

Paired / Research

Today you will research the Gold Rush in the late 1800s. You will read the article "Klondike Gold Rush." Then you will read a passage from *A Woman Who Went to Alaska* and view the video *City of Gold*. As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about the authors' points of view and the way they present information so you can write an essay.

Read the article "Klondike Gold Rush." Then answer the questions.

Klondike Gold Rush

Yukon Territory 1897

- 1 The Klondike gold rush began in July of 1897 when two ships docked in San Francisco and Seattle carrying miners returning from the Yukon with bags of gold. The press was alerted and papers carried the story to the masses.
- 2 Soon, miners of all shapes and sizes, called "stampedeers," were on their way to the gold fields. Within six months, approximately 100,000 gold-seekers set off for the Yukon. Only 30,000 completed the trip.
- 3 Most stampedeers knew little or nothing about where they were going, so pamphlets were available to help them on their way. Many of the pamphlets contained little or no real information and made outrageous claims of wealth to be had by everyone. Outfitters sprang up overnight that were happy to sell the stampedeers whatever they needed to get started. This included food, clothing, tools, and camping, mining and transportation equipment. Helping the outfitters in this regard were the Northwest Mounted Police who required all stampedeers to have one year's supply of goods before they allowed them across the border into Canada. This was roughly one ton of goods per person. Towns such as Seattle made fortunes outfitting the miners.
- 4 The easiest and more expensive route to the gold fields was by boat upstream from the mouth of the Yukon in western Alaska. The most difficult route was the "All Canadian Route" from Edmonton and overland through the wilderness.
- 5 The most common route taken by the stampedeers to reach the fields was by boat from the west coast of the continental U.S. to Skagway in Alaska, over the Chilkoot or White Passes to the Yukon River at Whitehorse and then by boat 500 miles to Dawson City.

6 The Chilkoot Pass trail was steep and hazardous. Rising 1,000 feet in the last ½ mile, it was known as the "golden staircase": 1,500 steps carved out of snow and ice worked their way to the top of the pass. Too steep for packhorses, stampedeers had to "cache" their goods, moving their equipment piecemeal up the mountain. Stampedeers who gave up often did it here, discarding their unneeded equipment on the side of the trail.

7 Conditions on the White Pass trail were even more horrendous. Steep, narrow and slick, over 3,000 pack animals died on the trail causing it to be dubbed the "dead horse trail."

8 Those who made it across the passes found themselves at Bennett Lake. Here, boats had to be built to run the final 500 miles down the Yukon River to the gold fields. A three week trip, the miners had to survive many sets of rapids before making it to Dawson City. Many miners lost their lives or their possessions when their boats broke up in the rapids.

9 Those who survived the perilous journey mostly found disappointment once they reached Dawson City. Locals had already claimed all of the gold-bearing creeks and claims of "gold for the taking" were grossly exaggerated. Many stampedeers headed home, some worked for others on the claims, and still others stayed to work in Dawson City.

10 The work that was necessary to retrieve the gold was incredible. Most of the gold was not at the surface, but rather 10 or more feet below. To reach it, the miners had to dig through the permafrost—the layer of permanently frozen ground. The ground had to be thawed before it could be dug. Then the dirt had to be sluiced to separate it from the gold. All digging had to be done during the summer as it was impossible to dig in the winter when temperatures could reach -60°F. It was incredibly difficult work.

11 The biggest boom to hit this part of the world was a huge bust for the miners. The only ones to strike it rich were the merchants and profiteers who took advantage of those who hoped to "get rich quick."

"The Klondike Gold Rush"—Public Domain

Item: 4161_A

Associated Text: "The Klondike Gold Rush"

Part A

In paragraph 2, what does the phrase **miners of all shapes and sizes** mean?

- A. Many people were invited.
- B. People with supplies traveled to the Yukon.
- C. People experienced discrimination.
- D. Many types of people traveled to the Yukon.

Part B

What additional idea does the reader understand from the phrase in Part A?

