

Answer Key: What's the story?

Warm-up

- Responses will vary

Lesson

How students record the following information may vary if they paraphrase. The responses below are taken specifically from the available options in the Foundations work and should serve as a general guide for Advanced and Grade Level work.

1. An era of growth and change
 - a. When: 1870 – 1900
 - b. What happened: (A) A lot of people moved to Texas, and many migrated to the Plains; (B) Most Texans were cotton farmers who struggled financially.
 - c. Significance: (A) Significant changes in population, migration, agriculture, and politics occurred.
2. The end of Comanche dominance of the Plains
 - a. When: 1875
 - b. What happened: (B) Hunters killed millions of buffalo that Plains tribes depended on; (C) Plains tribes moved to Oklahoma reservation after the Red River War.
 - c. Significance: (C) Conflicts between Anglos and Indians resulted in the removal of tribes from the Plains.
3. Cowboys and cattle drives
 - a. When: 1860s – 1890s
 - b. What happened: (A) Cattle drive trails shifted to the western part of the state; (C) Large, fenced off ranches made cattle drives difficult in the Plains.
 - c. Significance: (C) Northern demand for beef caused enormous growth in the cattle industry in Texas.
4. The rise of mega ranches
 - a. When: 1870s – 1900s
 - b. What happened: (A) Ranchers used barbed wire to close off their property and resources; (B) American and foreign investors established large ranches in the Plains.
 - c. Significance: (B) The growth of the cattle industry led to the rise of large ranches and fewer cattle drives.

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5. Farmers and laborers organize
 - a. When: 1870s – 1900s
 - b. What happened: (A) Farmers organized the Farmer's Alliance and Populist Party to work for improvements; (C) Falling cotton prices caused many farmers to struggle financially.
 - c. Significance: (A) Struggling farmers established organizations to advocate for political and economic reforms.
6. The rise of Jim Crow in the South
 - a. When: 1890s – 1960s
 - b. What happened: (B) Southern governments passed laws to limit voting rights; (C) Southern governments passed laws to segregate public spaces.
 - c. Significance: (B) Jim Crow laws restricted the rights and liberties of Black Southerners during this time.

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Exit Ticket

Responses will vary, but should include variations on the following information

- The Red River War
 - Cause: Conflict between American Indians on the Plains and the settlers, hunters and military migrating into the region; the depletion of the buffalo herds.
 - Effect: The forced removal of Plains Indians tribes onto Oklahoma reservations.
- Cattle Drives
 - Cause: High demand and high prices for cattle in Northern states
 - Effect: The growth of the cattle industry in Texas; The rise of big ranches; The closing of the Texas Plains.
- Mega Ranches in the Plains
 - Cause: The success of the cattle industry led to big investment in the Texas beef industry from outside investors.
 - Effect: The ranches used barbed wire, which closed off large portions of the Plains to cowboys on cattle drives.
- Farmer Organizations
 - Cause: The price of cotton dropped dramatically, so farmers received less money for their crops, forcing many to struggle financially and become tenant farmers.
 - Effect: Issues important to farmers and laborers were highlighted, which played a significant role in the politics of Texas and the U.S.
- Jim Crow Laws
 - Cause: Desire by some in power to restrict the rights of Black Southerners
 - Effect: It became more difficult for many Black Southerners to vote, and it led to segregated public spaces.