

Chapter 5 The Making of America, 1789–1900

Page 119: Test yourself

- 1 Any from: Vermont, Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana, Indiana, Mississippi, Illinois, Alabama, Maine, Missouri, Arkansas and Michigan
- 2 Any from: Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia
- 3 One from: George Washington, John Adams, James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren.
- 4 States could make laws as long as they did not go against the Constitution.

Page 119: Turning statements into reasons

| Statement | Reason |
|--|---|
| The USA was surrounded by potential enemies after 1789 | The USA expanded to protect itself from attack by countries like Britain and France. |
| Not everybody in the USA owned their own land. People without land could not vote | People wanted their own land so they could have a say in running the country. This encouraged growth. |
| The French government was short of money in 1803 | The US government were able to buy Louisiana from the French. This allowed them to expand westward. |
| People in Kentucky and Western states had already settled lands outside the borders of the USA | People were already living outside the borders of the USA so the country expanded to meet the needs of these people for protection. |
| Lands in the south of America were good places to grow cash crops like cotton or tobacco | Cotton speculators encouraged the government to expand to increase the country's wealth. |

There are many reasons why the USA grew so rapidly between 1789 and 1838. One reason is that the USA was a new nation and was worried that if it did not expand, other countries would defeat it. America had fought against Britain to become independent, so they were especially worried that the British would try to take America back. The new government took every opportunity to try and expand the land owned by the USA. Thomas Jefferson fought a war against the Spanish to control Florida in 1819.

The USA also grew rapidly because they were able to purchase a huge amount of land from the French. In 1803, the French decided to sell 530 million acres of French land on the Great Plains to the US government. This was known as the Louisiana Purchase and it meant that the USA now had the room to expand west if it wanted to.

One of the most important reasons why the USA expanded so rapidly was because of the cotton industry. Once the Southwest Territory was opened to settlement, slave holders saw a chance to make money by growing lots of cotton in the warm lands in the South. The first slave holders who tried this became very rich. This encouraged even more slave holders to

set up plantations in territories like Louisiana. As the populations of these territories grew, they were eventually added as states, causing the USA to grow. This was also linked with the invention of the cotton gin. The cotton gin allowed cotton to be processed as quickly as it was picked so even more slaves were sent to the South to work on cotton plantations.

(Focus on cause and consequence)

Page 121: What sort of cause?

| Factor | Political | Social | Economic | Technological |
|---|-----------|--------|----------|---------------|
| Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin in 1793 | | | | X |
| There was a growing demand for cotton in North America and Europe | | | X | |
| By the 1830s, railroads were being built across America | | | | X |
| Banks were willing to lend money to slaveholders and plantation owners | | X | X | |
| Many people did not believe slavery was morally wrong | | X | | |
| Presidents like James Madison and Andrew Jackson were slaveholders | X | X | | |
| Many Southerners believed that slavery was part of the natural order | | X | | |
| Existing slaveholders saw the chance to make huge profits in the Deep South | | | X | |

Slavery grew extremely rapidly in the Deep South between 1789 and 1838. This growth can be explained in terms of political, economic and technological factors.

The main reason why slavery grew was economic. Because of the Industrial Revolution happening in Europe, there was a huge demand for cotton to be made into cloth in European factories. The Deep South had an ideal climate for growing cotton; so many cotton planters saw an opportunity to make large amounts of money by shipping cotton to Europe. Slaveholders realised that to maximise their profits, they would need many slaves and large amounts of land.

Slavery would not have grown so rapidly if it had not been for new technology, however. In 1793, Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin. This allowed cotton to be processed 50 times faster than before so plantation owners could process cotton as fast as it was picked. Because cotton could be processed faster, slaveholders needed more and more slaves to pick cotton. In the 1830s, railroads also helped to transport the processed cotton more quickly to markets, this meant that cotton needed to be picked even faster again and so led to a growth of plantations, slave numbers and slavery.

Slaveholders had a lot of political support. This helped them to keep increasing their slave numbers even though many people in the North thought that slavery should be abolished. Presidents like Andrew Jackson were slaveholders themselves and defended the right of white Americans to hold slaves. He also helped open up more land in Georgia for plantations, increasing demand for slaves to pick cotton. Because there was no political will to stop slavery growing, it just carried on getting bigger and bigger. By 1838 there were over 2 million slaves living in the South.

Overall, many factors worked closely together to encourage the growth of slavery in the Deep South. However, the economic power of cotton, combined with its political support, was the catalyst which led to such rapid growth.

(Focus on cause and consequence)

Page 121: Test yourself

- 1 Over 2 million
- 2 The cotton gin
- 3 Over 1 million bales (220,000 tons)
- 4 By drawing a line across the middle of the country – any new states in the West added above the line had to be free states, while any added below could be slave states if they chose.

