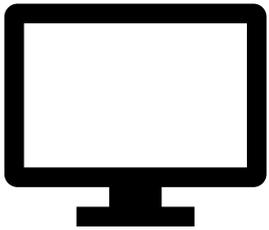


TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD



DIGITAL



PRINT

TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD

Before the Transcontinental Railroad, Thomas Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark to explore and map the wild west. Then came westward expansion and the Oregon, Santa Fe, and California Trails. Many settlers traveled west during the gold rush. They wanted gold, riches, and adventure. Some railroads were already built but tracks were different sizes, so nothing was connected. Discussions of a transcontinental railroad began in 1830 with Asa Whitney. President Abraham Lincoln proposed a railroad network to connect to California. He signed the Pacific Railroad Act into law in 1862. Travel in the mid-1800s meant long, stressful, and expensive trips. This could take months. Wagon train, stagecoach, and foot were the most common ways of traveling. The Pony Express was a mail delivery system between Missouri and California. It proved that travel to the west coast could happen. Riders would log team carrying the mail across the country. The Pony Express only lasted for 18 months. There was no more need because of the transcontinental railroad.

Transcontinental Railroad Transcontinental means going across a continent. The transcontinental railroad made a pathway connecting the east and west side of the United States. There were already some railroads, but they didn't connect across the country or to each other. There was no railroad beyond Nebraska.

Development Two companies were finally authorized to build the track—the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific. The Union Pacific began in Omaha, Nebraska and built track westward. The Central Pacific began in Sacramento, California and built track eastward. The goal was to meet in the middle.

The government gave millions of dollars in grants and millions of acres of land to build the railroad. First, the railroad companies earned ten square miles of land next to the track for every mile of completed track. They earned ten more miles for the next mile of track—on the opposite side. Basically, they earned land in a checkerboard pattern.

Next, the railroad companies sold this land to settlers to earn a profit. Also, the government paid the railroad companies \$16,000 for each mile of flat land that was built. Railroad companies earned \$32,000 per mile for the high plains. Finally, they received \$48,000 for each mile of mountain terrain. These payouts led to the two railroad companies going out of their way to add on extra miles.

Who began discussions of the continental railroad? *

- Whitney Atlas
- Asa Jefferson
- Asa Whitney
- Whitney Ford

The Union Pacific began laying track in which state? *

- Nebraska
- Delaware
- Colorado
- None of the above

What year was the transcontinental railroad finished? *

- 1861
- 1862
- 1869
- 1845



READING PASSAGE

15 QUESTIONS

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TRUE OR FALSE

8 The two track companies were the Union Pacific and Global Atlantic

9 The Pony Express was a mail delivery system.

CHOICE

2 The Union Pacific began laying track in which state?

A. Nebraska
B. Delaware
C. Colorado
D. None of the above

3 What year was the transcontinental railroad finished?

A. 1861
B. 1892
C. 1869
D. 1845

4 The Pacific Railroad Act became law in what year?

A. 1874
B. 1826
C. 1869
D. 1862

5 What Native American tribe did Union Pacific hire?

A. Pawnee
B. Iron Horse
C. Sioux
D. Cheyenne

6 What year did the Union Pacific begin laying track?

A. 1827
B. 1886
C. 1865
D. 1802

Digital or print

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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

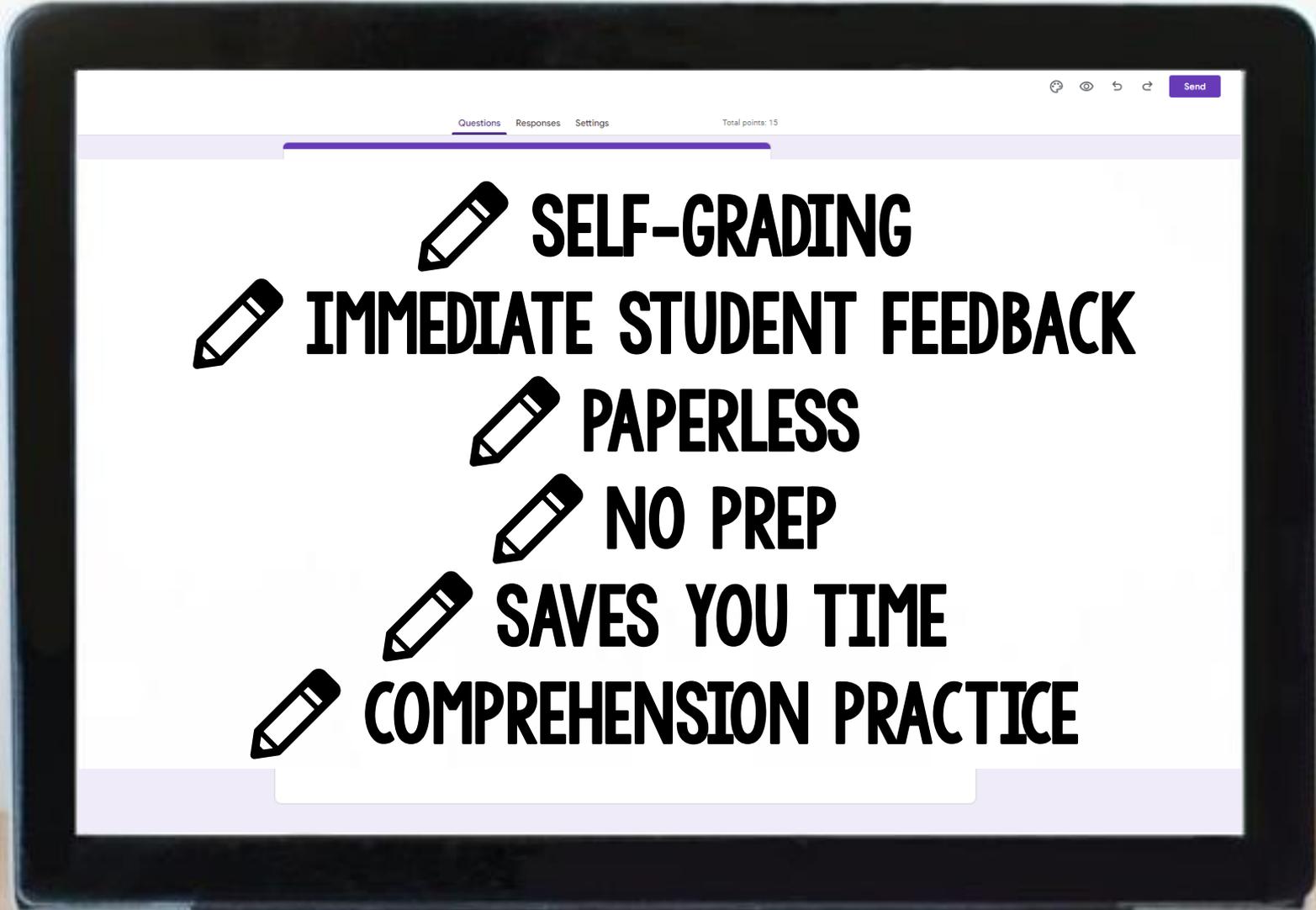
✓ KNOW HOW TO ZOOM IN AND ZOOM OUT TO
ENLARGE OR SHRINK THE SCREEN

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

