

## 6.2 Westward Expansion: Economic Development

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: 13 marks

**KEY WORDS** mechanization 机械化 • consolidation 合并

- consolidation in agricultural markets 农产品市场集中化
- western economic development 西部经济发展 • political machines 政治机器

### Objective

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Build the skills to explain **western economic development** 西部经济发展.

**You must be able to:**

- state what improvements in mechanization did
- state how farmers responded to consolidation
- state what government subsidies helped open
- name the three things that promoted economic growth in the West

### 1 Worked examples

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

#### ■ Mechanization

**Improvements in mechanization helped agricultural production increase substantially and contributed to declines in food prices.** More output and lower prices — good for consumers and difficult for producers.

#### ■ Farmers' response

**Many farmers responded to the increasing consolidation in agricultural markets and their dependence on the evolving railroad system by creating local and regional cooperative organizations.** Collective action against market power.

#### ■ Government subsidies

**Following the Civil War, government subsidies for transportation and communication systems helped open new markets in North America.** The market was opened by public money.

■ Three promoters

The building of transcontinental railroads, the discovery of mineral resources, and government policies promoted economic growth and created new communities and centers of commercial activity.

## 2 Practice

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**2.1** State the two effects of improvements in mechanization. [2]

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**2.2** State how farmers responded and why. [2]

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**2.3** Three things promoted western economic growth.

(a) Name them. [3]

(b) State what government subsidies helped open. [1]

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## 3 Exam-style questions

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**3.1** Improvements in mechanization contributed to [1]

|   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |

A declines in food prices

B rising food prices

C less production

D fewer farms only

**3.2** Farmers created [1]

|   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |

A local and regional cooperative organizations

B trusts

C holding companies

D political machines

**3.3** A farmer produces more and earns less.

(a) State how this is possible. [1]

(b) Explain why cooperation was the response. [2]

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