Page 123: Spot the second-order concept

Between 1830 and 1838, the US government removed almost all the American Indians who lived in the Southern states. [1] The Creek, Seminole, Chickasaw, Choctaw and Cherokee were all moved into Indian Territory by Andrew Jackson. However, not all Indian tribes in the South had the same experience of removal. [2] Most of the Seminole refused to sign any sort of treaty with the US government. Instead, they fought a long, bitter and costly war against the United States. [3] It was only after the Seminole chief, Osceola, was killed by the army in 1842 that the Seminole had to start moving to Indian Territory. [4] By contrast, many of the Choctaw Indians moved peacefully after signing a treaty with the Government in 1831. However, many Choctaw died on the journey West and thousands more were killed by disease and poor weather. [5] In some ways, this was a similar experience to the Creek, who lost over 5000 people when they were forced to move to Indian Territory. [6]

- [1] Cause
- [2] Consequence
- [3] Change
- [4] Continuity
- [5] Significance
- [6] Diversity

Page 123: Test yourself

- 1 Any from: Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, Seminole
- 2 Cherokee

- 3 Andrew Jackson
- 4 The forced march of the Cherokee to Indian Territory in 1838.

Page 125: Complete the paragraph

In some ways, the cultures of Plains Indians were quite similar in terms of the way they were organised, what they ate and how they fought wars. In terms of organisation the Sioux were organised into a number of major tribes such as the Lakota, Nakota, and Dakota. Each tribe was then made up of bands. Each band was led by a powerful warrior, chosen for his skills in battle.

This was similar to the Cheyenne, who were split into the Northern and Southern tribes and then into bands.

The diet of the Sioux and Cheyenne was also similar. Both hunted buffalo on the Plains and ate the meat of the buffalo. Unlike the Sioux, the Cheyenne also traded a lot with white Indian agents and therefore got some of their food supplies from these sources too. This was very different to groups like the Nez Perce who farmed for their food during the winter, and only occasionally hunted for buffalo.

There were also similarities in the way that the Sioux and the Cheyenne fought wars. Both fought using horses to attack their enemies. By the 1860s, both tribes were also fighting with guns. The Cheyenne often bought guns from white traders and then sold them on to the Sioux. Young Cheyenne and Sioux learned to fight from a very early age and the young men joined warrior societies.

Despite all the similarities, the beliefs of the Cheyenne and Sioux were quite different. The Sioux believed in a great spirit called Wakan Tanka and that the spirit had given them the holy lands around Dakota. Meanwhile, the Cheyenne believed in the All Being who had led them out on to the Plains and the area around the Noaha-vose.

(organised around similarity and difference)

Page 125: Test yourself

- 1 Any from: Lakota, Dakota and Nakota
- 2 Buffalo
- 3 Black Hills of Dakota
- 4 They had experience hunting with horses and could chase buffalo. Diseases killed many Plains tribes so there was space to move into. Sioux homelands were filling up with other Indian tribes.

Page 127: Prioritisation

| Reasons | Importance (1–6) | Detail and examples |
|---|------------------|--|
| Deadly diseases were easy to catch on the trails | 2 | Many people died of cholera and typhoid because there was very little clean water. |
| Indians could attack wagon trains | 5 | A few wagon trains were attacked by hostile Indians. Most tribes sold things to overlanders and some even helped them. |
| It was difficult to travel as a group for so long | 6 | Fights often broke out between people. Groups sometimes split up. Travelling alone was more dangerous. |
| The journey was extremely long | 1 | Some people travelled over 3000 miles. This was all done on foot through hot and dry conditions. |

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| | | |
|---|---|--|
| The Rocky Mountains were dangerous to cross | 3 | There were only a few safe crossing places. Some families got stuck in the winter and many died if they tried to cross too late. |
| The weather was not always good | 4 | Heavy rains in the summer and autumn could cause rivers to flood. In the winter the Plains got very cold. |

Page 127: Write a summary

The main reason why migrants found the journey so difficult was the distance they had to travel 2000 miles over dangerous ground.

Another reason was disease. Because migrants filled their water supplies at rivers and had to keep barrels of water for long periods of time, the water was often a main carrier of diseases like cholera.

Another reason was the Rocky Mountains. The Rockies were high and difficult to cross with wagon trains.

There was also the issue of Indian attack. However, Indian attacks were rare and most Indians actually helped migrants by running ferries or acting as guides.

(organised around cause and consequence)

Page 127: Test yourself

- 1 Cholera, typhoid
- 2 Overlanders
- 3 Brigham Young
- 4 So they would be free from the laws of the USA and could practise their religion freely.

