Name _____

Westward Expansion: Motivations

1. What was the name of the Act that offered up to 160 acres of land for a small fee to settlers willing to move out west?
   a. The Oregon Act
   b. The Homestead Act
   c. The Wagon Train Act
   d. The California Act

2. Which group of people were NOT included in the Homestead Act?
   a. Native Americans
   b. women
   c. Free African Americans
   d. immigrants

3. Where did most Americans live in the early 1800s?
   a. Mexico
   b. Along the Atlantic coast
   c. In France
   d. Near the Pacific Ocean

4. _____ was the main reason people decided to go west.
   a. Fancy hotels
   b. Exploration
   c. Inexpensive land
   d. Laziness

5. In 1849, thousands of people migrated to California to participate in the _____.
   a. Western Wagon Trek
   b. Rocky Mountain Race
   c. Silver Run
   d. Gold Rush

6. Pioneer families joined together to form _____ as they traveled on the Oregon Trail.
   a. wagon trains
   b. oxen trails
   c. gold trains
   d. homesteads

7. Those who migrated to participate in the Gold Rush in 1849 were known as _____.
   a. Forty-Niners
   b. Rushers
   c. Gold Gatherers
   d. old men

8. The idea that the US should spread from coast to coast was known as _____.
   a. Boomtowns
   b. The Oregon Trail
   c. Patriotism
   d. Manifest Destiny

9. Which religious group traveled out west and settled in present-day Utah?
   a. Muslims
   b. Mormons
   c. Jews
   d. Catholics

10. Which of the following were motivations for pioneers to travel out west?
    a. Inexpensive land
    b. Economic opportunity (jobs)
    c. Adventure
    d. All of the above

LIVEWORKSHEETS