

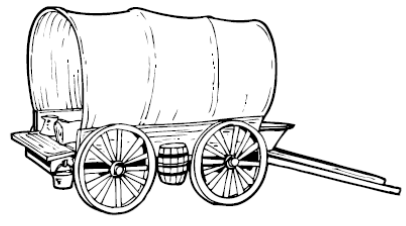
Test 14



Flash! Watch out for a comma (,) or a dash (—). They can be signals that tell you the meaning of an unfamiliar word that is coming up.

Directions: Read the sentences and then write the meaning of the word.

Moving West



During the 1800s, people called “pioneers” moved west to start a new life. At that time, most of the western lands were still territories—U. S. lands that were not yet states.

1. Territories means _____

Some pioneers moved west so they could claim land. If they lived on a piece of land for a few years they could get title, or ownership, to that land.

2. Title means _____

Pioneers used oxen, horses, and mules to pull their covered wagons. Mules were strong and moved fast. The trouble with mules was that sometimes they stampeded, or ran off in panic, and left their owners stranded.

3. Stampeded means _____

Pioneers traveled in groups called “wagon trains”. Each wagon train had a captain. The captain decided who would be the outriders—men who kept an eye out for trouble. The captain also decided where the wagon train stopped to camp at night.

4. Outriders means _____

Thousands of heavy wagons traveled the trails west year after year. The wagons carved ruts, or deep grooves, into the trails. In some parts of the western U. S. today, those ruts are still faintly visible on the land.

5. Ruts means _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answers

1. Ū. S. lands that are not states
2. ownership of land
3. ran in panic
4. men who keep an eye out for trouble
5. deep grooves