Page 129: Getting from A to B

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| A Discovery of gold in California in 1848 | Mining towns were built which forced native peoples from the land. Miners travel right across Indian hunting grounds to reach towns | Fort Laramie treaty signed, promising that the US would not disrupt or settle the Plains | Gold found in Pike's Peak in Kansas Territory, leading to huge number of settlers in the territory | More settlers arrive to farm the Plains, breaking the treaties signed with Indian tribes. | B Relationships between the USA and Plains tribes broke down by 1860 |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|

Page 129: Test yourself

- 1 Sutter's Mill
- 2 Any from: Florida, Texas, Iowa, Wisconsin, California, Minnesota, Oregon
- 3 It was much closer to eastern settlement. People had also seen others get rich in 1848/9.
- 4 They put a \$20 tax on foreign miners.

Page 131: Identifying causes

| Cause | P, S or R? | Useful detail for the answer |
|--|------------|---|
| People in the North were worried that slaveholders were becoming more powerful | S | The 1850 Compromise gave power to slaveholders by saying that any slaves who had escaped to Northern states had to be returned to their former masters. |

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| | | |
|--|---|---|
| The Kansas–Nebraska Act allowed states to choose if they wanted to be slave or free states | P | Before this act, all new states that were north of the Missouri Compromise line could not be opened to slavery at all, but the Kansas-Nebraska Act override this earlier compromise. |
| People in the South were terrified that ending slavery would destroy their way of life | S | The South was very reliant on agriculture, particularly 'King cotton', which accounted for most of their exports. Cotton and other crops were almost all farmed by slaves for wealthy slaveholders. |
| Many slaves were willing to rebel against their holders | S | John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry, Virginia, in 1859 demonstrated that hundreds of slaves were willing to abandon their plantations in armed uprising. |
| People in the South were angry at the election of President Lincoln | P | Southern people regarded Lincoln and the Republican party he represented as a Northern party, and therefore not one which would represent the interests of Southerners at all. |
| People in the North and South were suspicious of each other's way of life | S | People in the South regarded the North's cities as ungodly and too modern. People in the North saw the South as economically backward and over-reliant on agriculture. |
| The Supreme Court supported the rights of slaveholders over the rights of slaves | P | In the 1857 Dred Scott case, the Supreme Court ruled that slaves had no rights whatsoever. It ruled that the US federal government could not ban slavery in any territories. |
| Christian abolitionists in the North were getting much more support for ending slavery | R | Former slave Frederick Douglass became a well-known abolitionist and preacher who used his skills as a speaker to promote the abolitionist cause. |

Sample answer:

Why did the American Civil War break out in 1861? Explain your answer. [10 marks]

The causes of the Civil War are extremely complex. Many factors worked together over a long period of time to create the conflict which broke out in 1861.

Social divisions played a major role in the outbreak of the Civil War. People in the North saw those in the South as backward because of the fact that many people still kept slaves. Northerners believed that factory production was more modern and effective than slavery. People in the South were extremely worried that if the North tried to end slavery in America, then their whole way of life would be destroyed. They also claimed that freed slaves would riot and kill all white Americans in the South. When President Lincoln was elected in 1860 and began talking about ending slavery altogether, many in the South became extremely worried and started to demand that Southern states take action.

The actual outbreak of war can be traced back to the existence of slavery in America. Right from the beginning, there were disagreements over whether slavery should be allowed to continue. In 1808, the buying of slaves from Africa was banned, but at the same time, slavery on cotton plantations grew. Nobody was prepared to ban slavery outright because most political parties depended on getting support from the South to be elected with a majority. In 1820, the Missouri Compromise tried to settle the issue by banning slavery in the North and in the Territories but allowing it in the South. It could be argued that this simply pushed the issue under the carpet.

The admission of California to the USA in 1850 as a free state upset the balance of power in the USA. Many in the South began to call for more protection of slavery – some even said they should leave the USA and form their own country. Then in 1854 the Kansas–Nebraska Act was brought in. This promised that each new state could choose whether it would be free or slave. This overturned the Missouri Compromise and led to violence when it was first used in the state of Kansas. Neither Southerners nor Northerners were happy with the new rule.

The trigger of the war itself was the election of the Republican Party's first President, Abraham Lincoln in 1860. The Republicans had fought the election on the promise of stopping the power of Southern slaveholders. As soon as Lincoln was elected, South Carolina declared it was going to leave the USA and form a new country where slavery would always be legal. By April 1861, 11 states had joined South Carolina and formed the Confederacy. When the new President ordered the Confederacy to return to the USA the new country attacked Fort Sumter and war broke out.

(organised around cause and consequence)

Page 131: Test yourself

- 1 The Republican Party
- 2 John Brown
- 3 The Kansas–Nebraska Act
- 4 South Carolina voted to secede from the Union. This led to other states doing the same and forming the Confederacy. The Confederacy elected their own President and on 12 April 1861, he ordered boats to fire on Fort Sumter.

