

Law Of The Range Answer Key

1. Examples: fairness, loyalty, courage, helping others, honesty (students may name any two).
2. Because towns were growing and needed organization, protection, and fair systems to solve problems.
3. Sheriffs, marshals, judges, or other law enforcement officials.
4. Answers may include: punishments were unfair, innocent people could be harmed, violence increased, justice depended on personal belief instead of law.
5. Sample:
 - o Similar: Both tried to create fairness and safety.
 - o Different: Cowboy code was informal and based on personal honor; real law involved officials and written rules.
6. Answers will vary; check for clear reasoning connected to concepts in the passage.

Teacher's Guide

- Encourage students to cite the passage when comparing myth vs. reality.
- Lead a discussion on why societies shift from informal rules to established laws.
- Vocabulary support: "vigilante," "authority," "justice," "mythic."
- Differentiation:
 - o Provide sentence starters for students needing guidance: "The mythic code said... but real laws..."
 - o Challenge advanced learners to identify a specific example of frontier legal conflict (e.g., famous sheriffs or outlaw events).
- Engagement Ideas:
 - o Have students create two "Wanted" posters: one for a fictional cowboy hero and one for a real historical law enforcer.
 - o Host a quick debate on which system they would prefer to live under and why.
- Extension:
 - o Connect to media literacy by analyzing how movies and shows shape our views of history.