

Guided Reading Activity

War and the West, 1844–1890

Lesson 3 *Miners and Ranchers*

Review Questions: Outlining

Directions: Read the lesson and complete the outline below. Refer to your textbook to fill in the blanks.

I. Growth of the Mining Industry

- A. _____ staked a claim near Virginia City, Nevada, that turned out to be nearly pure silver ore.
- B. Almost overnight it went from a town of _____ people to almost _____ people.
- C. Most mining _____ did not survive when the mines closed, instead they went _____ and most residents left.
- D. _____ was a process that used simple equipment such as picks and pans.
- E. _____ was a mining process that removed large quantities of earth.

II. Ranching and Cattle Drives

- A. Some settlers began raising cattle on the _____ after the Civil War.
- B. Cattle from the East could not survive on tough prairie grasses, but the _____ could survive in the harsh climate.
- C. Cattle ranching grew in part because of the vast areas of grassland owned by the _____.
- D. The _____ covered much of the Great Plains and provided land where cattle ranchers could graze their herds free of charge.
- E. In 1866 ranchers drove about 260,000 cattle to _____; this was the first “long drive.”

III. New Settlers Arrive in the Southwest

- A. _____ taught American cowhands their trade and enriched the English language with words of Spanish origin.
- B. _____ were the majority of the population in New Mexico.
- C. Spanish-speaking immigrants to Southwestern cities settled in neighborhoods called _____.

Guided Reading Activity *cont.*

War and the West, 1844–1890

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

How did mining and cattle ranching help prepare Western territories for statehood.