Page 133: Test yourself

- 1 January 1863
- 2 New York
- 3 1864
- 4 An attempt to give black farmers their own land to work on.

Page 133: Spot the second-order concept

The end of 1862 was a major turning point [1] for African Americans in the South. When South Carolina was defeated by the Union, lands were given out to ex-slaves in the Sea Islands. [2] Over 10,000 freed slaves got their own land. Some of these slaves went on to set up the South Carolina Volunteers, a black regiment which fought for the Union – this was a significant change [1] as African Americans were now actively fighting for the Union.

1863 was another key change point [1] for African Americans. In 1863, Lincoln passed the Emancipation Proclamation. This promised all slaves in the South that they would be free when the Union defeated the Confederacy. [2] As each Confederate state was defeated, ex-slaves were given paid work for the first time. Over 200,000 freedmen were taught to read and write, and tens of thousands were given their own land. [2] For the first time [1], Southern African Americans were able to earn wages and own their own property.

[1] – Change

[2] – Continuity

Sample answer:

Write a clear and organised summary that analyses the changes in the lives of African Americans during the Civil War, 1861–65. Support your summary with examples. [9 marks]

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The lives of African Americans changed significantly during the Civil War, especially in the South. However, not all of these changes came at once. Before 1861, most African Americans in the South were held by white slaveholders and worked as unpaid workers. Slaves had no rights, received no pay for their work, had no freedom and could be bought and sold by their holders whenever they chose.

As soon as war broke out in 1861 Southern slaves were aware of the possibility that they might get their freedom. As the Union army came further South many thousands of slaves began escaping their plantations and surrendering to the Union armies. This was a major change for these escapees as they were no longer under the control of their slaveholders.

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In 1863, Lincoln passed the Emancipation Proclamation. This promised all slaves in the South that they would be free when the Union defeated the Confederacy. As each Confederate state was defeated, ex-slaves were given paid work for the first time. Over 200,000 freedmen were taught to read and write, and tens of thousands were given their own land. For the first time, Southern African Americans were able to earn wages and own their own property. By 1865, over 40,000 black Americans were fighting in the Union Army, and 62,000 were holding down jobs as labourers, firemen, barbers and so on.

(organised around change and continuity)

Page 135: Support or challenge?

| Point | Supports | Challenges |
|---|----------|------------|
| The Freedman's Bureau was set up to help ex-slaves earn a living, receive an education and become self-supporting | X | |
| President Johnson allowed ex-Confederate states to introduce 'Black Codes' between 1865 and 1866 | | X |
| The Ku Klux Klan were established in 1865 and little was done to stop them growing | | X |
| The 14th and 15th Amendments were passed by 1870, giving all black Americans some civil and voting rights | X | |
| Black soldiers were allowed to join the US army and form black regiments from 1863 onwards | X | |
| President Johnson returned much of the land given to ex-slaves by the Union Army and Freedman's Bureau | X | |
| In 1873, the Supreme Court ruled that states could choose whether or not black Americans had voting rights at state level | | X |
| By November 1870, more than 2000 black Americans held political office | X | |
| Many former slaves were obliged to work as sharecroppers on Southern plantations because | | X |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| they could not get land to farm for themselves | | |
|--|--|--|

Sample answer:

‘The Civil War and Reconstruction were a time of great progress for African Americans in the South.’ How far do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. [18 marks]

In many ways the period between 1861 and 1877 can be seen as a time of great progress for African Americans. Although progress stumbled in the 1870s, most black Americans were still better off in 1877 than they had been in 1861.

The freeing of Southern slaves was a major sign of progress for African Americans. In 1863 all slaves were promised their freedom by President Lincoln. This was a major step forward as it meant that they could no longer be owned by other people and would need to be given rights. Between 1863 and 1865 Lincoln set up a Freedman’s Bureau which gave land to ex-slaves, provided medical care and aid, and helped black Americans in the South to get an education. Thousands of volunteers helped this to run. By 1865 over 200,000 ex-slaves had been taught to read and write.

Another way in which the period 1861–77 was a time of progress was in terms of changes to the Constitution. In 1865, the Emancipation Proclamation became the 13th Amendment, which meant that it could not easily be undone by a later president. In 1866, the 14th Amendment gave black Americans the right to be citizens of the USA, and in 1868 they were also granted equal rights to vote. In just three years, African Americans had become equal citizens in the USA with rights which needed to be protected. This was major progress as in 1857 the Supreme Court had declared that black people had no rights, which white Americans needed to respect at all. The changes to the law meant that over 2,000 black Americans had been elected to political office by the 1870s.

