

Borders and Beyond

Trace how expansion changed United States power, land, and conflict.

SS.8.A.4.1 "Examine the causes, course, and consequences of United States westward expansion and its growing diplomatic assertiveness (i.e., War of 1812, Convention of 1818, Adams-Onís Treaty, Missouri Compromise, Monroe Doctrine, Trail of Tears..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a cause or expansion action and circle its result in five cause-and-result chains, then write the same chain number beside every linked part. If one phrase belongs to more than one chain, write each relevant chain number beside it to show how events connected.

Expansion and Its Effects

- ① After the War of 1812, the United States pressed for safer borders and stronger influence. The Convention of 1818 set the border with British Canada at the 49th parallel from the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains and created joint occupation of Oregon Country. The Adams-Onís Treaty, signed in 1819, transferred Florida in 1821 and settled a boundary with Spain. The Missouri Compromise admitted Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state, while limiting slavery north of latitude 36°30' in the Louisiana Purchase territory, except Missouri.
- ② In 1823, the Monroe Doctrine warned European nations not to create new colonies or interfere in the Americas. At home, expansion brought serious harm to Native peoples. The Indian Removal Act led to the forced removal of southeastern tribes, including the Cherokee Trail of Tears. Many Americans later embraced Manifest Destiny, the belief that the nation was meant to expand westward. Texas won independence from Mexico, then the United States annexed Texas in 1845. The United States and Britain divided Oregon Territory at the 49th parallel in 1846.
- ③ Annexation of Texas and a border dispute helped lead to the Mexican-American War. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the war in 1848 and gave the United States the Mexican Cession, including California and a vast Southwest region. Gold discovered in California that year drew migrants west. As new lands raised arguments over slavery, the Compromise of 1850 admitted California as a free state. The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 let settlers vote on slavery, increasing conflict. The Gadsden Purchase, signed in 1853 and completed in 1854, added land for a southern railroad route.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the Convention of 1818 show the United States working to secure its northern and western borders?

2 What was the purpose of the Monroe Doctrine, and what does it show about United States foreign policy?

3 Describe one cause-and-result chain that led from Texas annexation to a larger United States territory.

4 How did the Missouri Compromise and the Kansas-Nebraska Act deal with the issue of slavery in new territories differently?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write 80 to 110 words explaining how westward expansion brought both gains and conflicts. Use at least three named events from the passage, include one clear cause-and-result connection, and use only facts from the passage.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline a cause or expansion action and circle its result in five cause-and-result chains, then write the same chain number beside every linked part. If one phrase belongs to more than one chain, write each relevant chain number beside it to show how events connected. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Convention of 1818 show the United States working to secure its northern and western borders?	It set the border with British Canada at the 49th parallel from the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains and created joint occupation of Oregon Country.
2	What was the purpose of the Monroe Doctrine, and what does it show about United States foreign policy?	It warned European nations not to create new colonies or interfere in the Americas. It shows the United States becoming more assertive in the region.
3	Describe one cause-and-result chain that led from Texas annexation to a larger United States territory.	Annexation of Texas and a border dispute helped lead to the Mexican-American War. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the war and gave the United States the Mexican Cession, including California and a vast Southwest region.
4	How did the Missouri Compromise and the Kansas-Nebraska Act deal with the issue of slavery in new territories differently?	The Missouri Compromise admitted Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state, while limiting slavery north of latitude 36°30' in the Louisiana Purchase territory, except Missouri. The Kansas-Nebraska Act let settlers vote on slavery.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After the War of 1812, the United States pressed for safer borders and stronger influence. The Convention of 1818 set a border with British Canada and created joint occupation of Oregon Country. Later, the United States and Britain divided Oregon Territory at the 49th parallel. At home, expansion harmed Native peoples because the Indian Removal Act led to forced removal, including the Cherokee Trail of Tears. Expansion also raised arguments over slavery. The Compromise of 1850 admitted California as a free state, but the Kansas-Nebraska Act later increased conflict by letting settlers vote on slavery.

Accept equivalent cause-and-result explanations when they accurately use details from the passage. For the open response, check for 80 to 110 words, at least three named events, a clear connection, and passage-supported facts only.