

# 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**

<b>When:</b>	<b>What happened?</b>	<b>Significance:</b>
<b>1875</b>	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.
<b>1861 - 1865</b>	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.
<b>1890</b>	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**

<b>When:</b>	<b>What happened?</b>	<b>Significance:</b>
<b>1890s</b>	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.
<b>1875 - 1900s</b>	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.
<b>1860s - 1890s</b>	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**

<b>When:</b>	<b>What happened?</b>	<b>Significance:</b>
<b>1870s - 1900s</b>	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.
<b>1865 - 1877</b>	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.
<b>1861 - 1865</b>	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."