



CALIFORNIA TRAIL VOCABULARY

Define the following words that relate to the California Trail

California Trail – a 2000 mile trail facilitating migration of people from the east to California

Cholera – a dangerous infections disease which can kill people in 12 hours

Covered Wagon – a vehicle used to transport goods before the advent of automobiles

Emigrant – a person who leaves one country to settle in another

Frontier – the part of a settled country that lies next to a region that is unsettled

Great Basin – region between the Sierra Nevada and Wasatch Mountains including most of Nevada and parts of California, Idaho, and Utah

Gold Rush – the name used to describe the mass migration of people to California in 1849 after the discovery of gold

Landmark – an object that marks a place

Manifest Destiny – the belief that expansion of the United States was justifiable and inevitable

Migration – the act of moving from one region or country to another

Native American – word used to describe people who lived in America prior to Europeans

Oxen – common domestic cattle used especially for hauling loads

Pioneer – a person who goes into unknown areas, opening up the way for others to follow

Propaganda – an organized spreading of ideas to promote a cause

Using your NEW VOCABULARY, write a story about emigrants on their journey west.