


Should the United States Annex Texas?

REASONS FOR	REASONS AGAINST
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Texans voted for annexation.• Statehood would guarantee defense against Mexican attacks and Native American raids.• The Republic would not survive for long as an independent nation.• The United States would benefit economically.• Britain might annex Texas if the United States did not.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tension between the North and South would increase if Texas were added as a slave state.• Mexico would see annexation as an act of war.• Annexation would heighten existing conflict between the Whig and Democratic parties.• Mexico might recognize Texas with the help of U.S. diplomacy, and the Republic of Texas could remain independent.

For the next nine years, leaders of the Republic of Texas worked to attract new settlers. The new Texas government encouraged immigration by offering settlers free land. During the Panic of 1837, thousands of Americans moved to Texas.

Settlers also arrived from Germany and Switzerland. They helped the new nation grow and prosper. By the 1840s, about 140,000 people lived in Texas, including many enslaved African Americans and some Mexicans. The Republic of Texas remained an independent country until the United States annexed it in 1845.

 **READING CHECK** **Summarize** the three problems that faced the new Republic of Texas.


Analyze Images After gaining independence from Mexico, many Texans wanted to join the United States. **Evaluate Arguments** Do you think the argument for or against annexation was stronger? Why?

Lesson Check

Practice Vocabulary

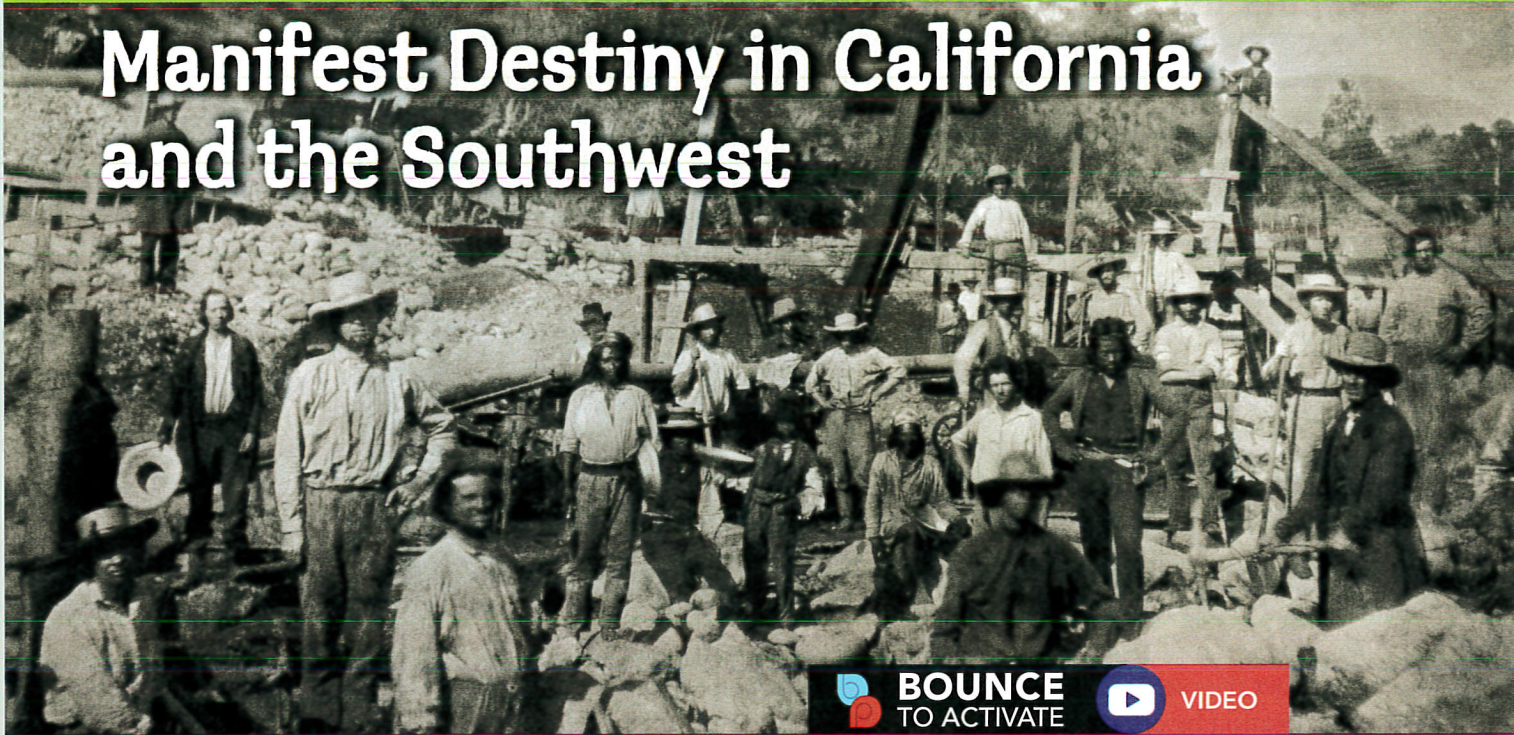
1. Why did Santa Anna lay **siege** to the **Alamo**?
2. In what way were the California **missions** **self-sufficient**?