- A. a large number of miners arrived
- B. most miners had gold field experience
- C. a large number of miners were rejected
- D. most miners could handle the hard labor

Item: 4735_A

Associated Text: "The Klondike Gold Rush"

Part A

What is the meaning of **pamphlets** as it is used in paragraph 3 of "Klondike Gold Rush"?

- A. tokens for miners
- B. stocked wagons
- C. guides for miners
- D. camping kits

Part B

Which detail from paragraph 3 helps the reader understand the meaning of **pamphlets**?

- A. "Most stampeders knew little or nothing about where they were going"
- B. "This included food, clothing, tools, and camping, mining and transportation equipment."
- C. "Helping the outfitters in this regard were the Northwest Mounted Police"
- D. "This was roughly one ton of goods per person."

Part A

Based on the information from "Klondike Gold Rush," which sentence states a central idea of the article?

- A. Most miners were pleased with the outcome of the gold rush.
- B. Most miners labored hard for very little gain.
- C. Work in the Yukon Territory was worth the danger of traveling there.
- D. The gold rush hurt many small businesses.

Part B

Which **two** sentences from the article provide the **best** evidence for the answer in Part A?

- A. "Outfitters sprang up overnight that were happy to sell the stampedeers whatever they needed to get started." (paragraph 3)
- B. "Towns such as Seattle made fortunes outfitting the miners." (paragraph 3)
- C. "Those who made it across the passes found themselves at Bennett Lake." (paragraph 8)
- D. "Many stampedeers headed home, some worked for others on the claims, and still others stayed to work in Dawson City." (paragraph 9)
- E. "The work that was necessary to retrieve the gold was incredible." (paragraph 10)
- F. "The biggest boom to hit this part of the world was a huge bust for the miners." (paragraph 11)

Item: 4737_A

Associated Text: "The Klondike Gold Rush"

Part A

Based on evidence in the article, why did so few miners stay in the Klondike to mine gold after arriving?

- A. The conditions for mining were difficult.
- B. Many laws outlawed miners.
- C. The lack of wildlife made mining nearly impossible.
- D. The value of gold dropped significantly.

Part B

Which detail from the article supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "Helping the outfitters in this regard were the Northwest Mounted Police" (paragraph 3)
- B. "The Chilkoot Pass trail was steep and hazardous." (paragraph 6)
- C. "Here, boats had to be built" (paragraph 8)
- D. "Most of the gold was not at the surface" (paragraph 10)

Item: 4738_A

Associated Text : "The Klondike Gold Rush"

Part A

Based on the information in "Klondike Gold Rush," how did **most** miners reach the Yukon territory?

- A. by boat and by train
- B. by train and using pack animals
- C. by boat and by walking overland
- D. by train and by walking overland

Part B

Which paragraph offers evidence for the answer to Part A?

- A. paragraph 2
- B. paragraph 5
- C. paragraph 9
- D. paragraph 10

Item: 4785_A

Associated Text: "The Klondike Gold Rush"

Part A

How does the author **mainly** organize paragraphs 1 and 2 in the article "Klondike Gold Rush"?

- A. chronological order
- B. cause and effect
- C. problem and solution
- D. compare and contrast

Part B

Which description **best** illustrates how the structure in Part A is achieved?

- A. "The Klondike gold rush began in July of 1897. . . ." (paragraph 1)
- B. "The press was alerted. . ." (paragraph 1)
- C. ". . . miners of all shapes and sizes . . ." (paragraph 2)
- D. "Only 30,000 completed the trip." (paragraph 2)

Today you will research the Gold Rush in the late 1800s. You will read the article "Klondike Gold Rush." Then you will read a passage from *A Woman Who Went to Alaska* and view the video *City of Gold*. As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about the authors' points of view and the way they present information so you can write an essay.

Read the passage from the book *A Woman Who Went to Alaska*. Then answer the questions.

from *A Woman Who Went to Alaska*

by May Kellogg Sullivan

THE RUSH.

