

MANIFEST DESTINY: COMMON CRAFT VIDEOS

The following questions are meant to be a **guide** to **main points** that you will want to cover in your script. They **do not** have to go in this order...but you should make sure that your script answers these questions, somehow – somehow. To earn a high grade you need to answer **more** than just these questions. These are the main points.

Oregon Trail and Territory:

1. What are three reasons people moved west?
2. Discuss the history of the territory - what countries claimed it, who shared it, how did we end up with the land we have today?
3. Who were the Mountain Men and how did they help open ‘the west’?
4. Describe (geographically) the Oregon territory.
5. Explain President Polk’s role in the claiming of the territory.
6. What were some of the challenges and risks of traveling the trail?
7. Explain the relationship between this topic and Manifest Destiny.

Texas Revolution:

1. Why were Texans (former Americans) in Texas in the first place?
2. Explain at least two reasons why *Texans* were unhappy with *Mexican* rule?
3. Explain at least two reasons why *Tejanos (Mexicans)* were unhappy with the Texans/Americans that moved in.
4. What was valuable about the land in Texas?
5. What were three events that caused the Texas Revolution? Include the Alamo.
6. Explain the roll of important figures like Stephen F. Austin, and Gen. Santa Ana.
7. Explain the relationship between this topic and Manifest Destiny.

Mexican-American War:

1. What caused the Mexican-American War – make sure to explain the border dispute and all.
2. Explain how California and New Mexico related to the Mexican-American War.
3. Why were some people against war with Mexico?
4. What lands did the US acquire from the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo?
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California Gold Rush and the Chinese:

1. Explain the “Gold Rush” and how it began.
2. Describe a typical miner.
3. Why didn’t many forty-niners get rich?
4. Explain the relationship between the Chinese and the Gold Rush.
5. What was the “legacy” of the Gold Rush?
6. Describe life in the mining camps.
7. Explain the relationship between this topic and Manifest Destiny.

Trails West - Mormon, California, Santa Fe, and the Donner Party:

1. Give a broad overview of each trail - where it began, where it ended, and where it went in between.
2. What types of people were traveling West? Why? Be sure to discuss the Mormons (Pronounced: More-Muns)
3. What was life on the trail like? Hardships? Dangers? Difficulties?
4. Use the Donner Party as one example of the “dark side” of traveling west.
5. What was the role of women along the trails?
6. Explain the relationship between this topic and Manifest Destiny.

Louisiana Purchase, Lewis & Clark, and Explorers:

1. How did we acquire the Louisiana Territory? Be sure to discuss the cost, the value, who we bought it from, when, and *why*.
2. Explain the debate about whether or not Thomas Jefferson should have made the purchase.
3. After purchasing the land, it was time to see what we purchased...Summarize the Lewis and Clark journey.
4. Explain the role of at least one other explorer that traveled west exploring during this time.
5. Explain the relationship between this topic and Manifest Destiny.