

Reading Ahead 9

Directions: This and future week's "Reading Ahead" will focus on the continued westward movement in the United States and the challenges that awaited. The class will read the selection from the textbook and brainstorm questions that come to mind on the topic. Students will choose three questions to research during the week, and then write a one-paragraph expository essay about the topic.

Details: 1. Read Chapter 23.3 & 4, *New Interest in the West* and *The Railroad Builders*. While you read the section, write down questions you have about the historical events. Questions can range from basic questions to more specific or advanced.

2. We will discuss the questions in class. After we share questions in class, write down three you would like to explore.

3. Conduct some online, book (not the textbook) or periodical research on the topic, trying to answer the three questions chosen for exploration.

4. Students will then write a one-paragraph expository essay on the topic, giving details that answer the questions they selected.

5. On their final assignment, students will list the three questions they chose to focus on, the expository essay, and a list of sources used. For the list of sources, we will use a modified citation as follows:

- Internet sources will list the Page or Site Title, the author (if given) and the url.
- Book sources will list the Title and author.
- Periodical sources will list the Publication Name and date issued, then the article title, authors name and page the article appears.

6. Use of a word processor is recommended but not required.

7. Do not use web sites designed to short cut the research process. These include, but are not limited to, answers.com, ask.com, wikianswers.com, etc...

This assignment is due on January 20.