Non-Negotiables: Paper 2 – American West

1	**Q: Why was the buffalo important to the Plains Indians?** A: It provided food, clothing, shelter (tipis), tools, weapons and fuel, making it essential for their survival.
2	**Q: What was Manifest Destiny?** A: The belief that Americans had a God-given right to expand westwards across North America.
3	**Q: Why was the Oregon Trail important?** A: It encouraged large numbers of settlers to migrate west from 1836 onwards
4	**Q: Why was the California Gold Rush important?** A: It attracted thousands of migrants, led to the rapid growth of mining settlements, increased conflict with Native Americans and helped speed up the development of the West.
5	**Q: What was the Permanent Indian Frontier?** A: Land west of the Mississippi that the US government promised would belong to Native Americans.
6	**Q: Why was the First Fort Laramie Treaty (1851) significant?** A: It attempted to guarantee Native American control of the Plains while allowing settlers safe passage west.
7	**Q: What did the Homestead Act (1862) provide?** A: 160 acres of land to settlers who lived on and improved it for five years
8	**Q: Why was the Pacific Railroad Act (1862) important?** A: It led to the construction of the First Transcontinental Railroad
9	**Q: Why was the Transcontinental Railroad important?** A: It made travel and trade much faster, encouraged settlement, helped the cattle industry grow and increased pressure on Native American land.
10	**Q: Why was Joseph McCoy important?** A: He developed Abilene, Kansas, into a major cattle town and railroad centre.
11	**Q: Why was Red Cloud's War (1866–68) important?** A: It was one of the few Native American wars that ended in a Native victory over the US government.
12	**Q: What did the Second Fort Laramie Treaty (1868) establish?** A: The Great Sioux Reservation, including the Black Hills
13	**Q: What happened at the Battle of the Little Bighorn (1876)?** A: Sioux and Cheyenne warriors defeated Geeral Custer and the US 7th Cavalry.
14	**Q: What was the purpose of the Dawes Act (1887)?** A: To break up tribal land and encourage Native Americans to adopt a settled farming lifestyle.
15	**Q: Why is Wounded Knee (1890) significant?** A: It marked the final destruction of armed Native American resistance on the Plains.

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