However, it was not all such smooth sailing. After 1870, many of the rights gained by African Americans were being taken away again. White Southerners, angry at the result of the Civil War, formed groups like the Ku Klux Klan. The KKK was outlawed, however it continued to become more powerful, and by the 1870s it was using violence to stop black Americans from voting. At first the government sent in soldiers to stop African American voters in the South from being attacked but in 1875 the Supreme Court said that the government did not need to do this. In 1877, the last Union soldiers were withdrawn from the South and black Americans were left to fend for themselves. Many were bullied out of the voting booths and power went back into the hands of white Americans.

President Johnson also stopped the period of Reconstruction from being a time of great progress. Between 1865 and 1866 he gave back almost all of the land which the Freedman’s Bureau had given to ex-slaves. He also shut down the Freedman’s Bureau. By 1866, only 2000 held onto their lands. The rest were forced to work on lands now owned by white slavers. Although they were no longer slaves, many black Americans were forced to work as sharecroppers and lived in extreme poverty. They were free, but little better off than they had been on the plantations. Even though the Freedman’s Bureau was reopened in 1866, it had almost no land left to give out.

Overall, the period 1861–77 began as a time of great progress. Despite the attempts of President Johnson to de-rail Reconstruction, black Americans gained legal rights for the first time. Even though these rights were eroded after 1870, the Constitutional Amendments remained. However, for most African Americans, the period between 1870 and 1877 was a bitter disappointment compared to the promises of the 1860s.

(based around change and continuity, as well as similarity and difference)

Page 136: Test yourself

- 1 Union Pacific Railroad Company and Central Pacific Railroad Company
- 2 Texas Longhorns
- 3 The best example is Abilene.
- 4 Cattle ranchers interrupted the buffalo and caused tensions with Indians.

Page 137: You're the examiner

Railroads and the cattle industry had an enormous impact on the Plains. The Transcontinental Railroad was built between 1862 and 1869 and connected states in the East to the new ones in the West. The impact of the railroad was huge, because it was thousands of miles long. The workers had to cut through the Sierra Nevada Mountains so that it could get to California. This had a big impact on the environment. [1] The railroad also affected the Plains because it disrupted the lives of Native Americans living there. Many Plains tribes hunted buffalo, but the buffalo herds were disrupted by the trains running across the country. [2] As well as this, the railroads allowed more and more settlers to travel and settle on the Plains. This meant that more people were farming the land, but also disrupting Indian ways of life.

[1] Clearly shows the consequence of the railroad here with an example

[2] A second consequence with some supporting evidence

My final judgement is **Level 4 (8)** because they have given several examples of consequences and backed these up with evidence. Some of the information seems a bit unnecessary or vague though.

Sample answer:

Railroads and the cattle industry had an enormous impact on the Plains. The Transcontinental Railroad was built between 1862 and 1869 and was thousands of miles long. The workers had to cut through the Sierra Nevada Mountains so that it could get to California. This had a big impact on the environment. Rivers and streams were polluted by explosives and chemicals and many millions of trees were chopped down to make sleepers. The railroads also affected the Plains because they disrupted the lives of Native Americans living there. Many Plains tribes hunted buffalo, but the buffalo herds were disrupted by the trains running across the country. As well as this, the railroads allowed more and more settlers to travel and settle on the Plains. This meant that more people were farming the land, but also disrupting Indian ways of life.

The cattle industry also had a big impact on the Plains, though probably not as much as the railroads, because they started it all off. The cattle industry was interested in selling beef to Indian reservations and cities in the East. People like John Illiff realised a good way to do this was to set up a ranch on the Plains and use the grass and water there for free. Because he was very successful many others came out to the Plains to set up ranches. This led to a big problem of over-grazing and many water supplies also dried up. This really affected the Indians who lived on the Plains as well as the white homesteaders who tried to live there too.

The cattle industry also led to many cow towns being set up. Because of this, more and more people started to move out onto the Plains to settle and it became more likely that the Plains would eventually be divided into states and become a full part of the USA. The increased settlement also led to more conflicts with Plains Indians. This eventually led to war in the 1870s.

(based around consequence / significance)

Page 139: Match the examples

| Difficulties faced by settlers on the Plains | How they dealt with the difficulties |
|--|--|
| There was very little water on the Plains so growing crops was difficult | Wind pumps and dry farming techniques |
| The Plains were vast and cattle would have wandered far and wide | Barbed-wire fencing allowed farmers to close off their fields and keep them safe |
| There was very little wood on the Plains for making fires or building houses | Houses were built of earth and barbed wire was used for fences. Buffalo chips provided fuel |
| It was difficult to plough land which had never been worked before | People worked together to plough fields. It was quicker for a number of people to plough one person's field than for each person to try and plough their own alone |

Page 139: Complete the paragraph

Homesteaders faced many difficulties when they tried to settle on the Plains. One difficulty was the lack of water. The Plains were a semi-desert environment where little rain fell. This made it difficult to grow crops, but it also made getting clean supplies of drinking water very tricky too. Lucky farmers were able to buy up land near rivers and streams; however, most of this good land went to rich investors.