Critical Thinking and Writing

3. **Identify Cause and Effect** Why did the Republic of Texas remain an independent country for nine years?
4. **Summarize** How did the arrival of the missionaries affect American Indians living in California?
5. **Writing Workshop: Use Descriptive Details and Sensory Language** In your  Active Journal, revise one of the passages you have written about an event that occurs on your journey west. Include descriptive details and sensory language to make your narrative more vivid and specific.

LESSON 7

Manifest Destiny in California and the Southwest



BOUNCE
TO ACTIVATE



VIDEO

GET READY TO READ

START UP


Write three questions you might like to ask these miners at work during the California gold rush.

GUIDING QUESTIONS


- How did Manifest Destiny contribute to American expansion?
- What were the causes and consequences of the Mexican-American War?
- How did Utah and California grow?
- How did the gold rush and migration affect life in California?

TAKE NOTES

Literacy Skills: Identify Cause and Effect

Use the Graphic Organizer in your  Active Journal to take notes as you read the lesson.

PRACTICE VOCABULARY

Use the Vocabulary Builder in your  Active Journal to practice the vocabulary words.

Vocabulary

Manifest Destiny Mexican
Bear Flag Republic Cession
Treaty of Guadalupe- forty-niner
Hidalgo

Academic Vocabulary

allocation
consequently

In the mid-1840s, only about 700 people from the United States lived in California. Every year, however, more Americans were moving west.

Manifest Destiny

There were many economic, social, and political causes for this westward expansion. On several occasions, the United States government offered to buy California from Mexico. Some officials were eager to gain control of the ports at San Francisco and San Diego. Soon westward expansion became a major priority for the nation.

The Roots of Manifest Destiny In the 1840s, an editor named John L. O'Sullivan created the term **Manifest Destiny**. The term meant that the United States had the right to spread across the continent. *Manifest* means clear or obvious. *Destiny* means something that is fated to happen. The social roots of Manifest Destiny lay in the belief that Americans had the right and the duty to spread their culture across the continent all the way to the Pacific Ocean.

Americans who believed in Manifest Destiny thought that westward expansion would also open new opportunities. To many Americans, the fertile farmland and natural resources in the West were prime opportunities for economic growth.

Manifest Destiny and westward expansion had some negative effects, however. Many white Americans believed that they were superior to American Indians and Mexicans. They used this belief to justify taking lands belonging to people whom they considered inferior.

Polk and Westward Expansion The political roots of Manifest Destiny and westward expansion took hold during the election of 1844. The Whigs nominated the well-known national leader Henry Clay for President. Clay had opposed the annexation of Texas. The Democrats chose James Polk, a little-known candidate from Tennessee who wanted to add Texas and Oregon Country to the Union.

On Election Day, Americans showed their support for westward expansion by electing Polk president. Acting on his campaign promise, Polk reached an agreement with the United Kingdom in 1846 over Oregon Country. The two countries divided the territory at latitude 49°N. Britain got the lands north of the line, and the United States got the lands south of the line.

Texas proved a more difficult problem. The United States at first had refused to annex Texas. Senators feared that annexing Texas would cause a war with Mexico.

