**Westward Expansion**

What is cultural assimilation?

Were the Native Americans expected to assimilate? Why or why not? (Please include THREE specific historical facts to support your argument)

What is ONE population of people in modern America that you believe are expected to assimilate? What is one example of how this is happening?

Please choose TWO of the following essential questions to answer. There is no wrong or right answer to these questions. However, I expect your answers to be thoughtful and your reasoning explained, and that is what you will be graded on.

*When is it acceptable for a population to expand into another’s land?*

*To what extent should a minority population be expected to assimilate?*

*Should the government be allowed to intervene in cultural identity?*

**Gilded Age**

What was the Gilded Age?

At the turn of the 20th century, was America “gilded”? Why or why not? (Please include FOUR specific historical facts to support your argument)

Identify two “gilded” aspects of modern America. Compare and contrast how these aspects look to outsiders and how they look once on the inside. Do these aspects of society have to look like this in order to function? Why or why not?

What is nativism?

Who were the nativists in the Gilded Age? What is one specific action they took to further the nativist agenda?

Are there nativists in modern America? What do they want and why do you believe they think this way? What, perhaps, has created this mindset?

Please choose TWO of the following essential questions to answer on the next page. There is no wrong or right answer to these questions. However, I expect your answers to be thoughtful and your reasoning explained, and that is what you will be graded on.

*Should human settlement continue to urbanize?*

*Is new technology always better than that which it replaces?*

*What should human progress look like?*

*What motivates or accelerates technological advances?*

*Is it necessary for one’s government to interfere with the economy?*

*To what extent should a country restrict immigration?*