

The Gold Rush of 1849 and the Consequences – Homework Part 1

New Learning



Give two inferences you can make from this illustration about the Gold Rush in California in 1849.

The Gold Rush of 1849 and the Consequences - Homework

Another group to go west were the **'forty-niners'** – gold miners seeking wealth after the discovery of gold in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. Prior to the discovery of gold, only 5,000 people had used the trail to head west. From 1849 onwards, tens of thousands used the trail in the hope of finding gold. Thousands more came by ship, especially from China. A rebellion and a famine there were push factors in making people leave. The population of California rocketed to nearly 250,000 by 1852.



Date	Population
Feb 1849	54
Jan 1850	791
Dec 1850	4,000
Dec 1851	6,500
Dec 1852	25,000

Estimated Chinese
Population figures for
California



Gold Ingots this size and weight was what every prospector wanted to find!



Panning for Gold in the streams of California could yield much smaller sized pieces.



Some people only found small flecks of gold.



Most found nothing at all....

Soon all the surface gold had gone and proper mining companies moved in to mine much deeper below ground to find gold. This meant individuals were very unlikely to 'strike it lucky' after the early 1850s.

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The early mining settlements were just camps, they later developed into towns. They were often full of disappointed miners who had failed to make their fortunes. This would have serious consequences for law and order.

The early camps were usually isolated in the mountains, a long way from the reach of the law.

Mining camps were almost all male and violence, fuelled by alcohol and fights over cards and prostitutes was common.

Outlaws and conmen targeted miners who did make money and swindled those who failed to strike it lucky.

Lawlessness in early towns and settlements

Racist crimes increased especially against Californian Indians and Chinese migrants. White Americans often murdered the Californian Indians with no fear of any consequence.

Laws were passed that discriminated against Chinese migrants. They were taxed more and they along, with black Americans and American Indians, were not allowed to be witnesses in court.

Claim jumping- when one man took over another man's claim to land caused big problems as there was no law regulating mining until 1866.

With no effective law enforcement, vigilante committees formed to 'sort out' criminals without using the law.

Gangs formed from returning disappointed miners, especially in San Francisco. Murder, theft and violence was common.

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Other consequences from the Gold Rush

Due to the huge increase in population, California joins the USA and becomes a state in 1855

Many people see this rapid increase in the white population of the USA as the justification of the 'Manifest Destiny' idea and it coming true.

Tensions with the Plains Indians increase as more and more people use the Oregon Trail to reach California and disrupt the Buffalo herds and Indian way of life.

Profits from the gold from California helps fund the railways (more of that later)

The Genocide* of Californian Indians by migrants.
(* The deliberate killing of large numbers of people due to their ethnicity.)

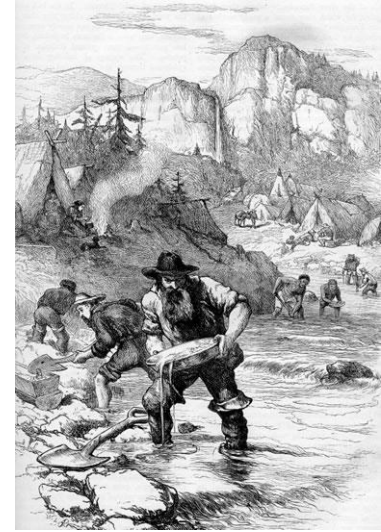
Objective: To understand the consequences of the Gold Rush of 1849

Tasks:

- Complete the inference question.
- Read the power point through carefully
- Take notes on **The Consequences of the 1849 Gold Rush.** (In whatever manner suits you.)
- Answer the following exam question:
- **Explain two consequences of the discovery of gold in California in 1848.** (see next slide for guidance on this type of question)

Q1: Explain TWO consequences of...

This question requires you to focus on the **CONSEQUENCES**, the results of the event or development specified. You are required to identify a consequence, illustrate it with evidence and briefly explain the importance of the consequence. THINK -did things improve or worsen as a result? Try to keep your answer fairly brief however, each consequence is worth just 4 marks.



The 4 mark describe questions – Homework Part 2 Old Learning - Elizabeth.

- **Answer the following 4 questions ON PAPER or in back of American West book**

- 1) Describe two features of the Elizabethan religious settlement.
- 2) Describe two features of Elizabethan government.
- 3) Describe two features of Elizabethan theatre.
- 4) Describe two features of the plots against Elizabeth I in the years 1571—86.

1) Describe two features of the Elizabethan religious settlement.

One feature of the Elizabethan settlement was that it was a compromise, designed to try and ensure both Protestants and Catholics could live with it. One feature of this was Elizabeth calling herself Supreme Governor of the Church. It meant she expected people to be loyal to her but by avoiding calling herself head of the church she would hope to avoid provoking the Catholics.

A second feature was the Act of Uniformity. This made it clear how churches should look and what style of service should be given. For example to try and appease the Catholics, some modest decoration and hymns were allowed.

2) Describe two features of Elizabethan government.

One important feature of Elizabeth's government was the Privy Council. These were members of the nobility who helped govern the country. There were approximately nineteen privy councillors, the most senior one being Sir Robert Cecil.

A second feature of Elizabeth's government was Parliament. It could only be called and dismissed by the monarch. Elizabeth tried to do without Parliament where possible. She only called it ten times during her reign. She did need them for extra taxes and to pass new laws, however.

3) Describe two features of Elizabethan theatre.

One key feature of Elizabethan theatre is that they were new. At the start of Elizabeth's reign, no permanent theatres existed, instead groups of actors, known as players went from town to town performing shows. By the end of Elizabeth's reign there were three purpose built theatres in London.

A second feature was that they were popular with all classes in society. Entrance fees were relatively cheap so most people could afford to go. Richer customers paid for seats under the covered gallery or even on the side of the stage so they could be seen as much as get a good view.

4) Describe two features of the plots against Elizabeth I in the years 1571—86.

One feature of the plots against Elizabeth during these years is that they were all Catholic plots with the backing of the Pope and Phillip of Spain. They planned to rescue Mary, Queen of Scots, depose Elizabeth and replace her with Mary.

A second feature is that they all failed. In each case the plot was uncovered before it got underway. This was partly down to Sir Francis Walsingham who was Elizabeth's spy master general and had a variety of methods of monitoring and uncovering plots including having spies and informers.