Roots of Manifest Destiny


Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Belief in America as an exceptional nation• Desire to spread American democracy and ideals• Belief that it was God's will for America to expand• View that white Americans were superior to American Indians
Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monroe Doctrine warning against European colonization in the Western Hemisphere• Desire to acquire Oregon from Britain• Desire to acquire Texas from Mexico• Success of Democrats, who supported expansion, over Whigs, who did not
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farmland for settlers• Access to rich resources• Land for southern crops such as cotton

Analyze Images People had different reasons for supporting Manifest Destiny. **Analyze Charts** How might people's values lead them to support Manifest Destiny?




◀ This election banner shows James Polk and his running mate George Dallas.

Meanwhile, Mexico feared the United States would go ahead with annexation. Out of desperation, Mexico offered a deal: It would accept the independence of Texas if Texas rejected annexation. Texans, however, would not give up on joining the union. They spread rumors that Texas might ally itself with the United Kingdom. This scared Congress into passing a joint resolution, in 1845, admitting Texas to the Union. The annexation of Texas set the stage for conflict with Mexico.

 **READING CHECK** **Identify Main Ideas** How did President Polk help fulfill America's Manifest Destiny?

Quest CONNECTIONS

What were the causes of the war? Note your ideas in your  Active Journal.

The Mexican-American War

The annexation of Texas outraged Mexicans. They had not accepted Texan independence, much less annexation. They also worried that Americans might encourage rebellions in California and New Mexico as they had in Texas.

At the same time, Americans resented Mexico. They were annoyed when Mexico rejected President Polk's offer of \$30 million to buy California and New Mexico. Many Americans felt that Mexico stood in the way of their country's Manifest Destiny.

The Clash Begins A border dispute finally caused war. Both the United States and Mexico claimed the land between the Rio Grande and the Nueces (noo AY says) River. In January 1846, Polk ordered General Zachary Taylor to set up posts in the disputed area. Polk knew the move might lead to war. In April 1846, Mexican troops crossed the Rio Grande and clashed with the Americans. At Polk's urging, Congress declared war on Mexico.

Americans were divided over the conflict. Many in the South and West were eager to fight, hoping to win new lands. Some northerners opposed the war. They saw it as a southern plot to add slave states to the Union. Still, the war was generally popular. When the army called for volunteers, thousands of recruits flocked to the cause.

Analyze Images The roots of the Mexican-American War lay in events that happened long before the war started. **Analyze Charts** How did land disputes lead to the war?

Causes of the Mexican-American War

Texas wins independence from Mexico.

Supporters of Manifest Destiny seek more U.S. territory in the West.

The United States annexes Texas, outraging Mexicans.

Mexico and Texas both claim an area of land.

Supporters of Manifest Destiny push to gain control of Mexican lands.

President Polk sends U.S. troops into the area claimed by both Mexico and Texas.

Mexican troops enter that area and clash with U.S. troops.

The Mexican-American War, 1846–1848



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

Fighting on Multiple Fronts During the Mexican-American War, the United States attacked on several fronts at once.

General Taylor crossed the Rio Grande into northern Mexico. In February 1847, he met Mexican General Santa Anna at the Battle of Buena Vista. The Americans were outnumbered more than two to one, but they were better armed and better led. After fierce fighting and intense artillery fire, they forced Santa Anna to retreat.

A second army under General Winfield Scott landed at the Mexican port of Veracruz. After a long battle, Scott took the city. He then headed toward Mexico City, the capital.

A third army, led by General Stephen Kearny, captured Santa Fe without firing a shot. Kearny then hurried on to San Diego. After several battles, he won control of southern California early in 1847.

