

Name _____



Westward Wonders

Directions: Read each question about the American Frontier and Wild West. Circle the correct answer.

- Which event inspired thousands of people to rush to California in hopes of becoming rich quickly?
 - Homestead Act
 - California Gold Rush
 - War of 1812
 - Transcontinental Railroad
- What was the main purpose of the Oregon Trail?
 - To help settlers travel to new western lands
 - To move soldiers west to fight
 - To transport gold to the East
 - To trade goods with Europe
- Which group of people was forced from their land during westward expansion?
 - Railroad workers
 - Cowboys
 - Gold miners
 - Native American tribes
- Who was known for helping guide the Lewis and Clark Expedition?
 - Annie Oakley
 - Harriet Tubman
 - Sacagawea
 - Laura Ingalls Wilder
- What major advancement made it faster and easier to travel and ship goods across the country?
 - Pony Express
 - Transcontinental Railroad
 - Prairie schooner wagons
 - Telegraph stations
- Cowboys mainly worked in which industry during the frontier era?
 - Coal mining
 - Textiles
 - Cattle ranching
 - Shipbuilding
- Why did the Homestead Act attract settlers to the West?
 - It paid people to move to the city
 - It offered free or cheap land to farm
 - It guaranteed gold for every family
 - It required everyone to move west
- Which nickname was given to those who rushed into Oklahoma early to claim land?
 - Sooners
 - Boasters
 - Trailblazers
 - Forty-Niners
- What role did boomtowns play during westward expansion?
 - They were farming villages where no new settlers arrived
 - They were small towns that disappeared quickly and had no jobs
 - They rapidly grew because people chased mining opportunities
 - They only allowed farmers to live there
- Which famous performer became known for sharpshooting tricks in Wild West shows?
 - Calamity Jane
 - Molly Pitcher
 - Susan B. Anthony
 - Annie Oakley