

SS8 – Homework  
Chapter 18 – The Last Frontier  
pp. 522-548

*First, be sure you read pp. 522-548 from start to finish!*

### Option 1

Answer the following questions **on a separate sheet of lined paper**.

- Be sure to write your answers in complete sentences using proper spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
  - Be sure to include enough information to explain your answer thoroughly. Don't be afraid to write more than one sentence for an answer!
1. Explain how the buffalo and horse were important to the Plains Indians.
  2. How did the government encourage the building of transcontinental railroads?
  3. How did transcontinental railroads affect the settlement of the West?
  4. How were Chief Joseph's views on owning land similar to those of Techumseh (pp. 265-267)? How did they differ from the views held by most whites?
  5. How did the slaughter of the buffalo lead to the end of Indian independence?
  6. How did mining encourage the growth of towns in the west?
  7. What factors led to the end of the "open range?"
  8. What changes in technology helped transform the Great Plains from "the Great American Desert" into "the breadbasket of America?"

### Option 2

Pretend that it is the year 1905. You are, or *were*, a Mountain Man who went west in 1855. You were 17 when you left your home in the east and traveled into the Rockies. You are 67 now. Through clean living and good fortune you have survived the many dangers that you have faced.

Throughout that time, you have been a witness to the settlement of the vast American west. You have recorded your observations about the changing American west in a journal.

Share with the modern age the following entries from that journal.

1. one written in 1850 in which you describe the life of the Plains Indians
2. one written in 1869 after you witnessed the driving of the "Golden Spike" in which you make "predictions" as to how the railroad will change the west
3. one written in 1875 in which you detail the effect prospectors and miners have had on western settlement
4. one written in 1888 in which you detail the rise and fall of the "Cattle Kingdom"
5. one written in 1890 in which you discuss the problems faced by homesteaders on the Great Plains and their solutions to those problems
6. one written in 1900 in which you describe the effects western settlement has had on the lives of the Indians