



BIBLIOPLAN'S COOL HISTORY FOR ADVANCED

MODERN AMERICA AND THE WORLD, WEEK 8:

THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD, MOVING OUT WEST

Fill in the Blank:

1. The Pony Express route began in _____, Missouri and covered about _____ miles before it reached its destination at _____, California. The Pony Express operated for only two years, _____ and _____. It closed two days after the completion of the _____ rendered it obsolete.
2. Two companies built the Transcontinental Railroad: The _____, which started at _____, Nebraska and laid track westward; and the _____, which started at _____, California and laid track eastward. The two railroads met at _____, Utah on May 10, _____.
3. On cattle drives, the cowboys in charge of the cattle herd were called _____, while the cowboys in charge of the horses were called _____. The cattlemen kept their supplies in a special wagon called a _____. They drove their herds along the _____ Trail from the state of _____ to the railhead at _____, Kansas.
4. Before the creation of time zones, each local town or city set its clocks by the sun using a _____ or a _____. Time zones became necessary because _____ companies wanted to be able to tell their passengers what the local time would be when they arrived at their destinations. Before standardized time, some British clocks had two _____ hands: one for _____ time, and another for _____.

_____ time.

5. The lighthouse in the _____ of _____ failed because it used an unreliable type of light known as an _____ light. Thomas Edison's light bulb improved upon this unreliable design by using a glowing _____ instead of an electric _____ to carry current across the gap between the electrodes. To keep the _____ from burning, he sealed it inside a glass bulb and removed all of the _____ from the bulb.

Short Answer:

1. How many tunnels did the Central Pacific Railroad Company have to cut through solid granite in order to finish their part of the Transcontinental Railroad? How many miles of sheds did the company build so that it could continue to work during the winter snows?
2. In what ways did the wild buffalo herds interfere with America's Westward expansion?
3. What two classes of people did the Oklahoma Land Runs make famous? Describe what made each class famous.
4. Using Cyrus McCormick's reaper, one man and a horse could do the work of how many men? What was the purpose of Jerome Case's threshing machine? What powered early threshing machines?
5. What "war" did Thomas Edison fight over the best way to transmit electric power? Who were Edison's opponents? What method did Edison propose, and what method did his opponents propose? Did Edison win or lose?

Short Essay:

1. What Act of Congress encouraged American citizens to move out West? How did citizens gain land through this Act? Why did Congress encourage its citizens to move West?
2. Briefly explain the conflict between farmers and cattlemen during the 1883-1884 Fence Cutting War.
3. What grievance did President Garfield's assassin have against the President? What law did Garfield's successor pass in order to limit grievances of this sort?

Research Essay:

Research and retell the story of how a horse-drawn rail car defeated the Tom Thumb steam locomotive in a race in 1830.