6.8 Exam Skills: Writing Analytical Narrative Accounts of the American West: 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 two reasons why the discovery of gold in the Black Hills led to increased conflict with the Lakota.

(Total for Question 1 is 2 marks)

2 State two features of a typical frontier boom town created by a railhead or gold rush, such as early Abilene or Black Hills mining camps.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 State two reasons why settlers and miners often ignored treaty limits on Indian land in the 1870s.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

4 Give the name of the 1876 battle in which Custer and much of his immediate command were killed.

(Total for Question 4 is 1 mark)

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5 Name the US treaty, signed in 1868, that temporarily recognised Lakota control of the Black Hills area before it was broken by gold prospectors.

(Total for Question 5 is 1 mark)

6 Explain two consequences of the Black Hills gold rush for relations between the US government and the Lakota between 1874 and 1876.

(Total for Question 6 is 8 marks)

7 Write a narrative account analysing how events from the Black Hills gold rush led to the Battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876.

You may use the following information in your answer:
- the 1874 expedition into the Black Hills and subsequent stream of prospectors
- the failure of the US government to prevent miners from entering treaty land

You should also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 7 is 8 marks)

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Mark scheme · 6.8 Exam Skills: Writing Analytical Narrative Accounts of the American West: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

miners and settlers entered land guaranteed to the Lakota by treaty, breaking the Fort Laramie agreements	**B1**
the US government failed to prevent or control the influx of gold prospectors, increasing tensions and violence	**B1**

Answer: Because prospectors entered Lakota treaty land in the Black Hills, breaking agreements, and the government did not stop the influx of miners, increasing tensions and violence.

Question 2

rapid population growth and a predominance of single men	**B1**
basic, makeshift services and law enforcement, with saloons, boarding houses and informal justice	**B1**

Answer: Rapid population growth with many single men, and makeshift services and weak law enforcement such as saloons and informal justice.

Question 3

economic incentive: gold and land attracted prospectors and settlers who wanted to stake claims	**B1**
weak enforcement: the US government and army often did not prevent or control the influx of settlers	**B1**

Answer: Because gold and valuable land attracted prospectors, and government enforcement was often too weak or unwilling to stop them.

Question 4

the Battle of the Little Bighorn	**B1**

Answer: The Battle of the Little Bighorn

Question 5

the Treaty of Fort Laramie (1868)	**B1**

Answer: The Treaty of Fort Laramie (1868)

Question 6

Level 1 Identifies one or two basic consequences with little or no supporting detail or explanation.	**1-2**
Level 2 Begins to explain a consequence, supported by some accurate detail.	**3-4**
Level 3 Explains two consequences, each supported by accurate and relevant detail, and begins to show links between them.	**5-6**
Level 4 Explains two consequences in a well-developed way, showing clear analytical links and supported throughout by precise, accurate detail.	**7-8**

Indicative content:

- Increased violation of the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty as miners flooded the Black Hills, creating diplomatic and legal crisis points between the US government and the Lakota, since treaty provisions were being openly broken.
- Rising military tension and eventual escalation to armed campaigns, because the government attempts to remove miners or to force cessions of land led to armed resistance and then to a decision to send larger US forces into the area.
- Political pressure on the US government from settlers and prospectors demanding protection for their claims, which pushed federal policy toward supporting removal or military action rather than enforcing treaty guarantees to the Lakota.
- Destabilisation of intertribal relations and Lakota unity, as the influx of prospectors and the government's responses forced bands to choose between negotiation, flight, or resistance, contributing to the large-scale confrontation at Little Bighorn.

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Question 7

Level 1 Simple, generalised narrative with little sequencing or explanation of connections between events.	**1-2**
Level 2 Some accurate events sequenced, with limited analysis of how events led to one another.	**3-4**
Level 3 A coherent, organised narrative that explains links between key events, supported by accurate detail.	**5-6**
Level 4 A well-organised, analytical narrative that sequences events clearly and explains the connections between them, supported throughout by precise and accurate detail.	**7-8**

Indicative content:

- The 1874 expedition, led in part by Custer, reported gold in the Black Hills, which immediately attracted prospectors despite the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty that reserved the area for the Lakota.
- As prospectors streamed in, the US government faced pressure from miners and settlers to secure their claims, and authorities failed to exclude miners effectively, undermining treaty guarantees and angering the Lakota.
- Government attempts to buy or seize the land, or to limit Lakota movement onto it, heightened tensions; some Lakota bands resisted the incursions, while others initially tried negotiation, creating divisions and uncertainty.
- By 1876 the accumulation of broken treaties, unchecked miners, and government orders to bring hostile bands to reservation areas produced a campaign to force compliance; military detachments were sent out to compel surrender, culminating in Custer's 1876 engagement with a large assembled force of Lakota, Northern Cheyenne and Arapaho at the Little Bighorn.
- A good narrative explains how each step increased pressure, turning a local gold rush into a political and military crisis, rather than presenting the battle as an isolated event.

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