Patterns  
Power  
Structure  
Relationships  
Force

Life

Politics/Rules

Culture/People

Change

Even though **US gov't can't be trusted because they often break their word & the US is willing to use its military to kill innocent people to get what it wants. The RULES & LAWS (OPTIONAL) .....**

Relationships ]

**THINK GOOD OR BAD CHANGE because ....**

**THINK - GOOD OR BAD REALATIONHIP because...**

**US gov't can't be trusted because they often break their word.**

to move to a reservation in exchange for government protection of their land from white encroachment. The movement of white settlers put additional pressures on land held by American Indians and caused the federal government to violate treaties it had made with the various tribes. The last battle of the Indian wars was a massacre at Wounded Knee. US military forces attempted to disarm a group of Sioux Indians camped there, but soon open fire on them. [More than 200 Sioux men, women, and children were killed.] (Reading Level – 11)

**US is willing to use its military to kill innocent people to get what it wants.**

X 4

Religious  
Technology  
Cultural  
Political  
Economics  
Geographic

Historical

Culture/People

Change

**TOPIC SENTENCE: HOWEVER, some may feel the transformation of America as a result of westward expansion affected **POLITICS & CULTURE** in a positive/negative ways.**

He or she may be focusing **ONLY** on ...

However, the evidence **IN THE TEXT** shows this was not completely true.

**ANOTHER EXAMPLE IN THE TEXT THAT PROVES MY POINT IS IN SOURCE# \_\_\_\_ . It states ..... (Optional)**

Change  
Conflict  
Exploration  
Patterns  
Power  
Structure  
Relationships  
Force

Life

Politics/Rules

Relationships

**Find something you have not mentioned already that someone may use to argue against you. It can be from a source or your own personal knowledge.**

X 5

## transformation of America as a result of westward expansion.

- In conclusion**, the evidence strongly supports **CHANGE OR CONTINUITY** in history. (Short facts/evidence from at least 2 document(s) that support(s) your decision. USE NEW INFORMATION/FACTS. Don't repeat what you said in the examples!)
- It helps us to understand** (what about the past or present) **better**. (Explain how or why. Give an example of something you've seen on the news, lately.)
- Perhaps people should.....**(what)\_\_\_\_\_ **because/since** (why)\_\_\_\_\_. Please say something new and interesting advice!

LIFE THEMES --- **CHANGE, CONFLICT, EXPLORATION, PATTERNS, POWER, STRUCTURE, RELATIONSHIPS AND FORCE**

(EXAMPLE) In conclusion, the evidence strongly supports **CONTINUITY** in history. Based on the facts given, (who or what) still loses or gains **POWER**. For example.... (1 NEW FACT from 1 sources OR Personal Example)

