

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Period \_\_\_\_\_

## Document Based Question (DBQ)

### The Wild West

Directions: This Question is based on the accompanying documents (1-3). Some of the documents have been edited for the purpose of the question. This question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. As you analyze the documents take into account both the **CONTEXT** of each document and the **POINT OF VIEW** that may be presented.

#### Historical Context:

By the 1900's, The American "West" was settled and the U.S. government had achieved Manifest Destiny. The Transcontinental Railroad and the Homestead Act significantly increased the settlement of the "West." However, building the Transcontinental Railroad and farming the Great Plains came with many challenges. While the settlement of the "West" brought about substantial development, the taming of the frontier also destroyed the Native American way of life.

This DBQ consists of TWO parts. The documents in Part A will help you answer the Part B Essay in which you will be asked to:

#### TASK:

- Describe the reasons for building the Transcontinental Railroad AND the challenges workers faced during its construction.
- Describe the purpose and requirements of the Homestead Act AND the challenges farmers faced on the Great Plains
- Explain how the settlement of the "West" changed the Native American way of life.

Part A:

Document 1:



1. Based on the document, what was one reason for building the Transcontinental Railroad?

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Document 2:



2. Based on the document, what was one challenge "Homesteaders" faced when settling the *Great Plains* region of the 'West'?"

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### Document 3



3. Based on the document, what was one factor that changed the lives of Native Americans during the late 1800's?

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Part B:

Write a well organized essay that includes an introduction, several body paragraphs and a conclusion, that addresses the task below:

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