

Name _____

Westward Steps Answer Key

Correct sequence:

1. A - Oregon Trail migrations (1840s)
2. C - California Gold Rush (1848-1855)
3. B - Homestead Act (1862)
4. E - Transcontinental railroad completed (1869)
5. D - Cattle drives (late 1800s)

Short written response will vary. Teacher checks for accurate reasoning connected to events.

Teacher's Guide

- Encourage students to look for time clues and cause-and-effect connections between events.
- Provide sentence starters for emerging writers (e.g., "The biggest impact was...").
- Allow students to work in pairs to discuss why they placed events in a certain order before writing.
- Extension idea: Students illustrate one event and write a caption showing when and why it was important.