6.10 Comparing the Effectiveness of Federal Policies Towards the Plains Indians: 30-minute Pack

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this pack.

1 State one way in which the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 attempted to protect white migrants and trade routes.

(Total for Question 1 is 2 marks)

2 State one provision of the Dawes Act relating to landholding.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Name one weakness of treaty boundaries along the Plains in the 1850s.

(Total for Question 3 is 1 mark)

4 State one aim of the reservation policy that became dominant after the 1860s.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

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5 Explain two consequences of the shift from the Permanent Indian Frontier and 1851 treaty approach to the reservation system exemplified by the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868.

(Total for Question 5 is 8 marks)

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6 Write a narrative account analysing how federal policy moved from treaty-making under the Permanent Indian Frontier to the Dawes Act of 1887 as a deliberate policy of assimilation.

You may use the following information in your answer:
- the Fort Laramie Treaties of 1851 and 1868 as examples of treaty-based boundary agreements
- the Dawes Act's use of allotment to break up communal land

You should also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 6 is 8 marks)

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Mark scheme · 6.10 Comparing the Effectiveness of Federal Policies Towards the Plains Indians: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies a way, e.g. by defining territories for tribes and creating agreed routes for migrants **B1**

supporting detail, e.g. by promising annuities to tribes if they allowed wagon trains and traders safe passage **B1**

Answer: By defining tribal territories and creating agreed routes for migrants, and by promising annuities if tribes allowed safe passage for wagons and traders.

Question 2

identifies a provision, e.g. allotment of individual plots of land to Native heads of household **B1**

supporting detail, e.g. surplus reservation land could be sold to non-Native settlers **B1**

Answer: Allotment of individual plots to heads of household, with surplus reservation land sold to non-Native settlers.

Question 3

they were often vague and not respected by settlers or by all tribes **B1**

Answer: They were often vague and not respected by settlers or by all tribes.

Question 4

identifies an aim, e.g. to concentrate Native populations so they could be controlled and confined **B1**

supporting detail, e.g. to open land for white settlers and to make Native communities dependent on government supplies **B1**

Answer: To concentrate Native populations for control and to open land for white settlement, making Native peoples more dependent on government supplies.

Question 5

Level 1 Identifies one or two simple consequences of the shift to reservations, with little or no supporting detail. **1-2**

Level 2 Identifies and begins to explain one consequence with some accurate detail. **3-4**

Level 3 Explains two consequences, each supported by accurate and relevant detail. **5-6**

Level 4 Explains two consequences in a well-developed way, showing links between consequences and supported by precise and accurate detail. **7-8**

Indicative content:

- Consequence 1, greater control and confinement: the reservation system concentrated Native peoples into smaller, defined areas, making it easier for the federal government and agents to control movement and reduce raiding, but this confinement disrupted traditional seasonal movements and hunting, especially of the buffalo.
- Consequence 1 supporting detail: the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 set aside land for the Lakota, but pressure from settlers and the military meant those boundaries were often violated, undermining their effectiveness at protecting Native life-ways.
- Consequence 2, increased dependency and poverty: by confining groups and promising rations and supplies, the reservation policy often led to dependency on government provisions when annuities or supplies were late or inadequate, producing hunger and social disruption.
- Consequence 2 supporting detail: reservation life reduced opportunities for traditional economic activities and increased vulnerability when promised federal supplies failed to arrive, showing a failure to replace lost resources with viable alternatives.

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Question 6

Level 1 Simple statements about change over time with little sequencing or explanation.	**1-2**
Level 2 Some organisation into a sequence and limited explanation of how policies changed, with some accurate detail.	**3-4**
Level 3 A clear sequence showing change over time and some analysis of connections between events and policies, supported by accurate detail.	**5-6**
Level 4 A coherent, well-organised narrative that analyses how and why policy shifted, showing clear links between events and policy choices and supported by precise and accurate detail.	**7-8**

Indicative content:

- Start with the Permanent Indian Frontier and the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851, where the federal aim was to define territories for tribes and reduce violence by promising annuities and recognised boundaries to allow migration and trade to continue.
- Explain how the outbreak of wider conflict in the 1860s, pressure from white settlement and the military campaigns used to force compliance shifted policy towards concentrating tribes on reservations, as shown by the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 which created the Great Sioux Reservation.
- Analyse how the reservation era proved inadequate in government eyes because it did not integrate Native peoples into the settler economy; the Dawes Act of 1887 shows a new rationale, that assimilation through individual land ownership and farming would 'civilise' Native peoples and free up 'surplus' land for settlers.
- Conclude by linking the policies: treaty-making sought order through negotiated boundaries, reservation policy sought control through confinement, and the Dawes Act sought cultural transformation through allotment and assimilation, each policy driven by the continuing pressure for land and by changing federal attitudes towards what the 'solution' should be.

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