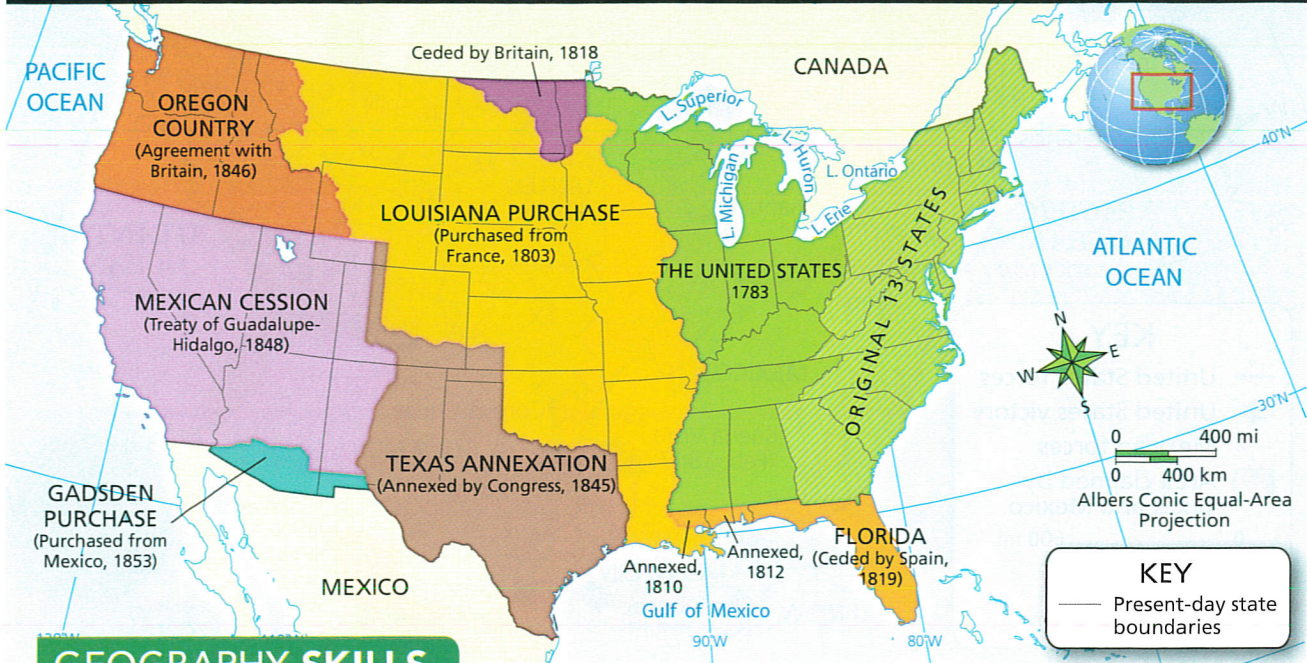
Even before hearing of the war, Americans in northern California had begun a revolt against Mexican rule. The rebels declared California an independent republic on June 14, 1846. They nicknamed their new nation the **Bear Flag Republic**. Within a month, U.S. forces claimed California for the United States. Led by John C. Frémont, rebel forces drove the Mexican troops out of northern California.

By 1847, the United States controlled all of New Mexico and California, and Scott was headed for Mexico City. Blocking his way was the Mexican army in a well-protected position. But in the ensuing Battle of Cerro Gordo, American troops outmaneuvered the Mexicans, who suffered heavy losses and were forced to retreat.

The Mexican-American War was fought over a vast amount of territory.

- 1. Movement** What were the similarities between American land and sea strategies?
- 2. Infer** Why do you think the Americans attacked Mexico by sea instead of sending the armies overland through Texas?

Growth of the United States to 1853



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

By 1848, the United States extended from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.

- 1. Interaction** How would expansion of the United States across the continent change the character of the land?
- 2. Identify Main Ideas** What was the impact of the Mexican-American War on the growth of the United States?

Then, at the edge of Mexico City, Scott's forces faced one last obstacle. Teenage Mexican cadets, or soldiers in training, made a heroic stand at Fort Chapultepec (chah POOL tuh pehk). Today, Mexicans honor those young cadets as heroes. At the battle's end, however, American forces captured Mexico City, and the war was essentially over. Scott's Mexico City campaign remains one of the most successful in U.S. military history.

The War Ends The Mexican-American War officially ended in 1848 when Mexico and the United States signed the **Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo** (gwah duh LOOP ay hih DAHL goh). The treaty required Mexico to cede, or give up, all of California and New Mexico to the United States. These lands were called the **Mexican Cession**. In return, the United States paid Mexico \$15 million.

In 1853, the United States paid Mexico an additional \$10 million for a strip of land in present-day Arizona and New Mexico. Americans needed the land to complete a railroad. The land was called the Gadsden Purchase. With the Gadsden Purchase, many Americans felt that their dream of Manifest Destiny had been fulfilled.

READING CHECK **Identify Cause and Effect** Why were Mexicans worried about the annexation of Texas by the United States?

Mormons Settle the Mexican Cession

Winning the Mexican-American War ushered in a new era of growth. New Mexico Territory, now the southwestern part of the United States, came to be known as the Southwest. After 1848, English-speaking settlers flocked to the Southwest. The largest group was the Mormons.

