

OREGON TRAIL



DIGITAL



PRINT

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The Oregon Trail was a dangerous route traveled by settlers from the east who wanted to move west. Hundreds of thousands of people traveled westward between 1811 and 1869 during the "Great Migration."

The pioneers were farmers, doctors, blacksmiths, shop owners, and ministers. These pioneers traveled to Oregon because the land was free or very cheap. Before leaving, the pioneers had to make money for their trip. They would save the money, borrow money, or sell their possessions. Settlers used covered wagons to carry their supplies across hazardous terrain through six states.

Leaders of the wagon train were called Wagon Masters. Cowboys would ride along the side and help when needed. There were also scouts that rode ahead to see what the terrain was like.

The difficult journey west through the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains took up to six months. The Oregon Trail was originally cut by Native Americans but was later expanded by fur traders. Accidents happened while crossing rivers, lightning and hail were dangerous. The biggest threat on the Oregon Trail was cholera, a bacterial infection that could cause death through dehydration.

Covered wagons or "Prairie Schooners" were often pulled by oxen and mules. Oxen were slow but had great strength. They could also be eaten in an emergency. Oxen were less expensive than horses. Due to the fact that the wagons weighed up to 2,000 pounds, many settlers walked alongside their wagons. The wagons often over-turned and injuries were common. Many pioneers did not make it to their final destination. Diseases, accidents and Native American raids took the lives of many who traveled. Most Native Americans were friendly and helpful.

Settlers usually traveled in a "wagon train" which consisted of 20-40 wagons carrying supplies, food and families. Typical food included bacon, beans, coffee and flour. A four-person family needed about 1,000 pounds of food to survive the trip. Supplies included buckets, skillets, tools, candles, and rifles. The wagons were made of iron-reinforced hardwoods. The front wheels were smaller than the back wheels to make turning easier. The wagons were covered with waterproofing linseed oil.

Who was the first settler to complete the Oregon Trail? *

- Manny Fest
- Joel Walker
- John O'Sullivan
- James K. Polk

Roughly how many settlers died along the way? *

- 15,000
- 2,000
- 45,000
- None of the above

What year did the United States add Texas? *

- 1942
- 1823
- 1845
- 1866



READING PASSAGE

15 QUESTIONS

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MULTIPLE CHOICE

2. Roughly how many settlers died along the way?
A. 15,000
B. 2,000
C. 45,000
D. None of the above

4. The rapid territorial expansion resulted in a war with what country?
A. Spain
B. France
C. Mexico
D. Canada

5. What was a typical food on the Oregon Trail?
A. Bacon
B. Beans
C. Flour
D. All of the above

TRUE OR FALSE

3. What year did the United States add Texas?
A. 1942
B. 1823
C. 1845
D. 1866

6. What were leaders of the wagon train called?
A. Schooners
B. Wagon Generals
C. Wheeler Dealers
D. Wagon Masters

8. Scouts would ride ahead to see what the terrain was like.
A. TRUE
B. FALSE

9. The front wheels were smaller than the back wheels to make turning easier.

DIGITAL OR PRINT

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THINK TANK

INCLUDED

- ✓ READING PASSAGE
- ✓ TEACHER DIRECTIONS
 - ✓ ANSWER KEY
 - ✓ 15 QUESTIONS
 - ✓ SELF-GRADING
- ✓ PRINTABLE VERSION
- ✓ DIGITAL VERSION



QUESTION TYPES

-  **MULTIPLE CHOICE (6)**
-  **TRUE OR FALSE (9)**
-  **EDITABLE QUESTIONS
(FOR DIGITAL VERSION)**

True

False



STUDENTS NEED

✓ ACCESS TO GOOGLE CLASSROOM™
(IF USING THE DIGITAL FORMAT)

