

What's the Story? *Grade Level*

Unit 10: Cotton, Cattle, & Railroads

Name:

Date:

Period:

Significant Events

1. Read each passage about a significant topic during the Cotton, Cattle, and Railroads era.
2. Complete your chart by placing each event in the correct order based on the order of the readings.
3. Write the title of the event and the date it occurred. **NOTE:** Some events may be **ongoing**. Some readings may have more than one event. Record all significant dates.
4. Write quick notes summarizing the most significant events that happened in each reading. Your notes should be 2 – 4 bulleted items in a list.
5. Choose the statement that best explains the significance of the event or events in the reading. **NOTE:** both statements may be TRUE, but only one explains the significance. **Helpful Tip:** Determine the significance first, then identify the events that support or demonstrate the significance.

*First Significant
Event(s)*

An Era of Growth and Change

| <i>When:</i> | <i>What happened?</i> | <i>Significance:</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">A) Significant changes in population, migration, agriculture, and politics occurred.B) Significant conflict occurred between different groups over political control of Texas.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> |
|--------------|-----------------------|---|
| | | <p>A) The U.S. military reestablished a presence on the Great Plains of Texas during this time.</p> <p>B) Bison hunters overhunted the buffalo population on the Plains causing challenges for Indians.</p> <p>C) Conflicts between Anglos and Indians resulted in the removal of tribes from the Plains.</p> |

**Third Significant
Event(s)**

Cowboys and Cattle Drives

| <i>When:</i> | <i>What happened?</i> | <i>Significance:</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------|---|
| | | <p>A) Life as a cowboy on cattle drives was difficult, dangerous, and offered little pay.</p> <p>B) Many large ranches were established on the Texas Great Plains.</p> <p>C) Northern demand for beef caused enormous growth in the cattle industry in Texas.</p> |

**Fourth Significant
Event(s)**

The Rise of Mega Ranches

| <i>When:</i> | <i>What happened?</i> | <i>Significance:</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------|--|
| | | <p>A) The Texas government invested large sums of money in establishing ranches in the Plains.</p> <p>B) The growth of the cattle industry led to the rise of large ranches and fewer cattle drives.</p> <p>C) Many cowboys were upset that large ranches limited access to resources on the Plains.</p> |

*Fifth Significant
Event(s)*

Farmers and Laborers Organize

| <i>When:</i> | <i>What happened?</i> | <i>Significance:</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">A) Struggling farmers established organizations to advocate for political and economic reforms.B) The two dominant political parties did little to help struggling farmers in Texas.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> |
|--------------|-----------------------|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">A) Jim Crow laws made it difficult for Black southerners to vote in state elections.B) Jim Crow laws restricted the rights and liberties of Black Southerners during this time.C) Jim Crow laws established Black cavalry units often known as "Buffalo Soldiers." |