



# THE MAKING OF AMERICA: 1789- 1900



## KEY WORDS

**Abolitionist** – Someone opposed to slavery

**American Dream** – the hope of a better life the USA could offer immigrants

**Black Codes** – laws which discriminated against black Americans during reconstruction

**Capitalist**- system which encourages individuals to make money for profit

**Confederacy** – Southern states who tried to break away from the union and form their own nation

**Dawes Act**- a law which allowed Plains Natives to become citizens in return for giving up tribal claims to land

**Emancipation Proclamation**- statement made by Lincoln in 1863 that all slaves would be freed

**Federalism**- power divided between all states in America and the central government

**Ghost Dance**- Native dance to bring back their dead and remove white settlers

**Homesteaders**- people who settled on the Plains. Promised 160 acres if they worked for 5 years after 1862

**Manifest destiny**- a belief in a God-given right to take over the whole of America.

**Plains**- area of land between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains

**Senate**- Part of the US Congress where laws get passed

**Supreme Court**- highest court in the USA and decides if laws fit the constitution

**Underground Railroad**- a secret organization which helped slaves escape the south

**Union**- a short name for the United States and the Northern States Army who fought the Civil War

## WHAT EVENTS HELPED AMERICAN EXPANSION 1789-1838

- **War of Independence**- created 13 original colonies formed as the USA
- **Conflicted between the US army and Natives created 230 acres of land for expansion**
- Settlers began to move into the North and Southwest territories 1789-1820
- **The USA bought land from the French in 1803**
- **Slavery spread rapidly across the 'cotton kingdom' in the deep south 1793-1820**
- **The Missouri Compromise of 1820 set the conditions of new states entering the union**

## THE WEST 1789-1900

### How were the Natives impacted?

The apache, Cheyenne and Sioux natives were all forced onto reservations in Oklahoma following the IRA of 1830. White settlers viewed them as 'uncivilised savages' due to their beliefs in circles, dances and that the earth should belong to everyone. They lived a nomadic lifestyle and hunted Buffalo.



### How did new groups increase migration west?

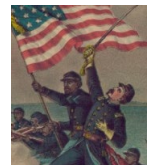
Advertisements spread news about a new life West free from the cramped conditions and poverty in the east. Homesteaders and Mormons travelled along the Oregon and California trails in search of land promised by the government.

### What was the impact of the California and Pike's Peak gold rushes?

California became a US state in 1950 with San Francisco a thriving city. Demands for the railroad grew. A second Gold Rush impacted Pike's Peak in 1858 as 100,000 many the journey to Kansas. However most miners made very little fortune (\$2-\$3 per day) and there was increased conflict with Native people's as thousands migrated further onto reservations as miners and the US army drove them into the mountains or shot them dead

## CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION 1861-77

- Divisions over slavery and states' rights helped cause the Civil W the Missouri Compromise of 1820 as southern states sought to keep slavery legal whilst the North wanted to remain free states.
- Lincoln's 1860 election victory saw Jefferson Davis form the Confederacy as Southern states believed Lincoln would ban slavery- fundamental to the southern economy.
- A civil war lasting from 1861-65 devastated the south and killed more than 750,000 people, but slavery was ended with the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1865. After Lincoln's assassination,
- President Johnson and Grant failed with reconstruction as many freed slaves were lynched and killed by the KKK who failed to recognise the banning of slavery. Freed slaves built churches and became American citizens but economic hardship continued. American became a racially divided nation



## QUESTION STEMS:

- 1 'Give one example of... Name one... Which.. (1 mark)
- 2 'Write a clear and organised summary that..... (9 marks)
- 3 What was the impact of... What caused.. (10 marks)
- 4 How far do you agree... Give reasons for your answer (18 marks)

## 5 KEY EVENTS

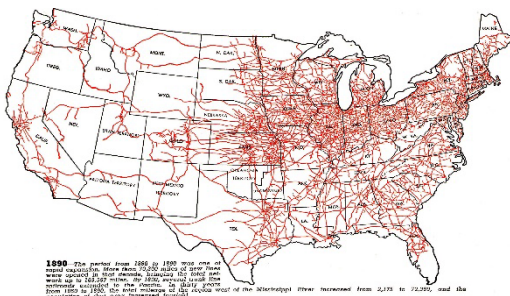
**The Louisiana Purchase 1803-** In 1803 the USA purchased the huge French colony of Louisiana. Americans quickly moved into that area and set up the 'Deep South'. Slaves were brought in through ports at New Orleans. Cotton became the main export as slavery grew the 'cotton Kingdom' in Georgia and North/ South Carolina

**The Fort Sumter Attack-** On 12 April 1861 Confederate soldiers opened fire on Union soldiers in Fort Sumter. This guarded Charleston harbour in South Carolina, key to the slave trade. On April 15 Lincoln gave orders to his generals to retaliate against the South. The Civil War began.

