

Document Based Essay

Grade 7

“Perspectives on Manifest Destiny”

Directions:




The following question is based on the accompanying documents. This question is designed to test your ability to work with historic documents. As you analyze the documents, take into account both the sources of the document and the author’s point of view.

Historical Context:

Americans viewed the expansion of our territory to the west as the Manifest Destiny of our nation. As this expansion continued, more and more Native Americans were affected.

Task:

Using information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to.

-  Describe the motivations for American westward expansion.
-  Discuss the impact of American westward expansion on Native Americans.
-  Evaluate the “Manifest Destiny” and its role in American history.

Part A Short Answer:

Examine the documents that follow closely and then answer the questions that follow. Carefully read and analyze each document. Answer each question on the separate answer sheet using evidence from the document and your knowledge of Social Studies.

Part B Essay Answer:

Answer the question in a well-organized essay that uses your answers from Part A. Use evidence from the Documents and your knowledge of Social Studies to support the ideas in your essay. You should use definitions, examples, evidence, and other specific examples to fully develop the Topic.

Document #1

Thus we behold Kentucky, lately an howling wilderness, the habitation of savages and wild beasts, become a fruitful field; this region, so favorably distinguished by nature, now become the habitation of civilization, at a period unparalleled in history, in the midst of a raging war, and under all the disadvantages of emigration to a country so remote from the inhabited parts of the continent.

Here, where the hand of violence shed the blood of the innocent; where the horrid yells of savages, and the groans of the distressed, sounded in our ears, we now hear the praises and adorations of our Creator; where wretched wigwams stood, the miserable abode of savages, we behold the foundations of cities laid, that, in all probability, will equal the glory of the greatest upon earth. And we view Kentucky situated on the fertile banks of the great Ohio, rising from obscurity to shine with splendor, equal to any other of the states of the American hemisphere.

The ADVENTURES OF COL. DANIEL BOONE, 1794

- 1A) What are the reasons that Daniel Boone gives for the settling of Kentucky?
- 1B) What is the view of Native Americans by Daniel Boone

Document #2

May 7th Started out hunting killed two antelope about 10 saw a herd of Buffaloe crossing the River waited til they rose the Bank and commenced slaughter killed 3 and wounded many more these afforded a timely supply to the party and we ate hearty. Saw today the first appearance of muskrat since leav the settlements also Pelicans. Last night in cutting a tree for fuel caught two young grey Eagles one of which we ate and found it tender and good also a Badger saw some rattlesnakes and some other kinds not known to me the men [horses?] appear a little better the men [horses?] about the same Thr. 90 deg. wind S.E. my face so swelled from the mosquitoes and ghnats that I can scarce see out of my eyes and aches like the tooth ache...

July 4th Decamped and at noon crossed the divide and drank to my friends with mingled feelings from the waters of the Columbia mixed with alcohol and eat of a Buffaloe cow made this day 30 miles and 25 yesterday The snow clad mountains now entirely surround us the streams this side increase rapidly. ...

Journal of Captain Nathaniel J. Wyeth's Expeditions to the Oregon Country
First Expedition - 1832

- 2A) What is the Oregon Trail?
- 2B) How did Capt. Nathaniel Wyeth view the environment?

Document #3

HOMESTEAD.
Land Office at *Brownville Mo*
January 20th 1868.

CERTIFICATE, }
No. 1 }

{ APPLICATION,
} *No. 1*

It is hereby certified, That pursuant to the provisions of the act of Congress, approved May 20, 1862, entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain,"

Daniel Truman has
made payment in full for *Eight 1/4 sections of NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of T 8 N 1/4* of
Section *Twentysix (26)* in Township *four (4) N*
of Range *five (5) E* containing *160* acres.

Now, therefore, be it known, That on presentation of this Certificate to the
COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, the said *Daniel Truman*
Truman shall be entitled to a Patent for the Tract of Land above described.

Henry M. Atkinson Register.

3A) What is the Homestead Act and how did it treat the land on the Frontier?

Document Set #4



BUFFALO HUNT, UNDER THE WOLF SKIN - by George Catlin 1830's

- 4A) What role did the Buffalo play in the culture of the Plains Indians?
- 4B) What relationship did the Native American's have with their environment?

Document #5



5A) What event is being portrayed in this painting?

5B) What was the fate of the Cherokee Nation?

Document #6

I am tired of fighting. Our chiefs are killed. Looking Glass is dead. Toohoolhoolzote is dead. The old men are all dead. It is the young men who say, "Yes" or "No." He who led the young men [Olikut] is dead. It is cold, and we have no blankets. The little children are freezing to death. My people, some of them, have run away to the hills, and have no blankets, no food. No one knows where they are -- perhaps freezing to death. I want to have time to look for my children, and see how many of them I can find. Maybe I shall find them among the dead. Hear me, my chiefs! I am tired. My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands I will fight no more forever.

Chief Joseph's surrender speech on October 5, 1877

6B) How has westward expansion impacted Chief Joseph's people?