The Mormons Move West Mormons belonged to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The church was founded in 1830 by Joseph Smith, a farmer in upstate New York.

Some of Smith's teachings differed from those of other Christian churches. These new teachings angered many non-Mormons, who forced the Mormons to leave New York.

The Mormons moved west and, in the 1840s, built a community they called Nauvoo on the banks of the Mississippi River in Illinois. Once again, the Mormons and their neighbors clashed. In 1844, an angry mob killed Joseph Smith, and Brigham Young was chosen as their new leader.

A New Home in Utah Young sought a place where Mormons would be safe from persecution. In 1847, he led an advance party into the valley of the Great Salt Lake. Soon, waves of Mormon families followed. For several years, Mormon wagon trains struggled across the plains and over the Rockies to Utah.


Young drew up plans for a large city, called Salt Lake City, to be built in the desert. The Mormon settlements in Utah grew, and eventually, in 1896, Utah became a state.

 **READING CHECK** Identify Cause and Effect Why did the Mormons go to Utah?

The 31st State

While the Mormons were moving to what would become Utah, thousands of other Americans were racing even farther west. The great California gold rush had begun.

Quest CONNECTIONS

What was the effect of the war? Note your ideas in your  Active Journal.

Did you know?

Five companies of Mormon settlers walked all the way to Salt Lake City pushing their belongings in handcarts like the one shown here.





The Rush to California In 1848, John Sutter was having a sawmill built on the American River, north of Sacramento, California. Sutter had hired James Marshall to supervise the job. Early on January 24, Marshall was out making inspections. He later recalled the events of that day:

Primary Source

“As I was taking my usual walk, . . . my eye was caught with the glimpse of something shining in the bottom of the ditch. . . . I reached my hand down and picked it up; it made my heart thump, for I was certain it was gold.”

—James Marshall, quoted in *Hutchings’ Illustrated California Magazine*, 1857–1858

Analyze Images Two Chinese American forty-niners. **Use Visual Information** What difficulties did forty-niners face?

Sutter tried to keep the news a secret, but word spread quickly. Soon, thousands of Americans caught “gold fever,” along with people from Europe, China, Australia, and South America. More than 80,000 people made the journey to California in 1849. They became known as **forty-niners**, a nickname created in reference to the year they arrived.

Very few miners actually struck it rich, and many went broke. In some cases, wives made more money at home than their husbands did in the mines. “I have made about \$18,000 worth of pies,” one woman boasted.

Many miners left the gold fields, but they stayed in California. In time, they found jobs or took up farming.

Conflicts Over Water While California has a variety of climates and landscapes, many areas of California are naturally dry, especially in the south. Not surprisingly, as the population grew, people quarreled over water **allocation**.

Two systems of water rights developed. One system, based in common law, gives water rights to the people who live in a place where water is. This system commonly gave first water rights to missions and pueblos, which were normally built near rivers or lakes.

INTERACTIVE

Growth of the West to 1860

Academic Vocabulary
allocation • *n.*, the dividing up of something for a special purpose

The other system of water rights developed in the gold rush mining areas. To the miners, water was like gold: whoever found it owned it. If your neighbor upstream took water from a river, there might not be any left for you. Conflicts over water rights led to legal and political battles between missions, ranchers, miners, and farmers.

Many conflicts involved farmers who needed water for their crops or missions that needed water for their residents. Farmers complained that the mining process polluted the water, making it unfit for agriculture. The conflicts over water were never completely resolved and continue to the present time.

Statehood for California The gold rush brought big changes to California. Almost overnight, San Francisco grew into a bustling city. In the gold fields, towns sprang up just as quickly. Greed led some forty-niners into crime. Murders and robberies plagued many mining camps.

Californians realized that they needed a strong government to stop such lawlessness. **Consequently**, in November of 1849, they drafted a state constitution and then asked to be admitted to the Union. Their request caused an uproar because of the slavery issue. After a heated debate, California was admitted to the Union as a free state as part of the Compromise of 1850. But the question of whether new states could allow slavery would continue to cause bitter disagreements that further divided the nation.

