6.2 The American West, c1835-c1895: Migration and Early Settlement: Test Pack

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. You are advised to spend about 15 minutes on this pack.

1 Name the long overland route, roughly 2,000 miles, followed by many migrants travelling west from Missouri from the early 1840s.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Explain two reasons why migrants decided to travel west along trails such as the Oregon Trail in the 1840s.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

3 Describe two ways in which the experience of the Donner Party differed from the experience of the Mormon migration to Salt Lake.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

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4 State one reason why the Mormons (the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) decided to migrate west in 1846.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

5 Give the year in which the Mormons reached and began to settle the Salt Lake Valley.

(Total for Question 5 is 1 mark)

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Mark scheme · 6.2 The American West, c1835-c1895: Migration and Early Settlement: Test Pack

Question 1

the Oregon Trail **B1**

Answer: The Oregon Trail

Question 2

many migrants were attracted by reports of fertile, available farmland further west, such as Oregon's Willamette Valley, at a time when good land in the East was becoming harder and more expensive to obtain **B2**

some migrants, including the Mormons, were seeking freedom from religious persecution or discrimination they had experienced in the East, and hoped to build a community where they could practise their beliefs without interference **B2**

Answer: The hope of fertile, available farmland further west, and, for some groups such as the Mormons, the wish to escape religious persecution.

Question 3

the Donner Party followed an unproven shortcut, the Hastings Cutoff, without reliable local knowledge, whereas the Mormon migration was carefully organised and led by Brigham Young, who sent scouts ahead and planned staged settlements along the route **B2**

the Donner Party's journey ended in disaster, trapped by snow with roughly half its members dying before rescue, whereas the Mormon migration succeeded in reaching and establishing a permanent, growing settlement in the Salt Lake Valley from July 1847 **B2**

Answer: The Donner Party took an unproven, poorly planned shortcut and suffered disaster, while the well-organised, carefully led Mormon migration reached Salt Lake and founded a lasting settlement.

Question 4

identifies a reason, e.g. they faced persecution and violence in Illinois **B1**

supporting detail, e.g. their leader Joseph Smith had been murdered by a mob in 1844, and Brigham Young led the decision to leave for a place where they could practise their religion without persecution **B1**

Answer: They faced persecution in Illinois, including the murder of their leader Joseph Smith in 1844, and sought a place to practise their religion freely.

Question 5

1847 **B1**

Answer: 1847

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