

UNITED STATES HISTORY UNIT 5 - WESTWARD EXPANSION, INDUSTRY, AND IMMIGRATION

PRIORITY STANDARDS

8.2.2: Examine and evaluate how human expression (e.g. language, literature, arts, architecture, traditions, beliefs, and spirituality) contributes to the development and transmission of culture.

8.2.4: Explain the cultural contributions of and tensions between groups in Wyoming, the United States, and the World (e.g., racial, ethnic, social and institutional).

8.3.3 Describe the impact of technological advancements on production, distribution and consumption.

8.4.2: Describe how tools and technology in different historical periods impacted the way people lived, made decisions, and saw the world.

8.5.3: Explain how communities' current and past demographics, migrations, and settlement patterns influence place (e.g., culture, needs, and political and economic systems) and use this analysis to predict future settlement patterns.

8.5.4: Analyze the changes to and consequences of human, natural, and technological impacts on the physical environment.

Audio Notes

[All Notes Audio](#)

Audio Notes

[Westward Expansion Audio](#)

WESTWARD EXPANSION

- During and after the Civil War, many settlers began moving out west in search of a better life. As compared to earlier settlement, the journey was made less difficult with the railroad.
- The need for railroads expanded rapidly between 1865 and 1890. Land grants were offered to two railroad companies willing to build a transcontinental rail system, which was completed on May 10, 1869 - Union Pacific Company & Central Pacific Company.
- Two immigrant groups that were most responsible for the labor to build the transcontinental railroad were the Chinese and Irish.
- The transcontinental railroad moved goods and people quickly across the country, contributed to the destruction of the buffalo herds, and developed time zones in the United States.
- The Homestead Act offered settlers 160 acres of free land in exchange for farming the land for 5 years.
- The combination of free land and new transport via the railroad led to increased expansion of the west.
- Farmers and ranchers helped settle the west, created industries that are still an important part of American life, but their presence led to increased conflict with Native Americans.

- The role of religion, how land should be owned and used, and educating the young for adulthood all resulted in conflict between white settlers and Native Americans.

Reading Activity

[Land Taken From the Native Americans in the West](#)

CONFLICT IN THE WEST

- Native Americans of the Great Plains depended on buffalo to survive, but railroads threatened this lifestyle.
- For centuries, some Native Americans lived as farmers and hunters while others lived a nomadic life, following herds of buffalo.
- Government officials wanted to ensure the safety of whites moving into Native American territory, the Great Plains.
- American hunters slaughtered the buffalo to feed railroad crews and to prevent herds from blocking the trains. The buffalo were important to Native Americans as they used almost every part of it to help them survive.
- Conflict between Native Americans and whites grew as Native Americans were forced onto reservations. For instance, Custer's defeat at the Battle of the Little Big Horn led to a large push to place Native Americans on reservations. (WY - Wind River Reservation)
- The U.S. policy of assimilation tried to force Native Americans to adopt white culture.
- A battle at Wounded Knee was the last armed conflict between the U.S. government and Native Americans.

Reading Activity

[A Culture Assaulted: Native Americans in the Late 1800s](#)

SUMMARY WESTWARD EXPANSION

What opened the West to settlement & conflict?

- Mining - Miners found gold in the West, leading to the creation of new states.
- Railroads - Railroads transported gold and silver to market and brought supplies to the miners.
- Settlers - Effects of the transcontinental railroad included ranchers and farmers moved west.
- Natives - Native Americans became angered with the poor land and the government's failure to deliver on promises, which led to widespread uprisings.

Reading Activity

[The Wild West](#)

Tutorials/Practice

[Unit 5 Fling the Teacher Westward Expansion & Conflict in the West](#)

[Unit 5 En Garde Westward Expansion](#)

Enrichment

[Oregon Trail Deluxe 1992](#)

[Dakota 38 \(Video\)](#)

Westward Expansion Assessment

[Unit 5 Westward Expansion Quiz](#)

[Unit 5 Westward Expansion Quiz .pdf](#)

Audio Notes

[Immigration Audio](#)

IMMIGRATION

Pull Factors

- Available land
- Better life
- Religious freedom

IMMIGRANTS 1880-1920 This group of immigrants was more diverse

Countries

- Italy
- Ireland
- Eastern Europe
- China
- Mexico

Reasons

- Jobs
- Land
- Religious Freedom

IMMIGRATION

- Jews came to the US from Eastern Europe mainly to escape religious persecution.
- Job opportunities attracted people to America's rapidly growing cities in the 1800s.
- Most Eastern European immigrants entered the US through Ellis Island.
- Immigration created a melting pot of blended cultures, & some say cultures were more of a salad bowl existing side by side.

ANTI-IMMIGRATION

- Many immigrants returned to their native country.

- Some immigrants refused to practice native traditions to fit in.
- Often immigrants lived in ethnic neighborhoods where they felt accepted.
- The US responded to anti-immigration feelings by establishing immigration quotas.

SUMMARY IMMIGRATION

Why did people come to the United States of America?

- New immigrants began to arrive in the late 1800s, seeking opportunities in the United States.
- New immigrants arrived from Greece, Russia, Hungary, Italy, Turkey, and Poland in the mid 1880s.
- After 1900, immigration from Mexico, China, and Japan increased.
- People emigrated from their native countries for a variety of reasons (push factors), including: overcrowding; poverty; scarce jobs; crop failures; persecution against certain ethnic groups; & the opportunity for a better life.
- Immigrants adjusted to life in America, finding work, forming communities, and adapting to a new culture.
- Some people opposed immigration, while others appreciated the positive contributions made by immigrants.
- Immigrants and others flooded to American cities, where extremes of poverty and wealth existed.
- Growing cities suffered from health and sanitation problems, poverty, fire, and crime.

Tutorials/Practice

[Unit 5 Fling the Teacher Immigration](#)

[Unit 5 Hoopshoot Immigration](#)

Enrichment

[Mission US City of Immigrants](#)

[Immigration Nation](#)

Immigration Assessment

[Unit 5 Immigration Quiz](#)

[Unit 5 Immigration Quiz .pdf](#)

Audio Notes

[Industry Audio](#)

INDUSTRIALIZATION

INDUSTRY

- Railroads stimulated the American steel, lumber, and coal industries and provided thousands of jobs.
- Henry Ford's automobile and assembly line changed industry and society forever (Model T).

- The "Age of Steel" impacted building of skyscrapers, bridges, and rails & locomotives. Andrew Carnegie, dominated this industry.
- John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil Company controlled the booming oil industry.
- Wages offered many factory workers were so low that everyone in the family had to work.
- The invention of the electric elevator made it possible to locate factories at the top level of 10 story skyscrapers.

Tutorials/Practice

[Unit 5 Rags to Riches Industry](#)

[Unit 5 Fling the Teacher Industry](#)

Industry Assessment

[Unit 5 Industry Quiz](#)

[Unit 5 Industry Quiz .pdf](#)

Unit 5 Review

[Unit 5 Review](#) (Practice Test)