

What's the Story? *Foundations*

Unit 10: Cotton, Cattle, & Railroads

Name: Date: Period:

Significant Events

1. Read each passage about a significant event during Cotton, Cattle, and Railroads.
2. **When:** Circle or highlight the correct date for each event.
3. **What happened:** Highlight or circle **two** statements that are most significant to this event.
4. **Significance:** A helpful tip: determine the significance of each event **FIRST** to help you understand what's most important about each reading. Then choose the **two** events under "What Happened" that best support the significance. **NOTE:** More than one statement under "Significance" may be true, but only one explains the overall importance of the event.

*First Significant
Event(s)*

An Era of Growth and Change

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
1785 - 1870	A) A lot of people moved to Texas, and many migrated to the Plains.	A) Significant changes in population, migration, agriculture, and politics occurred.
1870 - 1900	B) Most Texans were cotton farmers who struggled financially.	B) Significant conflict occurred between different groups over political control of Texas.
1875 - 1880	C) Cotton farmers had no way to advocate for themselves politically.	C) Significant economic growth in the cotton and manufacturing industries occurred.

Second Significant Event(s)

The End of Comanche Dominance of the Plains

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
1875	A) The Salt Creek Massacre forced Anglos to retreat from the Plains	A) The U.S. military reestablished a presence on the Great Plains of Texas during this time.
1861 - 1865	B) Hunters killed millions of buffalo that Plains tribes depended on.	B) Bison hunters overhunted the buffalo population on the Plains causing challenges for Indians.
1890	C) Plains tribes moved to Oklahoma reservation after the Red River War.	C) Conflicts between Anglos and Indians resulted in the removal of tribes from the Plains.

Third Significant Event(s)

Cowboys and Cattle Drives

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
1890s	A) Cattle drive trails shifted to the western part of the state.	A) Life as a cowboy on cattle drives was difficult, dangerous, and offered little pay.
1875 - 1900s	B) Being a cowboy was one of the best-paid jobs in the cattle industry.	B) Many large ranches were established on the Texas Great Plains.
1860s - 1890s	C) Large, fenced off ranches made cattle drives difficult in the Plains.	C) Northern demand for beef caused enormous growth in the cattle industry in Texas.

Fourth Significant Event(s)

The Rise of Mega Ranches

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
1870s - 1900s	A) Ranches used barbed wire to close off their property and resources.	A) The Texas government invested large sums of money in establishing ranches in the Plains.
1865 - 1877	B) American and foreign investors established large ranches in the Plains.	B) The growth of the cattle industry led to the rise of large ranches and fewer cattle drives.
1861 - 1865	C) Cattle drives increased with the rise of large ranches like XIT in the Plains.	C) Many cowboys were upset that large ranches limited access to resources on the Plains.

***Fifth Significant
Event(s)***

Farmers and Laborers Organize

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
<i>1870s - 1900s</i>	A) Farmers organized the Farmer's Alliance and Populist Party to work for improvements.	A) Struggling farmers established organizations to advocate for political and economic reforms.
<i>1820s - 1860s</i>	B) The Populists supported the two existing parties.	B) The two dominant political parties did little to help struggling farmers in Texas.
<i>1870s - 1890s</i>	C) Falling cotton prices caused many farmers to struggle financially.	C) The Populist Party developed into one of the strongest parties in Texas due to the work of farmers.

***Sixth Significant
Event(s)***

The Rise of Jim Crow in the South

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
<i>1877 - 1900</i>	A) Southern governments supported education through literacy tests.	A) Jim Crow laws made it difficult for Black southerners to vote in state elections.
<i>1890s - 1960s</i>	B) Southern governments passed laws to limit voting rights.	B) Jim Crow laws restricted the rights and liberties of Black Southerners during this time.
<i>1860s - 1890s</i>	C) Southern governments passed laws to segregate public spaces.	C) Jim Crow laws established Black cavalry units often known as "Buffalo Soldiers."