

AP United States History

Name _____

Group Seminar: Moving West, 1865-1900

For this group seminar, you were to prepare by reading a segment of Kennedy's Chapter 26. You are responsible for the material in this segment and those PowerPoint slides relating to this material. We will not go back over this material.

The instructions are as follows:

- Step 1. Choose a **moderator** for your group who will coordinate the discussion.
- Step 2. Discuss each of the following questions. Every member of the group is to take notes from the discussion, using this form. **This is due at the end of class.**

What was life like for Native Americans on the Plains before white settlement?

Why were treaties between Native Americans and whites ineffective?

Why has the Plains Indians' resistance to white encroachment played such a large part in the popular American view of the West? How is that mythical past related to the Indians' actual history?

After the various battles and massacres of the 1860s & 1870s, why and how did government policy change in relation to Indian affairs? (Give specific examples and explain the change)

What was "romantic" about the final phases of frontier settlement, and what was not?

Why was the “passing of the frontier” in 1890 a disturbing development for many Americans? Was the frontier more important as a particular place or as an idea?

What was significant about the mining frontier? (list several examples)

How did the long drives emerge, and what led to the end of these trails? How was the cattle industry significant to the West? What legacies were left on the West by this industry?