

# American West – Narrative Question Guide

This question is testing your ability to write a historical narrative, in chronological order that explains and links key events together. It is not simply 'write a story'



So to hit Level 3

What do I need to do?

- Pick 3 events to explain in detail (You can use the bullet points and one of your own)
- Write in each paragraph in chronological order and explain how the events link together
- Give specific knowledge
- Use analytical terms

Mark Scheme		
Level	Mark	Descriptor
AO1: Knowledge and understanding of features and characteristics. (4 marks)		
AO2: Analytical narrative (analysis of causation/consequence/ change) (4 marks)		
1	1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple narrative. Little analysis and organisation of events (AO2)</li> <li>• Simple knowledge and understanding (AO1)</li> <li>• MAXIMUM OF 2 MARKS IF NO LINKING OF EVENTS.</li> </ul>
2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sequence of events given which leads to an outcome. Some analysis and links between parts of the narrative. (AO2)</li> <li>• Some specific knowledge (AO1)</li> <li>• MAXIMUM of 4 MARKS IF ONLY 2 EVENTS DISCUSSED.</li> </ul>
3	6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear sequence of events which lead to an outcome. Analyses links between the events and well structured (AO2)</li> <li>• Good knowledge and understanding (AO1)</li> </ul>

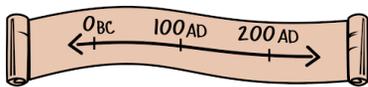


1. First you need to think of three events to discuss – you can use the bullet points to help you must add one of your own
2. Then follow Chronolink for your answer
3. Remember to use analytical language and specific subject knowledge

## Chronolink

### Chrono

Your answer needs to be in chronological order, Think about the order of your 3 paragraphs



### Link

You must link these events together in your answer, how did they affect/cause each other? So as a result of X, Y was possible..



## Analytical Language

Your use of narrative analytical language is essential to success in your answer. It allows you to link events, discuss the importance and consequences

therefore in order to... hence  
Because of this Combined with  
thus This led to As a result

## Example Paragraph

This is one paragraph of the question on the right. The key parts of a top mark paragraph have been identified.



Write a narrative account analysing why Americans went West in the years 1836-49. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Oregon Trail from 1836
- The California Gold Rush 1849

You may also use information of your own

It first became possible to travel West safely after **Jed Smith discovered the Oregon Trail** in **1824** which was quicker than sailing around the American coast. **As a result**, settlers families began to travel to Oregon and California using this trail from **1836** onwards. The opening of the Oregon Trail **increased** further migration West as settlers could bring wagons safely along the trail, in 1843 the first **Great Migration of 900** settlers successful completed the 6 month journey. **Consequently**, over **400,000** settlers used the Oregon Trail over the next 30 years to travel West. **As a consequence of the Oregon Trail**, groups like the **Mormons led by Brigham Young** the trail as part of their **Mormon migration to the Salt Lake Valley in 1846-47**.

### Chrono

The paragraph identifies key events and uses them in chronological order.

### Link

The paragraph links the Oregon Trail to the next event about the Mormon Migration.

### Analytical Language

Narrative language is used to link, show importance, or consequences

### Knowledge

Specific subject knowledge

## Practice Questions

Write a narrative account analysing how the cattle industry developed in the years 1861-72. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Cattle Drives
- Joseph McCoy and Abilene

You may also use information of your own

Write a narrative account analysing how the conflict between Plains Indians and the US government in the years 1876-90. You may use the following in your answer:

- The Battle of Little Bighorn (1876)
- The Ghost Dance (1890)

You may also use information of your own