- 1 Since the discovery of gold by George Carmack on Bonanza Creek in September 1896, the growth of this country has been phenomenal, more especially so to one who has visited and is familiar with Dawson and the Klondyke mining section.
- 2 As to the entire yield of gold from the Klondyke Creeks, none can say except approximately, for the ten percent royalty imposed by the Canadian government has always met a phase of human nature which prompts to concealment and dishonesty, so that a truthful estimate cannot be made.
- 3 The Canadian Dominion government is very oppressive. Mining laws are very arbitrary and strictly enforced. A person wishing to prospect for gold must first procure a miner's license, paying ten dollars for it. If anything is discovered, and he wishes to locate a claim, he visits the recorder's office, states his business, and is told to call again. In the meantime, men are sent to examine the locality and if anything of value is found, the man wishing to record the claim is told that it is already located. The officials seize it. The man has no way of ascertaining if the land was properly located, and so has no redress. If the claim is thought to be poor, he can locate it by the payment of a fifteen dollar fee.
- 4 One half of all mining land is reserved for the crown, a quarter or more is gobbled by corrupt officials, and a meager share left for the daring miners who, by braving hardship and death, develop the mines and open up the country.

5 "Any one going into the country has no right to cut wood for any purpose, or to kill any game or catch any fish, without a license for which a fee of ten dollars must be paid. With such a license it is unlawful to sell a stick of wood for any purpose, or a pound of fish or game." The law is strictly enforced. To do anything, one must have a special permit, and for every such permit he must pay roundly.

6 The story is told of a miner in a hospital who was about to die. He requested that the Governor be sent for. Being asked what he wanted with the Governor, he replied: "I haven't any permit, and if I should undertake to die without a permit, I should get myself arrested."

7 It is a well-known fact that many claims on Eldorado, Hunker and Bonanza Creeks have turned out hundreds of thousands of dollars. One pan of gravel on Eldorado Creek yielded \$2,100. Frank Dinsmore on Bonanza Creek took out ninety pounds of solid gold or \$24,480 in a single day. On Aleck McDonald's claim on Eldorado, one man shoveled in \$20,000 in twelve hours. McDonald, in two years, dug from the frozen ground \$2,207,893. Charley Anderson, on Eldorado, panned out \$700 in three hours. T.S. Lippy is said to have paid the Canadian government \$65,000 in royalties for the year 1898 and Clarence Berry about the same.

8 On Skukum Gulch \$30,000 were taken from two boxes of dirt. Frank Phiscator of Michigan, after a few months' work, brought home \$100,000 in gold, selling one-third of his claim interests for \$1,333,000, or at the rate of \$5,000,000 for the whole.

9 When a man is compelled to pay one thousand dollars out of every ten thousand he digs from the ground, he will boast little of large "clean-ups"; and for this reason it is hard to estimate the real amount of gold extracted from the Klondyke mines.

"A Woman Who Went to Alaska"—Public Domain

Item: 4167_A

Associated Text: "A Woman Who Went to Alaska"

Part A

As used in paragraph 3 of the passage from *A Woman Who Went to Alaska*, what is the meaning of the word **oppressive**?

- A. unjustly harsh
- B. occasionally flexible
- C. unexpectedly angry
- D. appropriately demanding

Part B

Which phrase from paragraph 3 in the passage from *A Woman Who Went to Alaska* helps the reader understand the meaning of the word **oppressive**?

- A. "... Canadian Dominion government ..."
- B. "... arbitrary and strictly enforced ..."
- C. "... prospect for gold ..."
- D. "... he visits the recorder's office ..."

Item: 4169_A

Associated Text: "A Woman Who Went to Alaska"

Part A

Which statement **best** describes the Canadian government's treatment of the miners in the passage from *A Woman Who Went to Alaska*?

