1803 – 1890

Westward Expansion Quiz

Name _____ Date _____

Fill in the circle beside the best answer.

1. What did the Louisiana Purchase do in 1803?

- (A) Bought Alaska from Russia for the United States
- (B) Doubled the size of the United States
- (C) Took California from Mexico for the United States
- (D) Bought Florida from Spain for the United States

2. Who explored the new western lands starting in 1804?

- (A) Fremont and Carson
- (B) Lewis and Clark
- (C) Marquette and Joliet
- (D) Mason and Dixon

3. What was the Oregon Trail?

- (A) A long wagon route settlers followed west
- (B) A cattle route cowboys followed north from Texas
- (C) A river route explorers followed to the Pacific
- (D) A railroad line built from Chicago to Oregon

4. What set off the California Gold Rush?

- (A) Gold discovered at Sutter's Mill
- (B) Gold discovered in the Klondike
- (C) Gold discovered at Pikes Peak
- (D) Gold discovered in the Black Hills

5. What were the gold seekers of 1849 called?

- (A) Homesteaders
- (B) Mountain Men
- (C) Rough Riders
- (D) Forty-Niners

6. What did the Homestead Act offer settlers in 1862?

- (A) Low-cost loans if they opened a mine
- (B) Free cattle if they started a ranch
- (C) Free western land if they farmed it
- (D) Cash payments if they moved to Oregon

7. What did the Transcontinental Railroad do in 1869?

- (A) Connected New York City to Washington, D.C.
- (B) Connected the United States to Mexico City
- (C) Connected the country from coast to coast
- (D) Connected the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean

8. What did the Census announce in 1890?

- (A) The population had fallen for the first time
- (B) The West still had no states of its own
- (C) The frontier line had reached the Mississippi
- (D) The frontier line was essentially gone

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Westward Expansion Quiz: Answer Key

1. **B** Doubled the size of the United States

2. **B** Lewis and Clark

3. **A** A long wagon route settlers followed west

4. **A** Gold discovered at Sutter's Mill

5. **D** Forty-Niners

6. **C** Free western land if they farmed it

7. **C** Connected the country from coast to coast

8. **D** The frontier line was essentially gone



FOR TEACHERS

The Westward Expansion Teaching Pack, $7. A two-week unit: lesson slides with guided notes, illustrated readings, maps, primary sources, activities, a quiz and answer keys.

printablescholar.com/printable-maps/lewis-and-clark-map

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