



Sentence Frames and Questions for Westward Expansion and the Relationship between Western and Native Peoples

Use some of the following themes of U.S. History and speculate about how it might have impacted the tribal nations or the relationship between Native and Western peoples.

- Gold and mining opportunities
- Work opportunities in the cattle industry
- The effects of the railroad (faster travel to the West and availability of supplies)
- The opportunity to own land under the Homestead Act
- New inventions allowing settlers to adapt to life on the Plains
- The adventurous lure of the “Wild West”

Model Sentence:

_____(topic chosen from above)___ affected the relationship between Western and Native peoples by ____ (the effect you believe this caused)____. This is a reasonable effect because ____ (your reasoning)_____.

My sentences:

_____ affected the relationship between Western and Native peoples by _____

_____. This is a reasonable effect because _____

_____ affected the relationship between Western and Native peoples by _____

_____. This is a reasonable effect because _____

After you analyze your documents, discuss with your group and answer the following questions:

- 1) Did these documents prove your ideas on the first page right or wrong? Why?
- 2) Did any of the issues in these documents become resolved? How?
- 3) Can you figure out any official government policy toward tribal nations in the West? What was it?
- 4) Choose one document and consider the situation of the Native people involved. How might they have felt?
- 5) Based on the situation you chose in question 4, what do you think should have been done?