Quick Activity

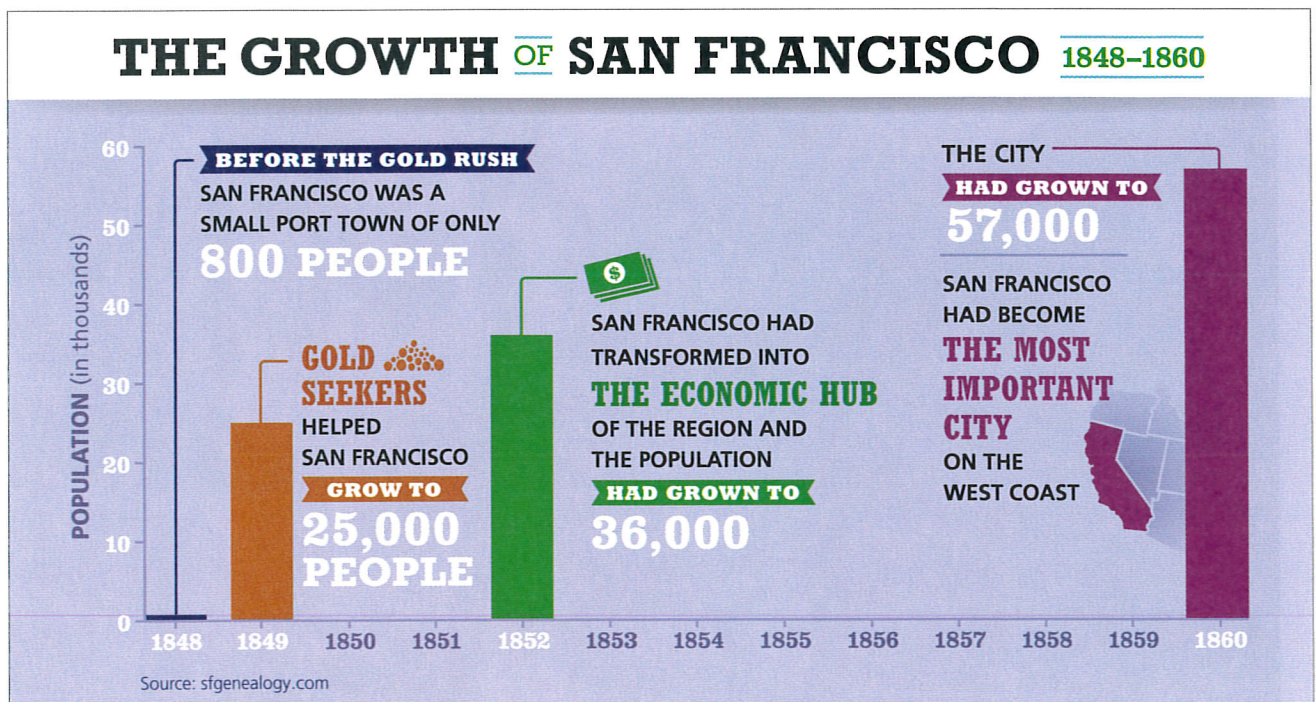


Investigate ways in which rivers and streams helped determine where people settled in California.

Academic Vocabulary

consequently • *adv.*, as a result

READING CHECK **Sequence** How did California grow to statehood?



Analyze Images The gold rush transformed San Francisco from a small port town into a major city. **Analyze Charts** How did immigration and migration impact the settlement of San Francisco?



INTERACTIVE

The People of California

The Effects of Migration to California

Westward expansion had many effects on the cultures and peoples of California. The gold rush brought diverse groups of people into contact with each other in the West.

A Mix of Cultures Most newcomers were white Americans from the East. Far more white men than women had joined the quest for gold. As a result, white men far outnumbered white women, making single women very sought after. This increased women's bargaining position and their stature, enabling them to achieve some rights that women elsewhere were denied.

The shortage of women also helped break down barriers between groups. In some areas, intermarriage between white men and Mexican women became more common.

California's mining camps included African Americans who had escaped from slavery in the South, free African Americans, and American Indians. There were also people from Hawaii, China, Peru, Chile, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, and Australia.

Before the gold rush, California's population had included large numbers of Mexicans. Mexican Americans faced serious hardships. In the years following California statehood, many Mexican Americans lost land that their families had owned for generations.

Analyze Images People of all races came to California from across the country and around the world. **Identify Supporting Details** How did the gold rush change California's population?