One solution to the problem was for those without river access to use dry farming techniques.

This solved the problem by using small amounts of water and ploughing every time it rained – this locked in as much moisture as possible. Farmers also used Turkey Red wheat which grew well with limited water. To get fresh water, some farmers installed wind pumps. These pumps could draw fresh water from deep underground.

Another major problem was the lack of wood for building houses or fences.

This was a big issue because homesteaders could not construct weather-resistant housing and they needed fencing in their land to stop livestock escaping or wild animals from ruining their crops.

The best solution to this problem came from Joseph Glidden who invented barbed wire in 1874.

This was effective because it allowed huge areas of land to be fenced in cheaply and without the need for lots of wood.

The natural environment posed a lot of difficulties for homesteaders too. In the summer grasslands were at risk of catching fire, while in the winter the open prairie could get down as low as –20 degrees. Winds would whip across the Plains and create huge snowdrifts, or blow down badly made houses and barns. The environment also brought diseases. Mice, rats and bedbugs were annoying but could be lived with. In the summer, however, diseases like smallpox, cholera and typhoid devastated families due to the lack of clean water and sanitation. Homesteaders had few solutions to problems like these.

Page 139: Test yourself

- 1 Any from: availability of cheap land,; free land from the Homestead Act; railroad advertising made it seem exciting; people were escaping slavery; the Plains were quite fertile in the 1860s; new technology made dry farming possible; railroads made travel and trade easier; many people were seeking new lives due to the financial crash.
- 2 Turkey Red
- 3 Fuel
- 4 Any from: distance from towns, lack of resources, dirt and squalor, lack of water, diseases, loneliness.

Page 141: Complete the paragraph

There are many reasons why Red Cloud and the United States came into conflict. One reason is that Red Cloud's lands were being flooded by miners. Miners were arriving in Sioux territory because gold had been discovered in Montana. Soon many miners were travelling along the Bozeman Trail, to reach the gold fields.

Red Cloud was especially angry that miners were coming onto Sioux lands because the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 had promised that white Americans would not go into Sioux lands.

Because of this Red Cloud and his warriors attacked the miners and settlers as they travelled on the Bozeman Trail. The miners asked the US government to send in the army to protect them.

This led to war because the US government then started establishing forts along the Bozeman Trail. Red Cloud saw this as an outrage and attacked in 1866.

There were also longer term causes of the war of 1866–8. During the 1860s, more and more white settlers had begun moving on the Plains. This disrupted the hunting grounds of the Sioux and led to competition for resources. The US government began to encourage Indians like the Sioux to give up their rights to land and move onto smaller reservations. Red Cloud was an extremely proud warrior. He and his followers were not willing to give up their rights to land and exchange them for a small reservation. When the US government began sending troops to Montana, Red Cloud decided to take the fight to the US instead.

Finally, Red Cloud was prepared to fight as he had heard stories of the massacre of Cheyenne at Sand Creek in 1864. He believed that the US government was trying to trick him into giving up his land and freedom. This view was strengthened as some of the survivors of Sand Creek had escaped to Sioux territory and were full of stories of the slaughter of men, women and children after Black Kettle had signed a treaty. Red Cloud was determined that he would strike first.

Although the miners arriving in Montana was the trigger of Red Cloud's War, the conflict had been brewing for a long time. Many Sioux saw a war as a way to push back against expanding white America and to ensure the survival of their people.

Page 141: Test yourself

- 1 1862
- 2 Red Cloud
- 3 The Little Bighorn
- 4 The Sioux were put on reservations and were forced to sell their land.

Page 143: Getting from A to B

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| A The Sioux were defeated during the Great Sioux War of 1877 | The Sioux were forced to move onto reservations | Tribes were deliberately split up and made to adopt white government forms | Indian children were educated to be Christians and farmers | The Ghost Dance movement was crushed by the army in 1890 | B Most Sioux Indians stopped trying to resist the US government by 1900 |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|

Page 143: Mind map

The destruction of the buffalo:

- Indians lost food source
- Plains culture depended on buffalo
- Farming was the only alternative

The reservation system 1877–1900:

- Forced Indians to live in houses not tipis
- Children taught in English
- People converted to Christianity

The Friends of the Indian:

- Encouraged Indians to sign up to the Dawes Act
- Helped bring about the loss of reservation lands

The destruction of the Ghost Dance movement:

- The last major attempt to resist whites
- Killed off hope of resistance

Sample answer

‘The destruction of the buffalo was the main reason why Indian culture had been largely destroyed by 1900.’ How far do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. [18 marks]

Between 1860 and 1900 Indian culture was systematically attacked by the US government. By 1900, most Indians lived on small reservations and had been made to convert to farming instead of hunting, learn in white schools, and convert to Christianity. This came about for many reasons; however, the policies of the Indian reservations played the most significant role.

