

6.3 Westward Expansion: Social and Cultural Development

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS assimilation 同化 • reservations 保留地 • west’s social development 西部社会

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **West’s social development** 西部社会.

You must be able to:

- state what migrants hoped to achieve and the opportunities they sought
- name the three groups competing for land and resources
- state what the U.S. government did
- state what many American Indians did despite assimilation policies

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Migrants’ hopes

In hopes of achieving ideals of self-sufficiency and independence, migrants moved to both rural and boomtown areas of the West for opportunities, such as building the railroads, mining, farming, and ranching.

■ Three groups

As migrant populations increased in number and the American bison population was decimated, competition for land and resources in the West among white settlers, American Indians, and Mexican Americans led to an increase in violent conflict. The bison’s destruction is given as part of the cause.

■ Government action

The U.S. government violated treaties with American Indians and responded to resistance with military force, eventually confining American Indians to reservations and denying tribal sovereignty. Four actions, stated plainly.

■ Preservation

Many American Indians preserved their cultures and tribal identities despite government policies promoting assimilation, and they attempted to develop self-sustaining economic practices. The CED records action as well as what was done.

2 Practice

2.1 State what migrants hoped to achieve and two opportunities they sought. [2]

2.2 State what the U.S. government did. [3]

2.3 The CED records American Indian action.

(a) State what many did. [2]

(b) Name the three groups competing for land and resources. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Competition intensified as the American bison population was [1]

- **A** decimated
- **B** protected
- **C** increased
- **D** unaffected

3.2 The government eventually confined American Indians to reservations and denied [1]

- **A** tribal sovereignty
- **B** all migration
- **C** railroad access
- **D** mineral rights only

3.3 A government signs treaties and then violates them.

(a) State what the CED records. [1]

(b) Explain why recording the treaties matters. [2]

Solutions

2.1 ideals of self-sufficiency and independence; any two of building railroads, mining, farming, ranching.

2.2 violated treaties; responded to resistance with military force; confined American Indians to reservations and denied tribal sovereignty.

2.3 (a) preserved their cultures and tribal identities despite assimilation policies and attempted to develop self-sustaining economic practices. (b) white settlers, American Indians and Mexican Americans.

3.1 A. decimated.

3.2 A. tribal sovereignty.

3.3 (a) that the government violated treaties with American Indians. (b) a treaty is an agreement between sovereigns, so its violation is evidence about how sovereignty was recognised and then denied.