

# U.S. HISTORY STUDY GUIDE

## CHAPTER 9: MANIFEST DESTINY, 1800-1850

### GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE (YOUR OBJECTIVES FOR THIS CHAPTER):

**SSUSH8 Explore the relationship between slavery, growing north-south divisions, and westward expansion that led to the outbreak of the Civil War.**

- a. Explain the impact of the Missouri Compromise on the admission of states from the Louisiana Territory.
- b. Examine James K. Polk's presidency in the fulfillment of Manifest Destiny including the Texas annexation and Oregon.
- c. Analyze the impact of the Mexican War on growing sectionalism.
- d. Explain how the Compromise of 1850 arose out of territorial expansion and population growth.

### KEY TERMS AND NAMES

**Alamo** location of famous battle lost by Texas settlers rebelling against Mexico

**Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna** Mexican general during the war between Mexico and the U.S.

**autonomy** independent control over one's own affairs

**Brigham Young** leader of Mormon exodus to the Great Salt Lake

**California Gold Rush** mass migration of fortune-seekers hunting for gold after its discovery in 1849

**expansionist** someone who advocates increasing the nation's territory

**Forty-Niners** people who sought fortunes during the California Gold Rush

**Gadsden Purchase** strip of south-western land purchased from Mexico in 1853

**Great Salt Lake** location of Mormon settlement in present-day Utah

**hydraulic mining** use of water forced into hillsides to create sluices and expose gold

**James K. Polk** U.S. President who advocated an expansionist policy

**Junipero Serra** Spanish priest who founded a number of missions in California

**Lone Star Republic** nation formed by Texans who declared independence from Mexico in 1835

**Manifest Destiny** the belief that it was God's plan for Americans settle North America from coast to coast

**Missouri Compromise** 1820 agreement calling for the admission of Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state, and banning slavery in the Louisiana Purchase territory north of the 36°30'N latitude

**mountain men** name for trappers who explored the Rocky Mountains during the early 19th century

**Oregon Trail** famous 19th century pioneer trail leading from Missouri to the Pacific Coast

**placer mining** use of hand tools and pans to mine gold from rivers and streams

**Sam Houston** leader of Texas rebellion at the Battle of San Jacinto

**Santa Fe Trail** path developed by traders from Missouri to New Mexico

**Stephen F. Austin** leader of American emigrants to Mexico; namesake of present-day capital of Texas

**Treaty of Fort Laramie** 1851 agreement that restricted Native Americans from major western trails

**Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** 1848 agreement that ended the Mexican War

**Wilmot Proviso** failed plan to disallow slavery in territory gained from Mexico

**Winfield Scott** U.S. general and hero of the Mexican War who led his troops from Veracruz to Mexico City

**Zachary Taylor** U.S. military leader during the Mexican War who was later elected President

### KEY THEMES, CONCEPTS, AND EVENTS: MANIFEST DESTINY, TERRITORIAL EXPANSION AND WAR WITH MEXICO

- **Manifest Destiny** was the idea that God had given the continent to Americans and wanted them to settle the west.
- **The Midwest and Great Plains**
  - In the early 1800s, squatters settled land they did not own in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, & Wisconsin.
  - The Preemption Act of 1830 allowed squatters to buy up to 160 acres of land at \$1.25 per acre.
  - Midwestern land previously considered bad for farming became valuable after invention of metal plows & mechanical reaper.
- **Oregon**
  - The area was almost completely British until American missionaries arrived in the 1830s.
  - Large numbers of Americans sought farmland in southern Oregon in 1840.
  - "Fifty-four Forty or Fight" was a slogan used to support the U.S. claim to the Oregon territory up to the 54°40' north latitude.
  - The U.S. and Great Britain divided the territory peacefully, by treaty, in 1846 without conflict.
- **Texas and the Southwest**
  - Mexico encouraged Americans and others to populate Texas, and many did so.
  - Under Santa Anna, Mexico passed strict laws against American immigrants, which led to Texas's war for independence.
  - The Americans lost battles at the Alamo & Goliad, but won the war and declared Texas to be an independent republic.
  - As the "Lone Star Republic," Texas created a constitution, legalized slavery, & established diplomatic relations with the U.S.
  - Congress voted by joint resolution to annex Texas in 1845, and the Texas republic voted their consent.
  - **The War with Mexico (1846-1848)**
    - Causes: Annexation of Texas, boundary disputes over Texas' southern border, and the attempt to purchase California
    - Results: the U.S. won the war and made peace with Mexico in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848) provided that:
      1. Mexico cede areas that became California, Utah, Nevada and parts of New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado & Wyoming;

2. The Rio Grande River was recognized by both sides as the southern border of Texas;
  3. The U.S. paid Mexico \$15 million and assumed \$3.25 million in Mexican debt.
- Note: The **Wilmot Proviso** (1846) was a failed attempt in Congress to disallow slavery in any land gained from Mexico.
  - **California**
    - The territory was a part of Mexico where many Americans settled even though the local government was suspicious of them.
    - The United States tried to purchase California from Mexico, but the Mexican government refused to sell.
    - Settlers overthrew local government in 1846, formed the Bear Flag Republic; U.S. troops took over during the Mexican War.
    - Discovery of gold in 1848 led to the “Forty-Niners” Gold Rush of 1849, and California applied to join the U.S. as a free state.
  - **The Compromise of 1850** was a series of Congressional acts that established the following:
    1. California would be admitted as a free state.
    2. The state of New Mexico would be established by carving its borders from the state of Texas.
    3. New Mexico's voters would determine whether the state would permit or prohibit slavery.
    4. All citizens of the United States, regardless of region, would be required to apprehend runaway slaves and return them to their owners. Those who failed to do so would be fined or imprisoned.
    5. The slave trade would be abolished in the District of Columbia, but the practice of slavery would be allowed to continue there.

**SAMPLE ESSAY QUESTIONS: ANSWER IN THREE TO FIVE PARAGRAPHS**

1. What was Manifest Destiny? Who is credited with first using the term? When was it first expressed? What did it mean? (Be very specific.) What examples can you give to show where and how it affected westward expansion of the U.S.?
2. Describe the war with Mexico in the following terms: When did it occur? Who fought on each side? What were its chief causes? How did it start? (Be very specific.) How was it ended? What were its results for all sides?
3. What was the Wilmot Proviso? When was it first proposed and by whom? What did it say? (Be very specific.) Which land areas did it directly address? When, if ever, did it take effect? What significant theme of U.S. history does it reflect? Why was it important?