- A. a controlling government that takes advantage of the miners
- B. a fair government that wants the miners to succeed without assistance
- C. a disorganized government that fails to set appropriate rules for the miners
- D. an irresponsible government that is indifferent to the miners

Part B

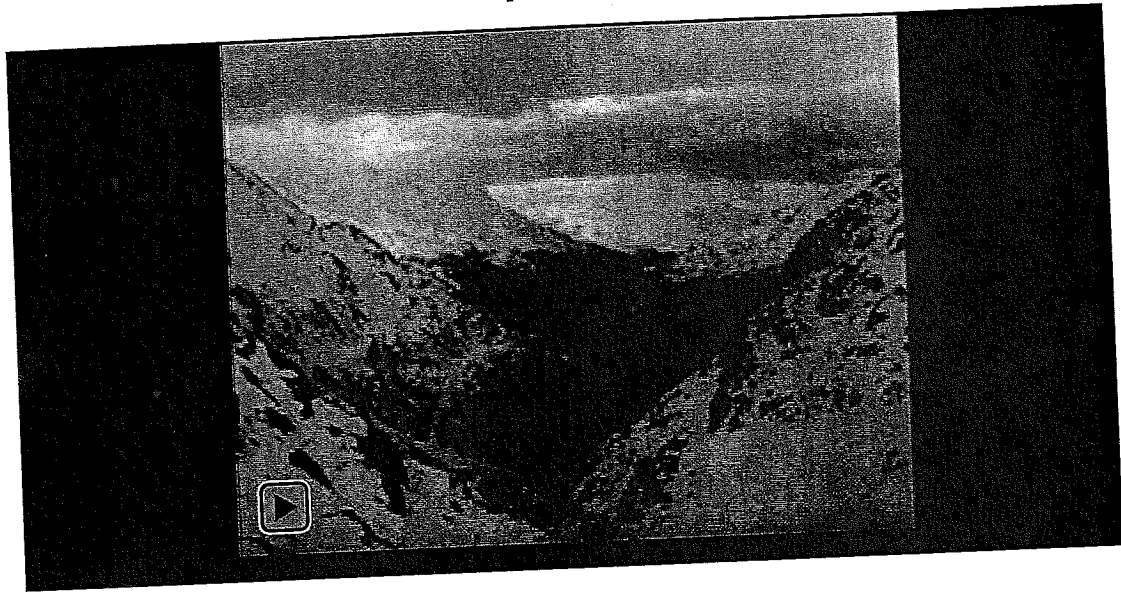
Which **three** actions does the government take that provide evidence for the answer to Part A?

- A. charging high taxes on mined gold
- B. encouraging fishing and hunting
- C. enforcing a nightly curfew
- D. requiring multiple licenses and permits
- E. seizing property known to contain gold
- F. assisting newcomers seeking a claim
- G. banning the use of explosives

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View the video *City of Gold*. Then answer the questions.

City of Gold



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Item: 4173_A

Associated Text: "City of Gold"

Part A

What are the **most likely** reasons the narrator mentions that his father was a part of the gold rush? Select **two** answers.

- A. It explains that the narrator respects his family.
- B. It shows the extent to which the narrator values history.
- C. It helps the reader understand the narrator's life.
- D. It reveals a connection between the narrator and the miners.
- E. It highlights the impact of the experience on a specific person.
- F. It emphasizes that there were a large number of miners with families.

Part B

Which words from the video provide the **best** evidence for the answers to Part A?

- A. "Beyond mountains . . . the cry was gold." [0:11]
- B. "Scarcely any of these men were miners. Most were white collar workers." [0:42]
- C. "All of them had one idea . . . they were going to be rich" [0:51]
- D. "The Chilkoot Pass. This scene above all others remained in my father's mind . . ." [1:07]

Item: 4501

Associated Texts : "The Klondike Gold Rush," "A Woman Who Went to Alaska," and "City of Gold"

The authors of "Klondike Gold Rush" and *A Woman Who Went to Alaska* and the narrator of *City of Gold* are discussing the same topic but are using different points of view.

How does each person's point of view shape the reader's understanding of the miners' lives? Use details from each source to support your answer.

B	<i>I</i>	<u>U</u>	☰	☷	↶	↷