

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Wild West Truths Answer Key

1. M - Shootouts were uncommon; most cowboy work was not violent.
2. F - Cattle drives were long, exhausting journeys.
3. F - Outlaws existed but were not the majority; most people followed rules.
4. M - This image was mostly created by entertainment.
5. F - Women contributed significantly to frontier life.
6. F - Many tribes experienced forced relocation.
7. M - There were sheriffs, marshals, and courts, though sometimes limited.
8. F - Cowboy crews were diverse.
9. F - Most cowboys worked ranch jobs and earned modest wages.
10. M - Many communities were stable, peaceful, and family-centered.

Reflection answers will vary; ensure reasoning is clear and supported by learning.

### Teacher's Guide

- Before the activity, discuss how media shapes our understanding of history.
- Encourage students to cite previous lessons or primary sources when explaining their answers.
- Vocabulary support: **myth, historical, diverse, relocation.**
- **Differentiation Strategies:**
  - Provide sentence frames: "This is a myth because..." "This is a fact because..."
  - Challenge advanced learners to add two new statements of their own, label them, and explain their choices.
- **Engagement Tips:**
  - Turn it into a class debate: "Who is the real cowboy?"
  - Show brief, teacher-approved clips from old Western films to compare with factual information.
- **Extension Ideas:**
  - Students research a real historical cowboy or outlaw (e.g., Bass Reeves, Nat Love, Belle Starr) and present one myth vs. reality about them.
  - Connect to media literacy standards by analyzing why myths became more popular than facts.