**America the Story of Us: Heartland**

Directions: Answer the following questions while viewing the episode, Heartland, of America the Story of Us.

1. In 1865, how many buffalo (American bison) roam the plains in North America.
2. How long does it take to travel across the US by wagon? By boat?
3. Who is the mad man willing to cross the Sierra Nevada Mountains?
4. How much would the railroad cost today? How does the government pay for it?
5. How long does it take to complete the railroad?
6. Give two reasons that the railroad would use Chinese workers in the west.
7. What do they use to break through the granite? What are some of the drawbacks of this method?
8. How long is the trip across the US using the railroad? How does this change America?
9. How much of the US was given away in the Homestead Act?
10. What is the greatest difficulty that pioneers on the plains had to face every year?
11. What made the year 1874 particularly difficult?
12. Why do so many Scandinavians move to the northern Midwest?
13. Describe the importance of the buffalo to the plains Indians.
14. How many buffalo roam the plains in 1889?
15. What are cattle worth in the west? What are they worth in the east?
16. How much can a cowboy make in a day? What skills are necessary to be a cowboy?
17. What was the most popular choice of gun for cowboys? How much did it cost in 1873?
18. Who invents barbed wire? Why was it such an important invention?
19. How does the railroad change the way that time is measured?
20. How does Sears take advantage of the railroads to sell products?