

Missing Nouns

Name: _____

A noun can be a person, place, thing, or idea. Read the story below. Write an appropriate noun from the word bank onto each blank line to complete the story.

The California Gold Rush

Word Bank

news money treaty food cities frontier rich stores
prices history settlers businesses world metal trains



On January 24, 1948 the _____ of California and the United States would change forever. James Marshall, who worked at a lumber mill near Sacramento, saw some shiny _____ at the mill. It was gold.

California in 1848 was very different than it is now. At that time it was still part of Mexico. It was not until February 1848 that it would become part of the U.S. as part of a peace _____. There were very few _____ in California. There were no _____ from the East Coast to the West Coast. There were very few _____ in the middle of the country.

All that changed when word spread that gold had been found in California. It took a long time for the _____ to reach the rest of the _____. In 1849, however, thousands of people began arriving in California to look for gold and become _____.

There were very few _____, houses or supplies for the new people, who were called "Forty-Niners." Because _____, tools and houses were so hard to find, the _____ for these things became very high. Some people found they could make more _____ selling goods to the miners, rather than mine gold themselves.

The Forty-Niners changed California from a _____ to an important place. It became a U.S. state in 1850. More than 300,000 people had moved there by 1855. San Francisco grew from a town of 500 in 1847 to a city of 150,000 in 1870. The U.S. finished the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869. This connected the railroad tracks in the Eastern U.S. to the West Coast.

When the gold sources ran out quickly, the people of California found other ways to make money. Farming, banking and shipping became a big _____. What had started in a lumber mill would continue to make the state an important part of the U.S.

Missing Nouns

Name: _____ **Key**

A noun can be a person, place, thing, or idea. Read the story below. Write an appropriate noun from the word bank onto each blank line to complete the story.

The California Gold Rush

Word Bank

news money treaty food cities frontier rich stores
prices history settlers businesses world metal trains



On January 24, 1948 the history of California and the United States would change forever. James Marshall, who worked at a lumber mill near Sacramento, saw some shiny metal at the mill. It was gold.

California in 1848 was very different than it is now. At that time it was still part of Mexico. It was not until February 1848 that it would become part of the U.S. as part of a peace treaty. There were very few settlers in California. There were no trains from the East Coast to the West Coast. There were very few cities in the middle of the country.

All that changed when word spread that gold had been found in California. It took a long time for the news to reach the rest of the world. In 1849, however, thousands of people began arriving in California to look for gold and become rich.

There were very few stores, houses or supplies for the new people, who were called "Forty-Niners." Because food, tools and houses were so hard to find, the prices for these things became very high. Some people found they could make more money selling goods to the miners, rather than mine gold themselves.

The Forty-Niners changed California from a frontier to a important place. It became a U.S. state in 1850. More than 300,000 people had moved there by 1855. San Francisco grew from a town of 500 in 1847 to a city of 150,000 in 1870. The U.S. finished the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869. This connected the railroad tracks in the Eastern U.S. to the West Coast.

When the gold sources ran out quickly, the people of California found other ways to make money. Farming, banking and shipping became a big business. What had started in a lumber mill would continue to make the state an important part of the U.S.