

BUILD-UP

5. Going West

Western movies, cartoon strips, legendary characters, you certainly know a lot already about the Western Saga. So recall your childhood memories and...

1. Observe these pictures, describe them and say which episode of the Western Saga they illustrate.

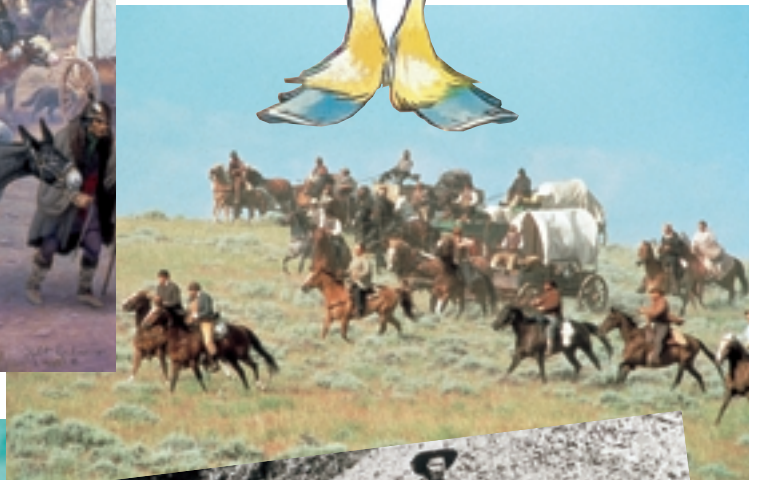
1



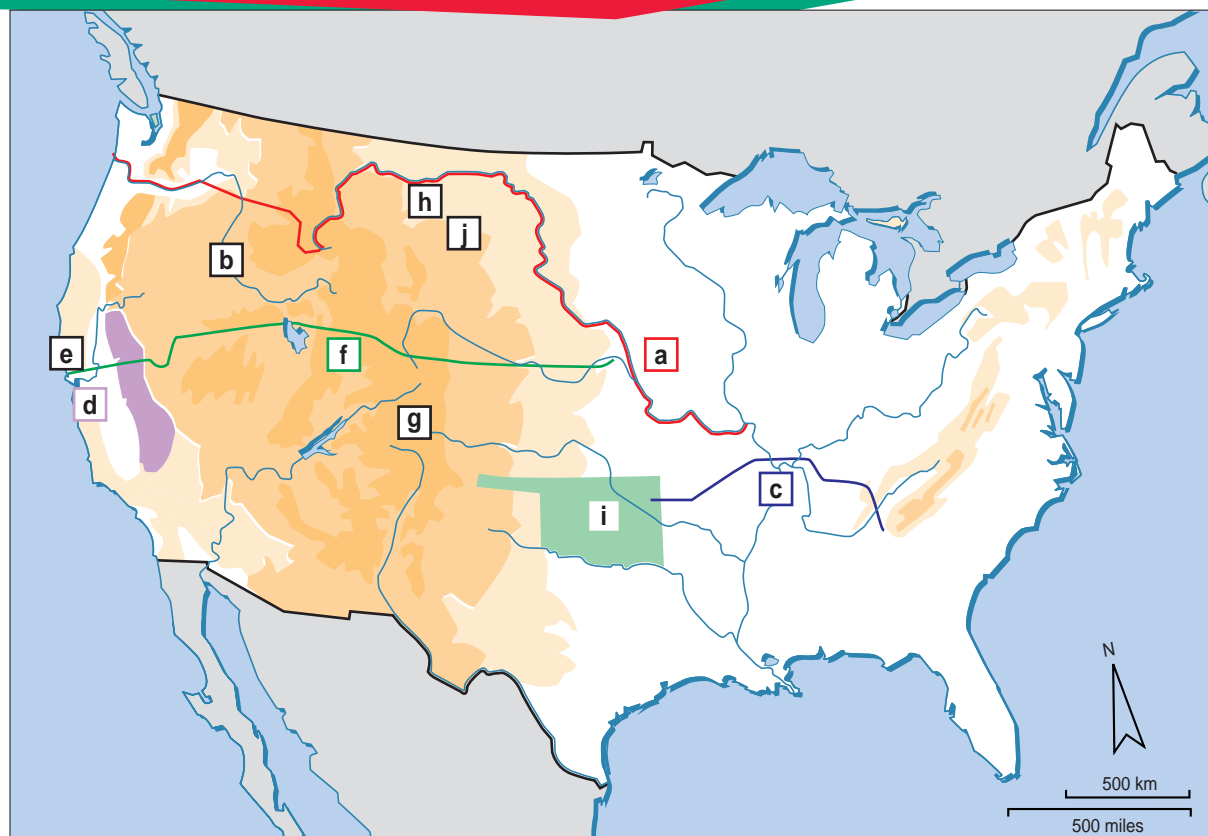
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3



4



2. Read the following list of events which marked the Western Conquest. There is a mistake in each sentence (**not** in the dates). Correct these mistakes with the help of this map of the USA and that at the front of the book. To correct some sentences, you may also have to use a dictionary or an encyclopædia...

- a. Lewis and Clark were the first explorers to cross the American continent: starting from New Orleans, they reached the Pacific Ocean in 1805.
 - b. The first covered wagons crossed the Appalachian Mountains in 1830.
 - c. 18,000 Cherokees were deported from Georgia to the east of Mississippi (now Oklahoma) along the "Trail of Tears" (*La Piste des Larmes*) in 1838. 4000 of them died on the way.
 - d. 1849: Tens of thousands of people flocked to Texas searching for gold: it was "The Gold Rush".
 - e. Levi Strauss imported jeans from Germany and sold them to gold miners.
 - f. The first transcontinental railway was completed in 1869, linking Omaha (Nebraska) to Los Angeles (California).
 - g. In 1867-68, William Cody was hired (*engage*) by the Union Pacific Railroad Company. He earned his nickname (*urnom*), Buffalo Bill, by killing thousands of Indians in Kansas.
 - h. General George Armstrong Custer was killed by Indians (led by Chiefs Sitting Horse and Crazy Bull) at Little Big Horn (former [*ancien*] Dakota Territory, now Montana) in 1876.
 - i. In 1889, Indian Territory was opened to land-hungry people who, in a few hours, settled down in (*occupèrent*) a territory which later became the state of Arkansas: it was the "The Land Rush".
 - j. 1890: The US Cavalry killed 153 Sioux, half of them women and children, at Wounded Knee (South Dakota). It marked the beginning of Indian resistance.
3. Choose one of the episodes of the Western Saga that particularly interests you and prepare an oral report on it. You can work in groups, in pairs or just by yourself.