**The Last Frontier**

Directions: Fill in the sentences on these pages with the missing words, names, and terms. Use the answers in the following list.

**Word Bank:**

saloons rodeos immigrants Dawes Act circuit riders

mines wheat prairie fires transcontinental frontier

chaps dresses boom towns sod houses gold rush

bison weapons Colt revolvers Oklahoma barbed wire

land cowboys desperadoes cow towns sheep owners

gold Great Plains Virginia City dairy products George Custer

slaves horse races roundup Homestead Act corn-husking bees

open range dust and cold stagecoaches felt hat Indians

rustlers blacks The Last Frontier Vigilantes White Man

Flapjacks Reservations Ghost towns Populations 160 acres

1. The “last frontier,” the last part of the United States to be settled, included the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Rocky Mountains.
2. Thousands of Americans had already settled on the West Coast, where they had gone in search of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and good farmland.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was settled between 1850 and 1890.
4. The discovery of gold and silver in the Rocky Mountains brought a wave of mines and prospectors to the region similar to what happened during the California \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. By 1890, nearly $2 billion worth of gold and silver had been taken from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the Rocky Mountains.
6. To encourage pioneer families to settle in the dry plains region, Congress passed the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
7. The Homestead Act gave \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of government land to settlers who agreed to live on the land and work it for at least five years.
8. Many \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from European countries came to the United States and started homes and farms in the West.
9. Most of the people who settled in the West became miners, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and farmers.
10. Large numbers of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ moved westward because of the unfair treatment they received in the East and South.
11. Many former \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ became well-known cowboys during the late 1800s.
12. Flour, which was used in making biscuits, bread, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or pancakes, was the basic food because it was nutritious and would not spoil.
13. Other important foods included dried beans, bacon, salt pork, wild fowl, antelope, elk, deer, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
14. Frontiersmen rarely ate fresh fruit and vegetables or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
15. Most men wore rawhide boots, blue jeans, a wool shirt, a jacket or vest, and a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
16. A red bandanna handkerchief was often worn around the neck for protection against the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
17. Women wore sunbonnets and simple calico and gingham \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
18. Cowboys wore wide brimmed hats called “sombreros” and leather \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to protect their legs from the brush.
19. Many frontiersmen carried Winchester rifles, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and Bowie knives.
20. Families got together for square dances, holiday celebrations, house-raising, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
21. Miners and cowboys often spent their leisure hours drinking and gambling in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
22. Cowboys demonstrated their horsemanship and other frontier skills at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
23. Westerners enjoyed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, shooting contests, and boxing and wrestling matches.
24. Travelling preachers, known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, visited towns and preached sermons and conducted marriages, baptisms, and other services.
25. The first \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ railroad was completed in 1869 when the Union Pacific (building west from Omaha, Nebraska) and the Central Pacific (starting east from Sacramento, California) joined together at Promontory Point, Utah.
26. Railroad companies were given large areas of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on each side of the railroad for every mile of track they built.
27. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Great Plains and Far West increased rapidly as more and more railroad track was laid.
28. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ grew up along the railroads and around mining camps.
29. Huge amounts of silver and gold were taken from the Comstock Lode, around \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Nevada.
30. After the valuable ores had been taken out of the ground, most mining centers became \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
31. Cattlemen let their herds graze on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
32. Cowboys protected the herds from mountain lions and bands of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
33. In the fall, ranchers held a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to gather in their cattle.
34. The cattle were taken on a “long drive” north to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, where they were loaded onto freight cars and shipped back east.
35. Farmers on the Great Plains raised grain, usually \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
36. Farmers had to contend with grasshoppers, hot winds, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
37. Ranchers despised the farmers and their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ fences which destroyed the open range.
38. Because of a lack of trees and wood on the plains, farmers often built \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
39. Most travelers in the West used \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, while others went by horseback or in wagons.
40. Violence broke out between cattlemen and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, because sheep ate the grass so close to the ground that the cattle couldn’t graze on it.
41. Gangs of outlaws called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ robbed banks, trains, and stagecoaches.
42. Citizens formed groups of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to help frontier sheriffs capture lawbreakers.
43. The Sioux, Comanche, Crow, Apache, and other Indian tribes became alarmed at the advance of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
44. To defend their lands and way of life, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ attacked farmhouses, villages, wagon trains, stagecoaches, and railroads.
45. In one of the last Indian wars, the Sioux under Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse wiped out more than 200 cavalrymen under General \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the Little Big Horn River in Montana.
46. Indians in the West were gradually overpowered by the white man’s numbers and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
47. Most of the Indians were moved onto government lands called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
48. Congress passed the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which gave each head of an Indian family 160 acres, and each single person 80 acres, if they gave up loyalty to their tribes.
49. In 1889, the U.S. government opened an area known as the Indian Territory to eager settlers called “sooners,” who rushed into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and staked out homestead.
50. In 1890, the Bureau of the Census announced that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had disappeared.