

Westward Expansion Test

Historical Fiction:

You will create 1-3 page, 1st person historical fiction essay. Historical fiction is a story written from your imagination, but using actual historical details (names, dates, events etc.). Start your story with my name is _____ and then explain who you are and the circumstances surrounding your time out west. Write your story from the perspective of one of the following people:

1. A gold miner during the California gold rush
2. A cowboy
3. A Pioneer participating in a land race
4. A Plains Indian

Include information we talked about in class. Plus, you must do outside research. Include information we did not discuss in class. You must also use one primary source from the time period. If you are having trouble finding a suitable primary source, I can help.

1	2	3	4
The student did not accurately research, organize, analyze, explain or plan their essay	The student adequately researched, organized, analyzed, explained and planned their essay.	The student effectively researched, organized, analyzed, explained and planned their essay.	The student did an exceptional job of researching, organizing, analyzing, explaining and planning their essay.
The student did not demonstrate knowledge of Westward Expansion, its causes and results.	The student demonstrated adequate knowledge of Westward Expansion, its causes and results.	The student demonstrated grade level knowledge of Westward Expansion.	The student demonstrated exceptional knowledge of Westward

SS.IS.2.6-8 Ask essential and focusing questions that will lead to independent research

SS.H.1.6-8.LC Classify series of historical events and developments as examples of change and/or continuity

SS.H.4.6-8.LC Explain multiple causes and effects of historical events