

Study Guide



Chapter 10, Section 2

For use with textbook pages 314–319

WESTWARD BOUND

KEY TERMS

census	The official count of the population (<i>page 314</i>)
turnpike	Roads on which travelers pay a toll, or fee (<i>page 315</i>)
canal	An artificial waterway (<i>page 317</i>)
lock	Separate compartments where water levels were raised or lowered (<i>page 318</i>)

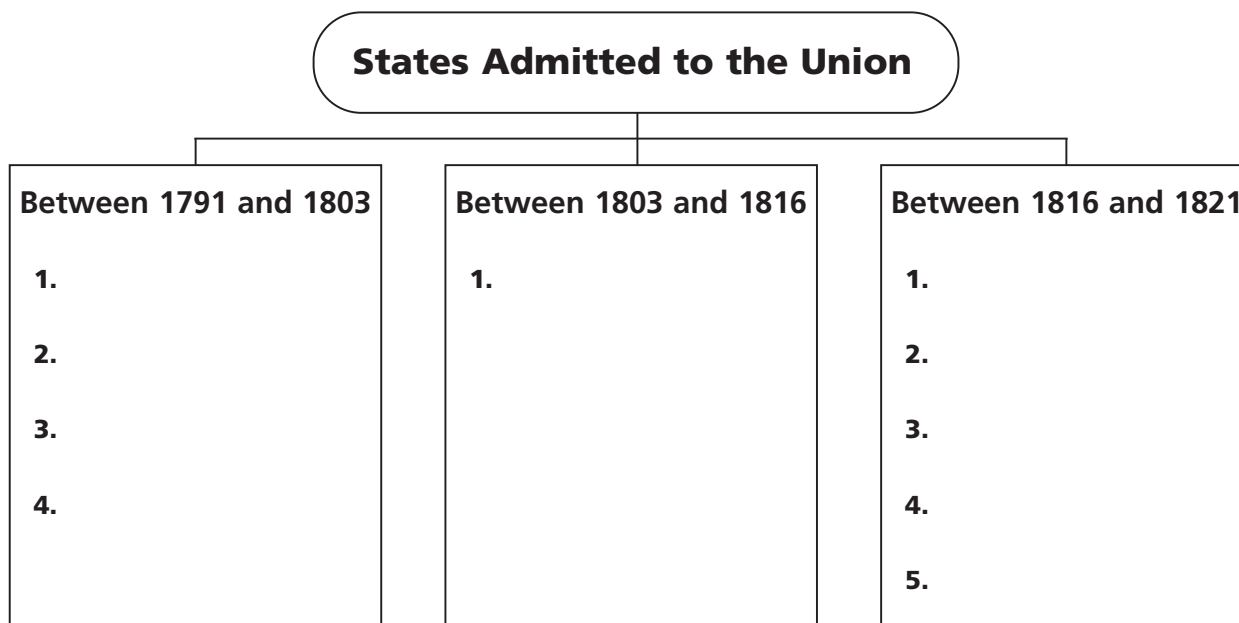
DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

What is the farthest you have ever traveled? What kind of transportation did you use to get there? How long did it take to arrive? Was your trip slow and tiresome?

In the last section, you read about the growth of towns and cities caused by the increase in industry and trade. This section focuses on how the development of transportation systems helped settlement spread westward.

ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the chart below to help you take notes as you read the summaries that follow. Think about the large amounts of land and natural resources available with the territory added to the United States.



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READ TO LEARN

- **Moving West** (pages 314–317)

Between 1790 and 1820, the population of the United States more than doubled. Nearly 4 million people lived in the United States in 1790, according to the first official count of the population, or *census*. In 1820, the United States had about 10 million people. Many more Americans lived west of the Appalachian Mountains in 1820 than in 1790. Brave pioneers made the slow journey west in wagons, taking their household goods with them.

Roads were needed for travel and shipping goods to and from seaports. *Turnpikes*, or roads that charged tolls or fees, were built to connect cities by private companies. They were made of crushed stone, or logs in muddy areas. Rough, dirt roads were also used. Travelers also traveled on rivers in large boats. Ohio, which became a state in 1803, asked Congress to build a road to connect it with the East. Congress approved the National Road to the West in 1806, but the first section, from Maryland to western Virginia, did not open until 1818. Later it was continued to Ohio and Vandalia, Illinois.

River travel was much more comfortable than traveling by wagon, but most rivers in the East flowed north and south. Most Americans traveled east and west. It was also difficult to travel upstream against the strong river currents. Steam engines and steamboats were used in the 1780s and 1790s, but they were not very powerful. Robert Fulton developed a steamboat with a powerful engine in 1807. Fulton's steamboat could travel 150 miles in 32 hours, rather than the usual 4 days. Steamboats changed the transportation of goods and passengers on rivers. They also led to the growth of river cities and towns.

1. How did transportation systems improve in the United States in the early 1800s?

- **Canals** (pages 317–318)

Steamboats improved transportation, yet still had to rely on the direction of the rivers. Leaders in government and business in New York decided to build a *canal*, or artificial waterway, across New York State to connect New York City with the Great Lakes region. As a result, the 363-mile Erie Canal was built by thousands of workers including many Irish immigrants. Separate compartments, or *locks*, were built to raise or lower water levels for boats, as needed. The Erie Canal, completed in 1825, connected the East and the Midwest. Steamboats were banned until the 1840s when the canal banks or sides were reinforced. Many more canals were built in the United States. They united different regions of the United States, lowered the cost of shipping goods, and improved the finances of towns along the rivers.

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2. How did canals improve travel on waterways?

- **Western Settlement** (*pages 319*)

Vermont, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Ohio became states between 1791 and 1803 due increased westward settlement. Travel westward slowed for the next 13 years, due in part to the War of 1812. Louisiana was the only new state added during that time. Travel picked up again between 1816 and 1821. Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Missouri were admitted to the Union. Population growth west of the Appalachian Mountains skyrocketed. Americans settled in communities with others from their home states, often farther away from rivers because of the many canals. Families planned social activities, such as sporting events or quilting and sewing parties. Many social gatherings centered around helping one another with farm work, such as cornhusking.

3. How did the improvement in transportation systems affect Western settlement in the early 1800s?