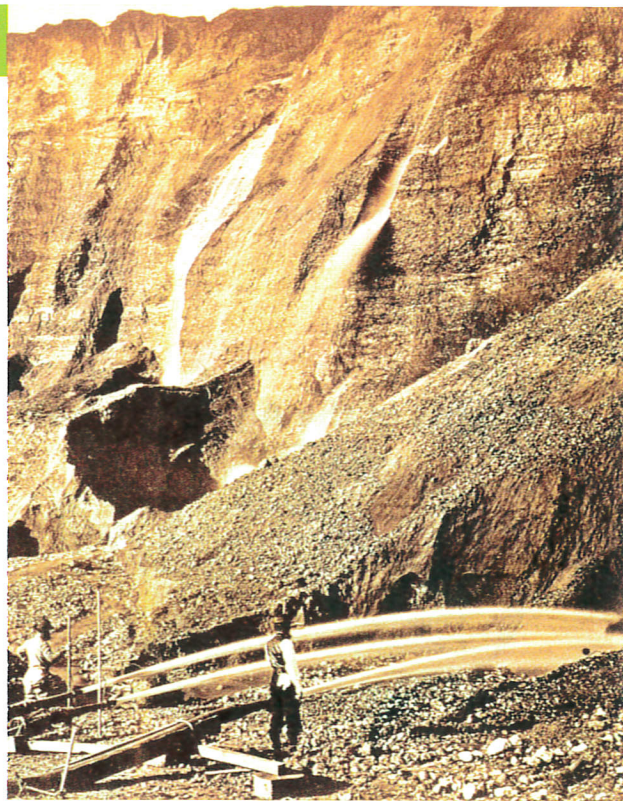
American Indians fared even worse. Many were driven off the lands where they lived. Without any means to earn a living, large numbers died of starvation or disease brought by the newcomers. Others were murdered. In 1850, about 100,000 American Indians lived in California. By the 1870s, their population had dwindled to 17,000.

Lured by tales of a “mountain of gold,” thousands of Chinese immigrants crossed the Pacific Ocean to California. At first, they were welcomed because California needed workers. When Chinese people staked claims in the gold fields, however, white miners often drove them off. Despite such injustice, many Chinese Americans stayed in California. Their contributions helped the state to grow. They shaped the environment by draining swamplands and digging irrigation systems to turn dry land into fertile farmland.

Free blacks also joined the gold rush. Some became well-off by starting and running businesses. By the 1850s, California had the wealthiest African American population of any state. Yet, African Americans faced discrimination and were denied certain rights.

Changes to the Region In spite of its problems, California continued to grow and prosper. Settlers from other states and immigrants from all over the world kept arriving. With their diverse backgrounds, the newcomers helped create California’s identity. The economy grew as commerce and mining expanded. Agricultural production and the growth of the oil industry accounted for much of California’s early economic growth. Cities and roads grew to accommodate the increase in people and goods.

READING CHECK **Identify Cause and Effect** Why did so many American Indians die of disease as newcomers moved westward?



Analyze Images This 1868 photo shows environmental damage near Dutch Flat, California, caused by hydraulic gold mining.

Sequence Based on details in the photograph, describe how hydraulic mining damaged the environment.


Lesson Check

Practice Vocabulary

1. What happened to the **Bear Flag Republic**?
2. What did Mexico cede in the **Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo**?
3. Who were the **forty-niners**?

Critical Thinking and Writing

4. **Identify Main Ideas** How were Americans influenced by the idea of Manifest Destiny?

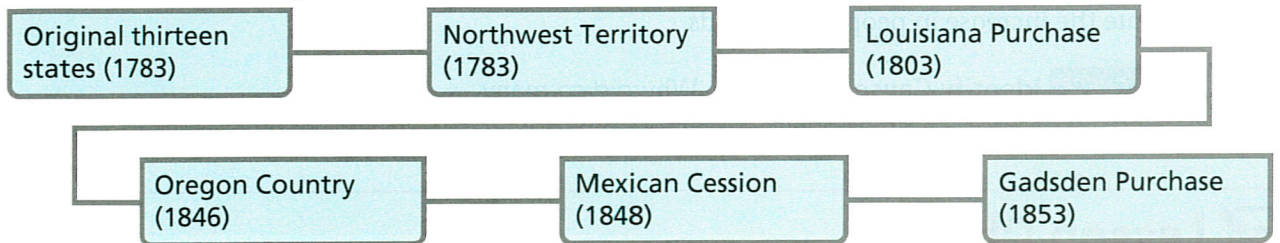
5. **Draw Conclusions** Why do you suppose Brigham Young chose the isolated valley of the Great Salt Lake as a new home for the Mormons?
6. **Writing Workshop: End Strongly** In your  Active Journal, write a final paragraph for your narrative. Bring it to an end in a way that will make it memorable for readers.

