

Frontier Turning Points

Trace people, events, causes, and effects in westward Texas.

7.6.A "identify significant individuals, events, and issues, including the factors leading to the expansion of the Texas frontier, the effects of westward expansion on American Indians, the buffalo soldiers, and Quanah Parker;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline factors that expanded the Texas frontier. Circle significant people or groups, then number three events or effects that changed life on the frontier.

Texas Moves West

- ① After the Civil War, Texas's frontier moved west as more people sought land and work. Railroad lines carried settlers, supplies, and cattle toward western towns. Cattle ranching grew because railheads connected Texas herds to markets in the East. The state encouraged settlement by selling or granting land, while soldiers built and supplied forts. New towns and farms followed these routes. For many newcomers, the open grasslands seemed like opportunity, but those lands were already central to American Indian communities.
- ② Westward expansion brought severe changes to American Indians. Hunters killed enormous numbers of buffalo, removing a major source of food, clothing, and shelter for Plains peoples. As ranchers and settlers claimed land, the U.S. Army fought groups that resisted removal to reservations. In 1874, Colonel Ranald Mackenzie's troops attacked Comanche camps in Palo Duro Canyon and destroyed many horses. Quanah Parker, a Comanche leader, recognized that continued resistance could not succeed. In 1875, he and his followers surrendered at Fort Sill and moved to a reservation in Indian Territory.
- ③ Another force on the frontier was the Buffalo Soldiers, African American troops who served in segregated U.S. Army regiments after 1866. The 9th and 10th Cavalry and the 24th and 25th Infantry served at western posts. They escorted mail, patrolled roads, pursued outlaws, and helped protect travelers and settlements. They also took part in Army campaigns against American Indian nations, showing how federal expansion depended on soldiers. Their service mattered because these troops faced harsh conditions and discrimination while carrying out important military duties.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Identify two factors that helped the Texas frontier expand westward.

2 What were two effects of westward expansion on American Indians described in the passage?

3 How did the 1874 Army campaign in Palo Duro Canyon affect Quanah Parker's decision in 1875?

4 Who were the Buffalo Soldiers, and name one duty they performed on the frontier.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write four sentences explaining how one significant person or group was connected to an event or issue on the Texas frontier. Include one factor that caused change and one effect of that change.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline factors that expanded the Texas frontier. Circle significant people or groups, then number three events or effects that changed life on the frontier. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Identify two factors that helped the Texas frontier expand westward.	Any two: people sought land and work, railroads carried settlers and supplies, railheads connected cattle to eastern markets, the state sold or granted land, or soldiers built and supplied forts.
2	What were two effects of westward expansion on American Indians described in the passage?	Any two: buffalo were killed, land was claimed by ranchers and settlers, groups were forced toward reservations, the Army fought resisting groups, or Comanche people moved to a reservation.
3	How did the 1874 Army campaign in Palo Duro Canyon affect Quanah Parker's decision in 1875?	Mackenzie's troops destroyed many Comanche horses. Quanah Parker decided continued resistance could not succeed, so he and his followers surrendered at Fort Sill in 1875.
4	Who were the Buffalo Soldiers, and name one duty they performed on the frontier.	They were African American troops in segregated U.S. Army regiments after 1866. Duties included escorting mail, patrolling roads, pursuing outlaws, protecting travelers and settlements, or serving in Army campaigns.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Quanah Parker was a significant Comanche leader during the expansion of the Texas frontier. The destruction of buffalo and the Army campaign in Palo Duro Canyon made continued resistance harder. His 1875 surrender at Fort Sill showed an effect of westward expansion on Comanche people. It led him and his followers to move to a reservation in Indian Territory.

Accept equivalent cause-and-effect explanations supported by the passage. For the open response, accept any accurate person or group, event or issue, factor, and effect that are clearly connected.