

AMERICA: THE STORY OF US

HEARTLAND

1. What do Civil War Veterans become after the war? What is their mission?
2. How long does it take to cross the continent? How many settlers will die during this long trek?
3. Which president agrees to start building a transcontinental railroad? How long is this initial track?
4. When attempting to build this railroad it is a clash between what two forces? What is the biggest obstacle standing in the way of this railroad being built?
5. Who comes up with a plan to overcome this major obstacle? What are the two companies responsible for building this railroad? Where are the companies eventually going to meet?
6. How is the government going to pay for this transcontinental railroad?
7. Who does the Central Pacific bring in to help build this railroad? What do they use in order to get through that tough granite? How many laborers die in attempting to build this railroad?
8. When is the transcontinental railroad completed? How long does it take to cross the continent now?
9. How does the government encourage settlement of the Great Plains? Who are some of the groups to take advantage of this opportunity?
10. What were conditions like on the Great Plains? What did they use to build their homes? How many people in Nebraska by 1892 head back east?
11. Eventually what nickname will the Great Plains be given? What resource are the settlers in this region in dire need of? Where do they get this resource? What group is responsible for making sure this resource gets to its proper destination?

12. How many buffalo hides are sent back east in 1872, and how much is each hide worth? How many buffalo are killed a day to meet demand?
13. How many mustangs run wild on the Great Plains? Are these animals indigenous to this land? Explain.
14. In little over a decade, how many buffalo are killed? What does that mean for Native Americans? How many buffalo are left in 1889?
15. America needs food to support its growing population. What food will they start to depend on and increase demand for it? Who is responsible for getting this food source to market?
16. Describe the personality traits exhibited by these individuals. Discuss conditions they endure during their job. What group makes up a large portion of these cowboys?
17. What is the cowboy's gun of choice? How much did this gun cost? Many cowboys said during this time, Abraham Lincoln may have freed all men, but Sam Colt made them what?
18. What invention threatens the way of life of the cowboy? How long did the cowboy's reign last on the open range?
19. What happens at Little Bighorn? Who wins the battle, and who ends up winning the war? What happens at Wounded Knee?
20. What else does the railroad do in order to make their trains run on time? Who creates the mail order catalog?
21. Who does the United States overtake as the largest manufacturer on the earth?

After viewing: How does the railroad shape the future of the United States?