Scratch Pad

Name _____ Date_____

Instructions: Read the article **"Oregon Trail"** and answer the following questions.

1. Vocabulary in Context: Westward Expansion

Define each term in your own words and draw or describe one small visual that represents it.

Term	Definition (In your words)
Wagon Train	
Emigrant	
Jumping Off	

2. Packing for the Journey

Imagine you're preparing to leave Missouri for Oregon in 1843. Space is limited, so you must pack carefully.

List ten essentials you would bring and explain why each one is important for survival.



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3. Map Sketch – The Road to Oregon

Draw a simple map of the Oregon Trail. Label:

- Missouri (starting point)
- Platte River
- Fort Laramie
- Rocky Mountains
- The Columbia River
- Willamette Valley
- Great Plains
- Oregon Trail

Add symbols or small sketches to mark dangers (storms, rivers, steep passes) and resting points (forts, rivers).



4. Headliner:

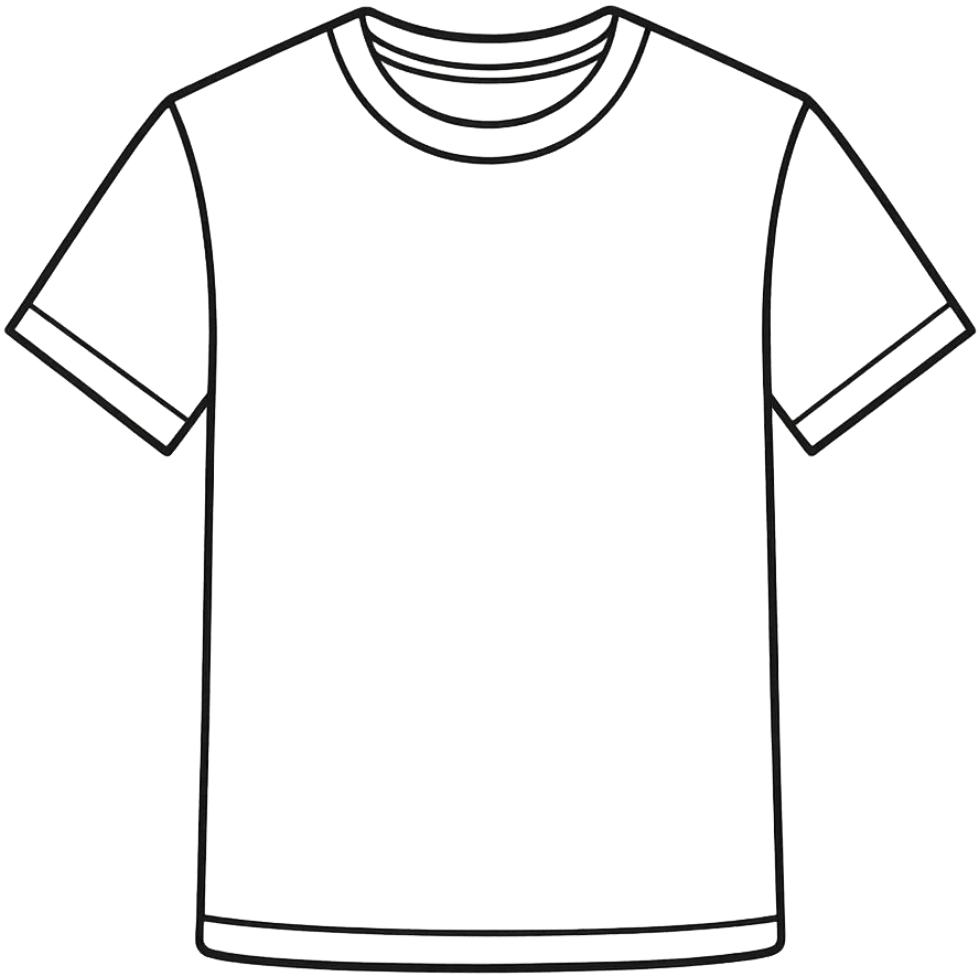
Write a attention grabbing News Headline that connects the Panic of 1837 to Westward Expansion on the Oregon Trail.