VISUAL REVIEW

Events in the Age of Andrew Jackson



Manifest Destiny



READING REVIEW

Use the Take Notes and Practice Vocabulary activities in your Active Journal to review the topic.

INTERACTIVE

Practice vocabulary using the Topic Mini-Games

Quest FINDINGS

Conduct Your Civic Discussion


Get help for conducting your discussion in your Active Journal.

ASSESSMENT

Vocabulary and Key Ideas

1. **Describe** How did **suffrage** change during the early years of the Age of Jackson?
2. **Check Understanding** Why did many people disapprove of the **spoils system**?
3. **Define** What was the **frontier**?
4. **Recall** What happens during a **depression**?
5. **Describe** How is a **caucus** different from a **nominating convention**?
6. **Use** What was the significance of the **National Road**?
7. **Check Understanding** What happened when Mexico signed the **Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo**?

Critical Thinking and Writing

8. **Identify Point of View** Write a paragraph identifying the points of view the Whig Party and the Democratic Party held on major issues. What can you conclude about each party's point of view on the government's role in the economy?
9. **Explain an Argument** Explain how the issues of states' rights and nullification affected the nation during the Age of Jackson.
10. **Summarize** What is Manifest Destiny and how did this idea affect Americans and the people they encountered in the West?
11. **Revisit the Essential Question** Why did people move into the West? Think about the varied groups of people who settled in the West and their reasons for leaving their homes.
12. **Writing Workshop: Write a Narrative** Using the passages and notes you have written in your  Active Journal, write a narrative from the perspective of a person moving westward during this time period. Tell about important or memorable events during your journey. Include description and sensory details to bring the narrative alive for readers. Create a strong opening and a memorable ending.

Analyze Primary Sources

13. The quotation presents one view of the conflict about
 - A. the Second Bank of the United States.
 - B. the Indian Removal Act.
 - C. the "corrupt bargain."
 - D. states' rights.

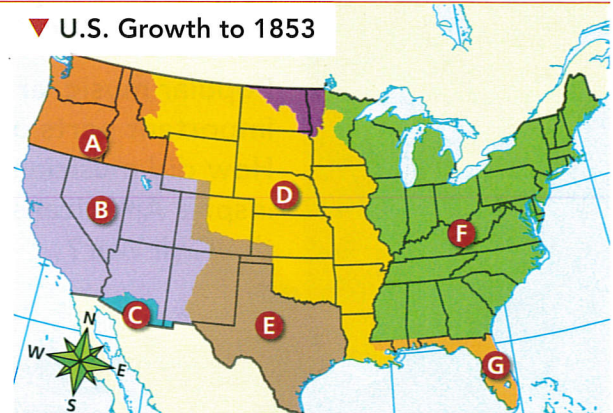
"When the laws undertake . . . to make the rich richer and the potent more powerful, the humble members of the society—the farmers, mechanics, and laborers—who have neither the time nor the means of [getting] favors for themselves . . . have a right to complain of the injustices of their government."

—President Andrew Jackson

Analyze Maps

Use the map to answer the following questions.

14. The Trail of Tears ended in which territory? Where did these American Indians live before they were relocated?
15. How did the Oregon Trail get its name? In which territory did the Oregon Trail begin?
16. Which territory did the United States acquire following the Mexican-American War? Which states were formed from this territory?



Society and Culture Before the Civil War

(1820–1860)

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Go back two centuries

to explore American **SOCIETY AND CULTURE BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR**. See how kids your age and younger worked in factories or picked cotton—10 to 14 hours a day. See how African Americans fought for their freedom and courageous women fought for their rights.

Explore

The Essential Question

Why is culture important?

Popular music, art, novels—all are important parts of our culture today. How did musicians, artists, and writers inspire Americans before the Civil War?