**VISUAL SUMMARY**

**Growth of the West**

**Miners**
Miners were attracted to the West by gold and silver strikes. Mining contributed to the population growth of many Western territories.

**Cowhands & Ranchers**
Ranchers and cowhands established a thriving cattle industry. New settlement, barbed wire, and bad weather ended the cattle boom.

**Native Americans**
Government policies, wars, and the destruction of the buffalo led to the defeat of the Plains peoples and to their placement on reservations.

**Homesteaders**
Hundreds of thousands of homesteaders settled on the Plains. Their life was hard, but they used new technologies to increase their output.

### TERMS & NAMES

Briefly explain the significance of each of the following.

1. frontier
2. long drive
3. reservation
4. Battle of the Little Bighorn
5. Dawes Act
6. homestead
7. Mexicano
8. Homestead Act
9. sodbuster
10. Populist Party

### REVIEW QUESTIONS

**Miners, Ranchers, and Cowhands (pages 557–561)**

1. What role did miners play in the settlement of the West?
2. What made cattle ranching so profitable in the late 1800s?
3. What ended the boom in the cattle business?

**Native Americans Fight to Survive (pages 562–567)**

4. What caused conflict between Native Americans and white settlers on the Great Plains?
5. How did Native Americans resist white settlement?

**Life in the West (pages 568–573)**

6. What rights did women in the West gain before women in Eastern states?
7. How has the myth of the “Wild West” been revised?

**Farming and Populism (pages 574–579)**

8. How did the federal government encourage people to settle on the Great Plains?
9. What were the goals of the Grange?
10. What marked the closing of the frontier?

### CRITICAL THINKING

1. **USING YOUR NOTES: FINDING MAIN IDEAS**
   Using your completed chart, answer the questions below.
   a. What were the main reasons that drew people to the West?
   b. Which groups do you think benefited from being in the West and which groups did not? Explain.

2. **APPLYING CITIZENSHIP SKILLS**
   What are the dangers of vigilante justice?

3. **THEME: DIVERSITY AND UNITY**
   Why might the contributions of women and Native Americans, African Americans, and other ethnic groups have been overlooked in early books and films on the West?

4. **ANALYZING LEADERSHIP**
   Why did the Nez Perce Chief Joseph decide to surrender? What other choices might he have made?

5. **CONTRASTING**
   How did ranchers and sodbusters differ over land use? Why did these differences lead to conflict?

6. **FORMING AND SUPPORTING OPINIONS**
   What do you think would be the most difficult challenge in starting a new life on the Great Plains? Give reasons for your answer.

**Interact with History**

Now that you have read the chapter, would you still make the same statements about how your life would change in the West? Explain.
Use the map and your knowledge of U.S. history to answer questions 1 and 2.

Additional Test Practice, pp. S1–S33.

1. What is the longest cattle trail?
   A. Chisholm Trail
   B. Goodnight-Loving Trail
   C. Shawnee Trail
   D. Western Trail

2. How many miles did the longest trail cover?
   A. about 600 miles
   B. about 800 miles
   C. about 1,000 miles
   D. about 1,200 miles

This quotation from Olaf Olsson describes the advantage of America. Use the quotation and your knowledge of U.S. history to answer question 3.

PRIMARY SOURCE

We do not dig gold with pocket knives, we do not expect to become . . . rich in a few days or in a few years, but what we aim at is to own our own homes. . . . The advantage which America offers is not to make everyone rich at once, without toil or trouble, but . . . that the poor . . . [can] secure a large piece of good land almost without cost, that they can work up little by little.

Olaf Olsson, quoted in The Swedish Americans, by Alison McGill

3. What type of person is described in the passage?
   A. a person who has inherited land
   B. a person who hopes for instant wealth
   C. a person who has a strong work ethic
   D. a person who works well as part of a team

ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. WRITING ABOUT HISTORY
   You are a biographer writing about Native American leaders of the West. Write a biography of a leader, such as Sitting Bull, Chief Joseph, or Geronimo.
   • Use library resources to research your subject.
   • Persuade your reader that your subject is an important historical figure.

2. COOPERATIVE LEARNING
   Work with a small group to create a play based on the life of the sodbusters. Choose a topic, such as “the journey west,” “first impressions,” or “women’s work and worries.” Research and choose quotations related to your topic. Some group members can compose lines to introduce and make transitions between topics and others can perform the readings.

INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY

DOING INTERNET RESEARCH

The “Wild West” of the late 1800s was a land of myth and legend. Use the Internet or library resources to find information in order to create a “Wild West” Web site.
   • Find newspaper articles, advertisements, and stories about the “Wild West.”
   • You can also learn about this era from books, and from documentary films.
   • Select legendary personalities to be featured in your Web site, and choose musical selections to add background.

For more about the “Wild West” . . .