**Lincoln's Assassination-** Following the Emancipation Proclamation and Lincoln's Civil War victory, millions of African Americans felt hopeful in the South. However when Lincoln was killed in early 1865 his replacement Andrew Johnson's soft approach to racists in the south allowed for the Black Codes to be passed. America very quickly became a segregated society as freed slaves struggled to survive discrimination and lynching in the south-despite the efforts of 'radical reformers'.

**The Transcontinental Railroad-** On 10 May 1869 a railroad connecting New York and San Francisco opened allowing business, migrants and homesteaders to travel west. The railroad brought millions of people west but devastated the Buffalo and pushed the Natives into war and eventually defeat.

**The Battle of Little Bighorn-** On 25 June 1876 General Custer charged Sitting Bull's Native Band but were taken by surprise with a Crazy Horse counter attack. Custer and his troops were massacred at Little Bighorn, causing a violent reaction from the US Army. Starving the Natives through the winter, by 1877 the remaining Sioux surrendered, giving 40m acres of land to the US Government and forcing Natives onto further reservations



## SETTLEMENT AND CONFLICT ON THE PLAINS 1867-77

### How Did Railroads and Ranches change America?

- Lincoln gave railroad companies \$50m in 1862 to build an east to west Transcontinental track which saw trade increase and towns emerge. Homesteaders travel west to spread 'manifest destiny, as well as look for work.
- Texas cattle ranches drove Natives from the plains as ranchers sold beef to the US forts, railroad builders and homesteaders. In 1867 Joe McCoy set up Albilene, Kansas. It was the first cow town. Cowboys were often violent and fought with Natives for land until the 1870 gun laws brought stability.
- Farmers moved to the plains after the 1862 Homestead Act gave them 160 acres of land if they farmed on it for 5 years. Homesteaders found crops difficult to grow as well as a lack of building materials for their homes but life was still cheaper than the costly east.

### How Did Conflict increase between Natives and Settlers?

- Bloodshed between Natives and settlers increased from 1861-1877 as the US army protected settlers who took land from Natives. Little Crow's War saw 38 Sioux publically executed in 1862 through sham trials after they fought against the forced removal of 28 million acres of land.
- Colonel Chivington killed & mutilated over 130 innocent Cheyenne at Sand Creek on November 1864. Chief Black Kettle was promised peace.
- After Gold was discovered in Montana the Bozeman trail ran through the hunting grounds of the Sioux, breaking the 1851 Fort Laramie Treaty. In 1866 Chief Reed Cloud attacked US forts and killed 80 soldiers before a new treaty promised US soldiers wouldn't enter the Black Hills of Dakota.

In 1874 gold was found in the Black Hills. The US government offered \$6m for the land. Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse waged war, forcing the army to retreat. Victories followed at Little Bighorn before the US army waged 'total war'. Eventually the Sioux surrendered after Crazy Horse was killed and the Natives were starved during the winter of 1877.

## AMERICAN CULTURES 1877-900

### How was the Native way of life changed forever?

90% of buffalo were destroyed by white hunters resulting in Native starvation. As well as this settler fences and factories disrupted their access to clean water. From 1870 the Government banned them from hunting outside reservations. Hungry, desperate and angry their children were being forced into boarding schools, some Natives practiced the Ghost Dance believing it would return their loved ones. The army feared the Ghost Dance and massacred 300 peaceful Natives at Wounded Knee on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1890. Native culture was eroded by forcing chiefs to concede power to the government as part of the Dawes Act

### How did the lives of African Americans change by 1900?

Following the end of the Civil War many black Americans left to find work in the growing industrial north but they faced discrimination and poor housing and education standards. Some 'exodusters' fled West to gain land promised by the Homestead Act. By 1890s southern states passed 'Jim Crow' laws that segregated public facilities. Racist states blocked black people from voting while the KKK and white mobs carried out violent lynchings.

### What was the impact of the growth of big business, migration and cities?

By 1900 the US had over 325,000 miles of railroad and 334 corporations. Oil, mining, cotton and tobacco brought America wealth but devastated the environment as fossil fuels polluted the skies. Workers began to unionise to seek better employment and living conditions. European immigration and the Irish famine saw 7million migrants seek a better life in America by 1900. Over 38 cities had populations over 100,000 people.

