Claims and Consequences

Trace how expansion changed land, government, and lives.

SS24.US1.5 "Explain causes, courses, and consequences of United States' expansionism and the rise of Manifest Destiny ideology prior to 1848. 5a Describe how the Treaty of Paris of 1783, Northwest Ordinance of 1785, Northwest Ordinance of 1787..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two federal actions that advanced expansion, circle two Native responses to expansion, and number two effects on migrants or people already living in western regions.

Expansion Was Not an Empty-Land Story

1. Expansion began with claims on paper, not empty land. The 1783 Treaty of Paris recognized U.S. independence and set its western border at the Mississippi River, although Native nations still held much of that territory. The 1785 Land Ordinance ordered surveys of federally claimed western land into townships for sale, advancing settlement rather than enlarging U.S. claims. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 established territorial government and a path to statehood north of the Ohio River. In 1803, the Louisiana Purchase gave the United States France's claim to a vast region west of the Mississippi. None of these agreements erased Native sovereignty.

2. Alabama shows how expansion changed local lives. After the Creek War of 1813 to 1814, the Treaty of Fort Jackson forced Creek people, including some who had fought alongside U.S. troops, to cede millions of acres. Settlers moved onto the land, and Alabama became a state in 1819, as Ohio had in 1803 after settlement in the Northwest Territory. The Indian Removal Act of 1830 authorized federal negotiation of removal treaties. Cherokee leaders petitioned and challenged removal in court, while some Creek people resisted by force. During the Trail of Tears in 1838 to 1839, forced Cherokee migration west caused thousands of deaths.

3. By the 1840s, supporters called continental expansion Manifest Destiny, claiming that U.S. growth was inevitable and justified. Better surveying instruments helped mark land claims, while steamboats carried people and supplies along major rivers; wagons carried families over western trails. Some travelers sought Oregon farmland, Texas cotton land, or California ranchland. Latter-day Saints traveled to Utah in 1847 to escape religious persecution. Migrants faced disease and dangerous journeys, while rapid settlement displaced Native communities and increased conflict with people already living there. Texas's annexation in 1845 and a disputed border helped lead to war with Mexico in 1846; debates over slavery in new territories divided Americans.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the 1785 Land Ordinance and the Louisiana Purchase advance expansion in different ways?

2. Compare Alabama's statehood with Ohio's. How was settlement connected to each, and what event led to a major land cession in Alabama?

3. How did Cherokee and Creek people oppose removal, and what was one consequence of forced removal for Cherokee people?

4. Explain how one technology aided expansion. Then identify one consequence of western migration for migrants and one for people already living in the West.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A speaker claims, "Western land was empty, and expansion helped everyone." Write five or six sentences challenging this claim. Use at least three specific details from different paragraphs, including a government action, a Native response or consequence, and a technology or migration effect.

ANSWER KEY

Claims and Consequences

GRADE 10 · SS24.US1.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two federal actions that advanced expansion, circle two Native responses to expansion, and number two effects on migrants or people already living in western regions. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the 1785 Land Ordinance and the Louisiana Purchase advance expansion in different ways?	**The ordinance organized surveys and sales of land already claimed by the United States. The purchase added France's claim to a vast region west of the Mississippi.**
2	Compare Alabama's statehood with Ohio's. How was settlement connected to each, and what event led to a major land cession in Alabama?	**Both became states after settlement, Ohio in 1803 and Alabama in 1819. The Creek War was followed by the Treaty of Fort Jackson, which forced a major Creek land cession.**
3	How did Cherokee and Creek people oppose removal, and what was one consequence of forced removal for Cherokee people?	**Cherokee leaders petitioned and challenged removal in court, while some Creek people resisted by force. Thousands of Cherokee people died during the Trail of Tears.**
4	Explain how one technology aided expansion. Then identify one consequence of western migration for migrants and one for people already living in the West.	**Steamboats carried people and supplies along rivers. Migrants faced disease, while settlement displaced Native communities. Surveying instruments or wagons are also valid technology examples.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The claim that western land was empty ignores Native nations that held territory even after the 1783 Treaty of Paris. The 1785 Land Ordinance encouraged settlement of federally claimed land, but surveying did not remove Native sovereignty. After the Creek War, the Treaty of Fort Jackson forced Creek people to give up millions of acres. Some Creek people later resisted removal by force. Steamboats and wagons helped migrants travel, but those journeys exposed them to disease. Settlement also displaced Native communities, so expansion did not help everyone.

Accept other passage-based examples that accurately distinguish federal land claims from Native sovereignty. For the open response, look for five or six sentences that connect evidence from all three paragraphs to the speaker's claim.