1803 – 1853

Manifest Destiny Quiz

Name _____ Date _____

Fill in the circle beside the best answer.

1. What did journalist John L. O'Sullivan mean by Manifest Destiny in 1845?

- (A) That the US had a duty to end slavery across North and South America
- (B) That European kings were meant to rule the lands west of the Mississippi
- (C) That God or fate meant the US to spread across the whole continent
- (D) That the US should settle its eastern lands before moving farther west

2. What did the Louisiana Purchase do in 1803?

- (A) Settled the Oregon border with Britain along the line of the 49th parallel
- (B) Doubled the size of the US and gave it control of the Mississippi River
- (C) Gave the US control of Florida and set a western border with Spanish lands
- (D) Added Texas to the United States and started a border war with Mexico

3. Why was Texas annexation in 1845 controversial?

- (A) Mexico still claimed Texas, and adding it deepened the fight over slavery
- (B) Britain still claimed Texas, and adding it broke the Oregon Treaty
- (C) Texas voters had rejected joining, and Congress added the state anyway
- (D) Texas had banned slavery, and Southern states refused to accept a free state

4. What did the Oregon Treaty of 1846 settle?

- (A) A dispute with Spain over Florida, setting the border at the Sabine River
- (B) A dispute with Mexico over Texas, setting the border at the Rio Grande
- (C) A dispute with France over Louisiana, setting the border at the Rocky Mountains
- (D) A dispute with Britain over Oregon, setting the border at the 49th parallel

5. What territory did the US gain from the Mexican-American War?

- (A) Over 500,000 square miles, including California, New Mexico, and Arizona
- (B) About 50,000 square miles, including Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi
- (C) Over 800,000 square miles, including Louisiana, Missouri, and Arkansas
- (D) About 280,000 square miles, including Oregon, Washington, and Idaho

6. What did the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo accomplish?

- (A) It ended the War of 1812 and returned captured land to Britain and the US
- (B) It ended the war with Mexico and gave California and New Mexico to the US
- (C) It ended a border dispute with Britain and gave the Oregon Country to the US
- (D) It ended the Texas Revolution and made Texas the 28th state of the US

7. How did the California Gold Rush affect westward expansion?

- (A) It kept California a territory for thirty years because few people stayed
- (B) It started a second war with Mexico over who owned the California gold fields
- (C) It pulled most settlers north to Oregon and left California nearly empty
- (D) It drew about 300,000 people west in a few years and quickly made California a state

8. What did the Gadsden Purchase of 1853 complete?

- (A) The annexation of Texas, by adding land between the Nueces and the Rio Grande
- (B) The purchase of Alaska from Russia, by adding land along the Pacific coast
- (C) The current shape of the lower 48 states, by adding land on the Mexican border
- (D) The takeover of Oregon from Britain, by adding land north of the Columbia River

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Manifest Destiny Quiz: Answer Key

1. **C** That God or fate meant the US to spread across the whole continent

2. **B** Doubled the size of the US and gave it control of the Mississippi River

3. **A** Mexico still claimed Texas, and adding it deepened the fight over slavery

4. **D** A dispute with Britain over Oregon, setting the border at the 49th parallel

5. **A** Over 500,000 square miles, including California, New Mexico, and Arizona

6. **B** It ended the war with Mexico and gave California and New Mexico to the US

7. **D** It drew about 300,000 people west in a few years and quickly made California a state

8. **C** The current shape of the lower 48 states, by adding land on the Mexican border