

Name: _____ Date: _____

Wrestling with Western Wilderness: Wicked College Westward Quiz

Scholars synthesize complex geopolitical shifts and social friction through 10 advanced questions regarding 19th-century American hegemony and territorial transition.

1. In his 'Frontier Thesis,' Frederick Jackson Turner argued that the census of 1890 signaled a crisis for American democracy. Which subsequent 20th-century historical school most aggressively challenged Turner's Eurocentric 'process' model by emphasizing 'place' and cultural conflict?

- A. The New Western History (Revisionist School)
- B. The Consensus School
- C. The Progressive Historians
- D. The Dunning School

2. The 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo included provisions in Articles VIII and IX that theoretically protected the property rights of Mexican citizens in the newly ceded territories, though these were frequently undermined by the California Land Commission.

- A. True
- B. False

3. The Gadsden Purchase (1853) was primarily motivated by the desire to secure a southern route for a transcontinental railroad. Which specific topographical feature were US surveyors attempting to avoid by acquiring this land from Mexico?

- A. The Gila River valley
- B. The Rocky Mountains
- C. The Sierra Nevada range
- D. The Mojave Desert

4. The 'Report on the Lands of the Arid Region' (1878) challenged the prevailing 'rain follows the plow' myth. Who was the author that proposed the West be settled based on watersheds rather than the rectangular survey system?

- A. Gifford Pinchot
- B. John Wesley Powell
- C. John Muir
- D. George Perkins Marsh

5. The concept of 'Manifest Destiny,' coined by John O'Sullivan, was universally supported by the Whig Party as a means to spread American republicanism.

- A. True
- B. False

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6. Which 19th-century conflict, often overshadowed by the Civil War, involved the execution of 38 Dakota men in the largest mass execution in U.S. history after a breakdown in the treaty/annuity system?

- A. The Red River War
- B. The U.S.-Dakota War of 1862
- C. The Rogue River Wars
- D. The Modoc War

7. Black migrants who left the South for Kansas and the Oklahoma Territory during the late 1870s, seeking a 'New Canaan' away from Jim Crow, were known as _____.

- A. Buffalo Soldiers
- B. Scalawags
- C. Exodusters
- D. Sodbusters

8. The 1823 Supreme Court case Johnson v. M'Intosh established which legal doctrine that continues to influence federal Indian law regarding land ownership?

- A. The Doctrine of Discovery
- B. The Right of Preemption
- C. Plenary Power
- D. The Trust Responsibility

9. The Comstock Lode, discovered in 1859, shifted the focus of Western mining from individual placer mining to large-scale industrial corporate enterprises in which territory?

- A. Idaho
- B. Nevada
- C. Colorado
- D. Montana

10. The Foreign Miners' Tax of 1850 in California was primarily used to target and exclude Chinese and Mexican prospectors, reinforcing a racialized hierarchy in the gold fields.

- A. True
- B. False