

Bosses

Language Arts, Week of April 20th

Directions: Read all of the following directions before doing anything. This week you are reading a nonfiction book called *Gold Rush* on Benchmark. To access the book you will read, go to your Clever account and click on Benchmark. Once in Benchmark, you will then click on assignments. Find the book and you can either click audio to have it read to you or read it on your own. Scroll down to the next page for the questions you need to answer after you are done.

As always you may do one of the following to submit your answers and writing prompt.

1. Print questions, take a screenshot, and send to my cell phone at 571-488-5046
2. Type directly into the document. You can highlight answers instead of circling them. Then send through email as an attachment to my email at freedyak@pwcs.edu.

If you need help submitting your answers and writing prompt, please call me and I will be more than happy to walk you through it.

Gold Rush

Chapter 1

1. All of the following support the idea that gold is valuable except...
 - a. Gold is used in computer circuits.
 - b. Jewelry is made out of gold.
 - c. Gold is plentiful.
 - d. Gold is used as money.

2. Compare the price of gold per ounce in recent times to before the gold rush started. What is the difference per ounce?

3. Based on the letter from a miner on page 4, we can infer which of the following?
 - a. He found a lot of gold.
 - b. He did not find a lot of gold.
 - c. He misses his family.
 - d. He will live in Placerville, California.

4. Based on pages 4, which statement is true?
 - a. Most prospectors found gold.
 - b. The people who sold gold mining equipment hardly made money.
 - c. Thousands of people came to places where gold had been discovered.
 - d. Gold mining equipment was expensive.

5. According to the timeline on pages 6 and 7, what happened right before California is admitted to the Union as a nonslave state?
 - a. The Republican party is established.
 - b. 80,000 prospectors went to California in search of gold.
 - c. The Mexican War ends.
 - d. The Civil War begins.

Chapter 2

6. What is the main idea of paragraph 1 on page 9?

- a. Ships traveling from the West Coast to the East Coast took six months.
- b. There were not telegraph lines.
- c. News did not travel fast.
- d. The President told the country there was gold.

7. Which route would take the shortest time to reach California from the East Coast?

- a. Sail around South America.
- b. Sail to Panama, and then cross Panama by wagon or on foot.
- c. Travel by land across the prairies and mountains.
- d. Take a train across the country.

8. If gold seekers choose to take the Panama route, what would they have to do after they sailed to Panama?

- a. They waited for a ship to take them to San Francisco.
- b. They crossed the prairies and mountains.
- c. They traveled by canoe and horse across the land.
- d. They sailed around Cape Horn.

9. What is the main idea on page 12?

- a. New York had cheap food.
- b. Food and supplies in California were high.
- c. Apples sold for \$1 to \$5 each.
- d. Some gold miners made \$8 a day.

10. How was placer mining different from regular mining?

- a. More people became rich with placer mining than regular mining.
- b. Placer mining didn't require much equipment, whereas regular mining did.
- c. Most people did not get rich with either regular and placer mining.
- d. Placer miners looked for gold on land, whereas regular mining looked in the bottoms of rivers and streams for gold.

11. Which statement supports the fact that some people made money during the gold rush but never actually found gold?

- a. Most miners hoped to find gold by placer mining.
- b. Sam Brannan sold shovels to gold seekers.
- c. Some washed sand looking for flecks of gold.
- d. Most miners did not become rich.

12. Based on the side bar on page 14, we can infer Joseph Wood....

- a. found a lot of gold.
- b. was beaten up by other gold seekers.
- c. regretted going to California looking for gold.
- d. was starving and sick.

13. What is the main idea of paragraph 2 on page 15?

- a. The Gold Rush was over.
- b. Most gold was deep into the ground and could only be reached by expensive equipment.
- c. The Gold Rush made California famous.
- d. Johann Sutter's life was ruined.

Chapter 3

14. Which of the following is an effect of the following statement?

The land in Colorado was in rugged mountain areas.

- a. Some outfitters didn't have enough food and water.
- b. Costly equipment was needed to dig into the ground.
- c. Eager gold seekers kept coming in hopes of finding gold.
- d. Companies that could afford equipment made the most money.

15. Using the glossary in the back of the book, what does the word underestimate mean?

Writing Prompt

Read chapter 4 and 5. After reading both chapters, choose **ONE** of them for this writing prompt. After choosing The Comstock Lode **OR** The Klondike, pretend you are newspaper reporter covering the gold rush. Include the following in your report.

- Where was gold discovered (what location)?
- Describe the difficulties gold seekers are experiencing
- Explain whether or not most people found gold.