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5. Symbol Design – Trail T-Shirt

Design a **T-shirt** that represents life on the Oregon Trail. Include **three symbols** that capture key ideas from the article. Label each symbol with what it stands for.

Example: Wheat stalk → new beginnings

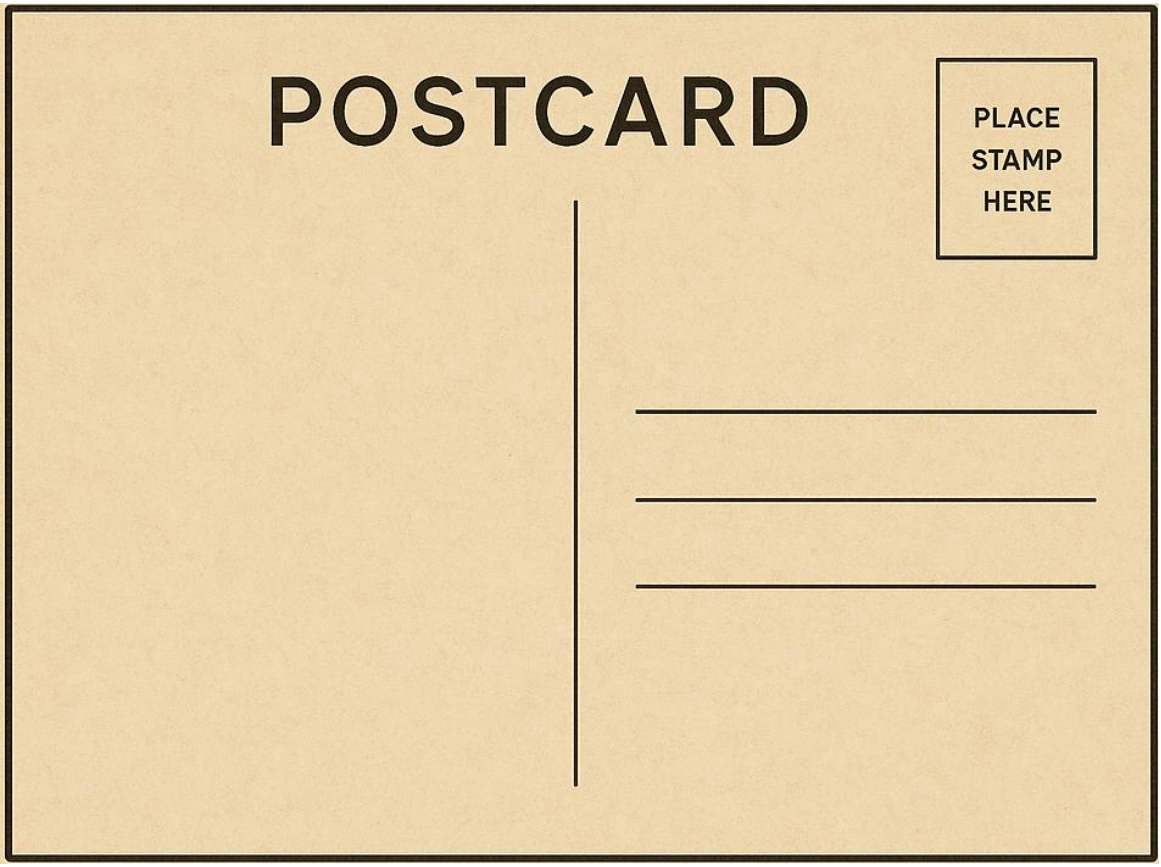


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7. Postcard from the Trail

Write a short postcard home from someone traveling the Oregon Trail.
Describe what you see, what you're eating, or how you're feeling. Be specific and include at least two details from the article.

Front of Postcard: draw your scene
(Example: crossing a river, cooking by the fire, or watching the plains stretch for miles.)



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Back of Postcard:

Describe the typical experience of an emigrant on the Oregon Trail. Things to include: Dangers, Challenges, Work, How long it took, etc.