The destruction of the buffalo was a key factor in destroying the culture of the Plains Indians as most nomadic Plains tribes organised their lives around the movement of the animals. Nearly 3 million buffalo were killed by white hunters who came out West on the new railroads. The loss of the buffalo reduced tribes like the Cheyenne and Sioux to starvation

and ripped the heart out of some of their most important religious ceremonies. With no food, Plains Indians were forced to go to reservations to get rations from the government. Once here they were made to give up hunting and become farmers, destroying the core of their hunting culture.

The reservation system itself was partly designed to destroy Indian culture. Although some Plains tribes came to reservations voluntarily, others had to be forced onto them through defeat in war. The Lakota, for example, were forced onto reservations after their defeat in the Great Sioux War. Indian children were especially targeted on the reservations as they had to attend Christian boarding schools, choose Christian names and learn English. Indian children who spoke in their own languages were beaten – soon the languages of the Plains tribes had begun to die out. Although the destruction of the buffalo brought many Indians to the reservations, it was actually the policies of the reservation agents which had the most impact on destroying Indian culture.

The Friends of the Indian group also played its part in destroying Indian culture. Although they were set up to protect Indians from corrupt agents, they actually thought that Plains tribes needed to adopt white, Christian approaches to life. In 1887 they helped persuade the government to pass the Dawes Act. This gave Indians 160 acres of land and full citizenship, but in return they had to give up their claims to their homelands. For the Cheyenne and the Sioux this meant giving up a central part of their culture.

The army were also highly significant in ending Indian culture. When the Ghost Dance movement tried to revive Indian traditions in the 1890, the US cavalry hunted them down and massacred over 250 of them at Wounded Knee. After this point, many Indians on reservations gave up on their religious traditions. In addition to this, the army were responsible for killing key leaders such as Crazy Horse, and oversaw the shooting of Sitting Bull. Without these leaders, few Indians were able to fight to keep their culture alive.

While the destruction of the buffalo was a key factor in bringing about the destruction of Plains Indian culture by 1900, in fact the army and the policies on the reservations played a much greater role in forcing Indians to convert to Christianity, learn English, and forget their heritage. The destruction of the buffalo sped this process up, but this was just one tactic used by a government who were convinced that the Indians needed to 'modernise' to survive.

(based around cause and consequence)

Page 143: Test yourself

- 1 3 million
- 2 Converting them to Christianity, making them choose new names, teaching them a white version of history, taking them away from their parents.
- 3 Friends of the Indian
- 4 Indians had to give up rights to reservation land and their traditional hunting practices.

Page 144: Test yourself

- 1 Exodusters
- 2 Jim Crow laws
- 3 300
- 4 Used literacy tests and allowed violence against black voters.

Page 145: Support or challenge?

| Point | Supports statement | Challenges statement |
|---|---|---|
| Black Americans continued to have little political power. | Technically black Americans could vote, but most chose not to, or were barred because of literacy tests. The KKK used violence to keep black voters away. | However, black Americans in the North could vote. |
| Black Americans did not see much improvement in their living conditions | Black Americans paid high rents for poor housing. The separation of facilities in the South led to poorer options for black Americans. | |
| Black Americans continued to live in poverty | Black workers were less likely to get jobs than white workers and racism made this worse. | Some black Americans escaped poverty in the West, and a handful became professionals. |
| Many states introduced segregation laws | Jim Crow laws meant black Americans had to go to different churches, parks and schools from white Americans, which often received less state funding. | |
| Education levels among black Americans improved | The number of works published by black authors increased, including over 100 books. More black Americans entered professions like teaching and medicine. | Schools in the South were segregated by skin colour, with the quality of education in schools for black Americans often being poorer. |
| Black Americans could express themselves more freely and have their interests represented | The 13 th , 14 th and 15 th Amendments remained in force and promised black Americans equality. | Black Americans were kept in fear through lynching by white mobs, which usually went unpunished. |

Sample answer:

'There was little progress for black Americans between 1877 and 1900.' How far do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. [18 marks]

The progress for black Americans between 1877 and 1900 can be measured in a number of ways: progress in political power, progress in society, and economic progress. Although much progress was made for black Americans in this period, much of it did not raise them above the progress they had enjoyed in the 1860s.

