

Terms

Manifest Destiny
“Young America”
“Great American Desert”
Oregon Trail
Gold Rush
Brigham Young
Santa Anna
“54° 40’ or Fight!”
Nueces River & Rio Grande River
Mexican War, 1846-1847
“Bear Flag Republic”
Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
Mexican Cession
James Buchanan
popular sovereignty (regarding the issue of slavery)

Conscience Whigs
Liberty Party & Free Soil Party
Senator Stephen Douglas
Fugitive Slave Law
personal liberty laws
Harriet Beecher Stowe, <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (1852)
Ostend Manifesto

Questions

1. Why didn't the Whig Party enact major parts of their program (national bank, internal improvements, etc.) after the first Whig president (William Henry Harrison) was elected?
2. Chronologically, roughly when did American settlers begin to move to and settle in...
[identify a decade, e.g., 1840s]
 - Texas?
 - Oregon?
 - California?
 - Utah?
3. Generally speaking, did male settlers greatly outnumber female settlers to the Far West in the 1840s and 1850s, especially outside of California's gold areas? Identify 2-3 of the main roles of women played in migration and settlement.

4. Identify 2 crucial factors or events that led Mexico to grant independence to Texas in 1836.
5. What was the main issue in the presidential election of 1844? Who won and what was his position on that main issue?
6. From the point of their independence in 1836, most white Texans wanted to join the United States as a new state. Why, then, did it take until 1845 for Texas to become a state? [Be brief—the answer isn't too complicated.]
7. How and when did the U.S. gain the Oregon Country or Oregon Territory? Did the U.S. wage war or negotiate peacefully? With whom?
8. James M. McPherson (author of chapter 13) asserts that President Polk “provoked” war with Mexico. How did Polk do so?
9. Who opposed the Mexican War and why did they do so?
10. After the Mexican War ended, what were the four (4) basic positions that emerged regarding the issue of slavery’s potential expansion westward? Who was identified with each point?
11. What small, “minor” national political parties (preceding the Republican Party that emerged in the mid-1850s) opposed the spread of slavery?

12. What was the main issue in the presidential election of 1848? Who won and what was his position on that main issue?

13. What were the four principle components of the Compromise of 1850? (Refer to AMSCO if you're confused by the text.)

14. Which part of the Compromise of 1850 provoked the most controversy? Why?

Bonus: What was ironic about white Southerners' energetic support of the Fugitive Slave Law?