“Westward the Course of Empire Takes Its Way”
Emanuel Leutze, 1862

1. What kind of person made the journey into the West?
2. What can you tell about the journey into the West?
3. Why would Americans make the journey into the West?
The period of time in U.S. history before the Civil War is known as the Antebellum Era (1800-1860).

**Early Antebellum Era (1800-1840)**
- War of 1812 (1812-1814)
- "Era of Good Feelings" (1815-1825)
- Monroe Elected 1816, 1820
- John Quincy Adams, 1824

**Late Antebellum Era (1840-1860)**
- Manifest Destiny (1840-1850)
- Sectionalism (1850-1860)
- Jackson Elected 1828, 1832
- Martin Van Buren, 1836
- Harrison & Tyler, 1840
- James Polk, 1844
- James Buchanan, 1856
- Taylor & Fillmore, 1848
- Franklin Pierce, 1852
In the 1840s, westward expansion led Americans to acquire all lands from the Atlantic to Pacific in a movement called Manifest Destiny.

Americans flooded into the West for new economic opportunities.

The U.S. gained Texas, Oregon, California, and other territories through treaty or war.
Changes in the early Antebellum era (1800–1840), encouraged westward expansion in the 1840s.
Jefferson's Louisiana Purchase doubled the size of the USA.

Lewis and Clark's exploration confirmed the economic potential of the western territory.
The growth of "King Cotton" and commercial farming led to a desire for more western lands.
Changes in the early Antebellum era (1800-1840), encouraged westward expansion in the 1840s.

Improved transportation such as canals, steamboats, & railroads increased speed & profitability.
The U.S. population grew 300%.

The number of U.S. states grew from 13 to 26.

Western state populations exploded (Ohio's population grew from 50,000 to 1.5 million).

Five Most Populous States, 1790-1840

1790
1. Virginia
2. Pennsylvania
3. North Carolina
4. Massachusetts
5. New York

1800
1. Virginia
2. Pennsylvania
3. New York
4. North Carolina
5. Massachusetts

1810
1. New York
2. Virginia
3. Pennsylvania
4. North Carolina
5. Massachusetts

1820
1. New York
2. Pennsylvania
3. Virginia
4. North Carolina
5. Ohio

1830
1. New York
2. Pennsylvania
3. Virginia
4. Ohio
5. North Carolina

1840
1. New York
2. Pennsylvania
3. Ohio
4. Virginia
5. Tennessee

New States, 1790-1840

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Year of Admission</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Vermont</td>
<td>1791</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Kentucky</td>
<td>1792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Tennessee</td>
<td>1796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Ohio</td>
<td>1803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Louisiana</td>
<td>1812</td>
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<td>6. Indiana</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Maine</td>
<td>1820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Missouri</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Arkansas</td>
<td>1836</td>
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<td>13. Michigan</td>
<td>1837</td>
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U.S. Population Growth, 1790-1840

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population in Millions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1800</td>
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<td>1820</td>
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<td>1830</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
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The journey West was dangerous and unpredictable, yet thousands of Americans traveled along the Oregon, Santa Fe, and Mormon Trails.
The earliest pioneers were fur traders, land speculators, and poor farmers looking for cheap land.

Soon, farmers, miners, ranchers, and religious groups flooded West.
The Oregon Trail led thousands of farmers to the fertile lands of Oregon in the 1840s.
THE SANTA FE TRAIL ALLOWED THE U.S. TO SELL GOODS TO MEXICO
After Joseph Smith's murder in Illinois, Brigham Young led the Mormons to create a new settlement in Utah.
Westward expansion brought conflict with Indians, such as the Black Hawk War, as trails disrupted hunting grounds and violated previous treaties.
THE TREATY OF FORT LARAMIE CREATED A VAST INDIAN TERRITORY BUT WAS REPEATEDLY IGNORED BY WHITES EXPANDING WEST
AMERICA: THE STORY OF US  WESTERN EXPANSION
(START AT 6.40)
Read the excerpts from “Life on the Oregon Trail” and