Economically, black Americans enjoyed some progress. The Homestead Act of 1862 had allowed all American citizens to have 160 acres of land in the West if they worked it for five

years. Between 1879 and 1880, over 15,000 black Americans known as Exodusters moved to Kansas to begin their own farms. They were not all successful, but it did allow them to leave the restrictions of life in the Deep South. At the same time, Booker T Washington became official advisor to the President on black matters. He established schools to help black children learn trades like farming or housekeeping and in 1900 set up the National Negro Business League which loaned money to black entrepreneurs. By this point there were over 23,000 black teachers, 400 black doctors, and 300 black lawyers in the USA.

Despite the progress made economically, black Americans continued to struggle. Most African American families in the South worked as sharecroppers and were unable to escape the cycles of poverty. In the North, even educated black Americans struggled to compete with less educated white ones to get jobs. This was largely down to racism, but also because black workers were sometime used to break strikes and so were seen with suspicion.

Social progress was also slow. During the 1890s, Southern governments introduced Jim Crow laws. These kept black and white citizens in the South apart. The facilities for black Americans were often far worse in terms of quality. Yet there was also social progress. Black churches created a sense of common identity and were key in campaigning for better rights for black people after 1900. There was also a growing black elite, with artists, writers and academics (like William DuBois) influencing American culture. However, for most social division and racism continued.

The picture was also bleak in terms of politics. In the 1870s there had been over 2000 black politicians in the USA. By 1905, only 1300 black voters were registered in Louisiana. A lot of this was down to the use of violence by groups like the Ku Klux Klan. However, redeemer governments in the Deep South also introduced literacy tests to prevent black Americans from voting too. Because many black Americans got little or no education, they were barred from voting. Illiterate white voters were given a get out clause if they had a grandparent who could vote. Clearly no black Americans could have had a voting grandfather due to slavery.

In summary, the statement is fairly accurate. The period between 1877 and 1900 was one of little real progress for black Americans. The progress which was made should not be underestimated, especially in terms of social impact; however, most of the changes which allowed this had been won in the 1860s, and the next major set of changes would take another 50 years to arrive.

Page 147: Structured notes

What sorts of industries became rich and important between 1877 and 1900?

- Tobacco, oil, iron, steel, bonanza farms

Why did many people move into cities?

- Job opportunities, entertainment, education, freedoms

Why did many immigrants come to America?

- Chance of a better life, escaping poverty, escaping persecution

What happened when immigrants arrived in America?

- Processes on Ellis Island and given medical and literacy tests

Page 147: What sort of impact?

| Group | Positive impact | Negative impact |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| White workers | <p>Lots of job opportunities</p> <p>People could get jobs to save to buy their own land</p> <p>Prices came down for key products</p> | <p>Low skill jobs meant low pay</p> <p>Big businesses intimidated smaller ones</p> <p>Trade unions were crushed</p> |
| Black/immigrant workers | <p>Jobs were available</p> <p>Black and Mexican workers were often given jobs when white workers went on strike</p> | <p>Pay was not equal</p> <p>Jobs were lost when strikes ended and breaking strikes led to violence</p> |

Sample answer:

What impact did the growth of big business and industry have on the American people, 1877–1900? Explain your answer. [10 marks]

The impact of the growth of big business and industry depends on which group of Americans we look at. For ordinary white workers, the growth of factories and mineral extraction companies created a whole host of jobs. However, these jobs were often poorly paid as the corporations tended to control all the competition so did not need to pay high wages. The American Tobacco Company controlled 90 per cent of cigarette production for example, so workers fired by them would not easily find another job. If workers went on strike to demand better pay and conditions, the corporations were not above using violence to stop them. When the Pullman Company broke up a strike in 1893, 26 workers were shot in the process. Others were put on blacklists and could not get jobs anywhere again.

For African Americans and immigrants, however, these corporations offered some degree of opportunity. Immigrants could find jobs in factories easily and factories liked to employ them because they tended not to ask for more pay or rights as they were so new to the country. Mexicans and black Americans were often employed to cover when strikes were called by white workers, so they were able to get some employment out of industrial arguments. However, immigrant and black workers also faced violence and intimidation and many were forced out of jobs by the trade unions.

Big cattle ranches and farms also provided work for black and Mexican workers. Cattle being taken to markets needed to be driven there by cowboys, but this was a lonely job and few white workers wanted to do it. Because of this, many black and immigrant workers were employed as low-paid labourers on farms and ranches because they could not get access to better paid work due to racism. Bonanza farms and ranches caused all kinds of problems for small-scale ranchers and farmers, however. Ranch barons used their land to control access to water, grass and railroad lines. This made it almost impossible for others to compete. By 1900, most ranches in the West were owned by a handful of people and the majority of small-scale farmers had given up and gone back East or into the cities.

(based around similarity and difference)