✓ GOOGLE™ ACCOUNTS

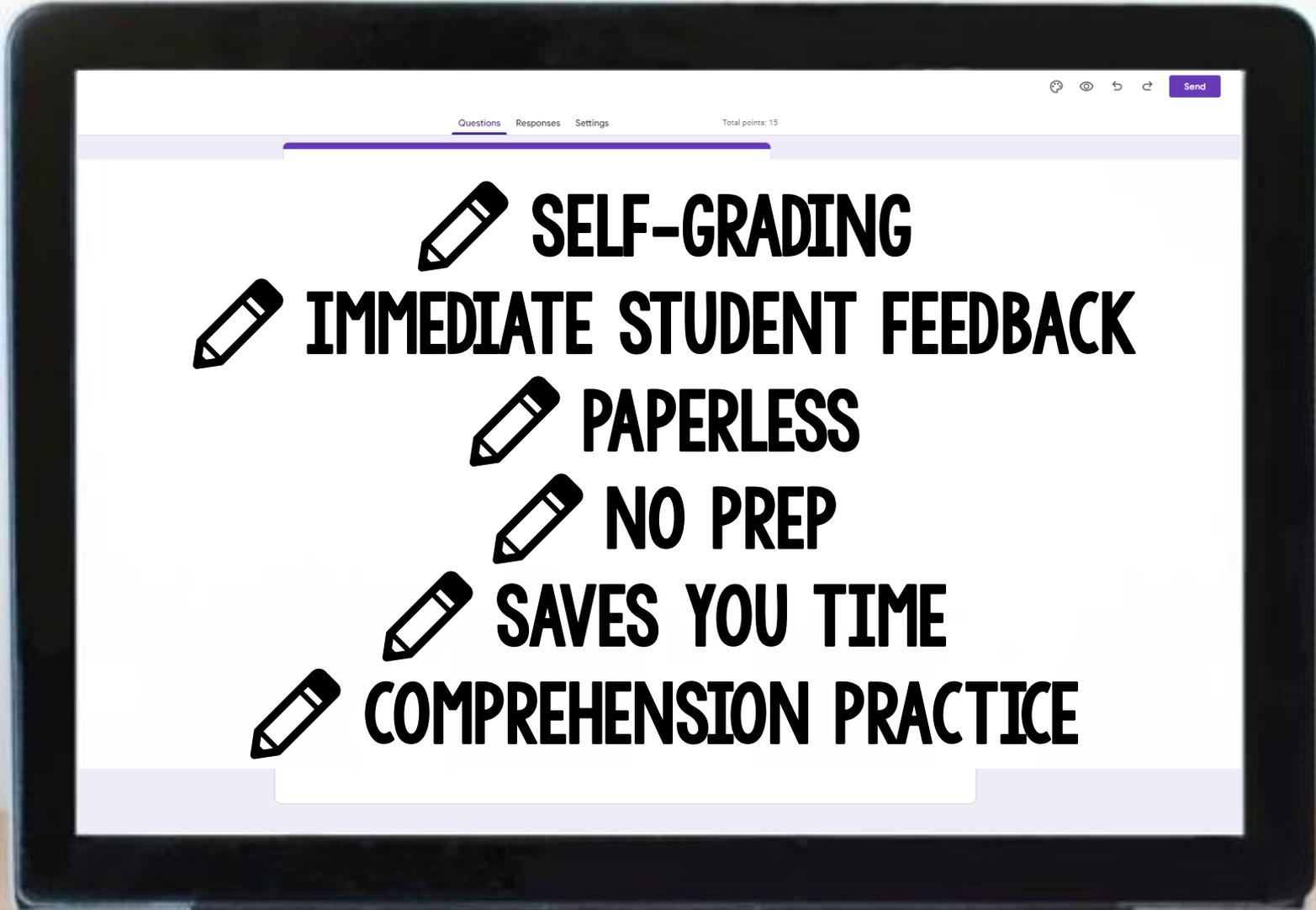
✓ KNOW HOW TO ZOOM IN AND ZOOM OUT TO
ENLARGE OR SHRINK THE SCREEN

True

False



BENEFITS

- 
-  **SELF-GRADING**
 -  **IMMEDIATE STUDENT FEEDBACK**
 -  **PAPERLESS**
 -  **NO PREP**
 -  **SAVES YOU TIME**
 -  **COMPREHENSION PRACTICE**



OPTIONS



FRONT-LOADING



GROUP STATIONS



SUB PLANS



UNIT REVIEW



ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY



DIGITAL



PRINTABLE

