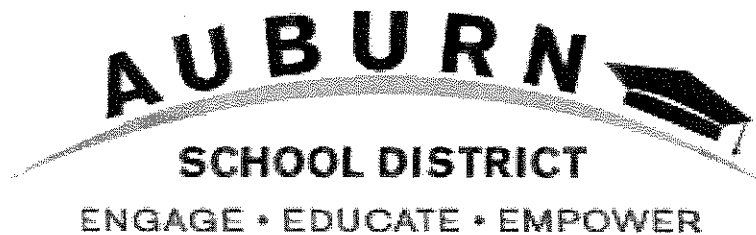


**Grade 4  
ELA - Performance  
Task**

**Guided Practice  
Assessment**

Westward Movement  
Informational



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Grade 4 Performance Task**

### **STUDENT DIRECTIONS:**

#### **Westward Movement Informational Performance Task**

##### **Task:**

Your explorer club is learning about the groups of people that traveled west. You have been chosen to write an article in a newsletter about why people traveled west, the costs and benefits of their decision, and the affects the geographic features had on their travel. Before you decide what group of people you will write about, you do some research and read journal entries of Lewis and Clark, one poem about a pioneer on the Oregon Trail, and view a video about the westward movement.

After you have looked at these sources you will answer some questions about them. Briefly scan the sources and the three questions that follow. Then, go back and read the sources carefully to gain the information you will need to answer the questions and write an informational article for the newsletter.

In Part 2, you will write an informational article using information you have read.

##### **Direction for beginning:**

You will now look at three sources. You can look at any of the sources as often as you like.

##### **Research Questions:**

After looking at the sources, use the rest of the time in Part 1 to answer three questions about them. Your answer to these questions will be scored. Also, your answers will help you think about the information you have read which should help you write your informational article.

**Note Guidelines for Source 1: Journals of Lewis and Clark**

<b>Paragraphs</b>	<b>Main Idea: Most Important Who and What in 10 words or less</b>
Text box Information	<hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 1	<hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 2	<hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 3	<hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 4	<hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 5	<hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 6	<hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 7-8	<hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 9	<hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 10	<hr/> <hr/>

## Part 1 Source #1

Read the Journals of Lewis and Clark

The selection *The Journals of Lewis and Clark* consists of several journal entries made by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark during their 1804-1806 exploration of the American West. President Thomas Jefferson had hired his secretary, Meriwether Lewis, to put together a "Corps of Discovery." Its purpose was to map new territories in the West. Lewis had chosen Clark to share leadership responsibilities. Along the way, the explorers would describe the Native American groups they met and identify plant and animal life that had never before been scientifically recorded.

**Note:** These journal entries were written almost 200 years ago. For ease of use, the versions include modernized spellings, capitalization, and punctuation. Some words in the excerpts are no longer in common use.

### The Journals of Lewis and Clark

*For more than a year the Corps of Discovery travel on the Missouri River. They spend the winter in North Dakota. Here they hire two interpreters. One is a fur trader named Charbonneau. The other is his wife, Sacagawea. In the spring and summer, the group travels the Missouri. They go farther than any other white men have ever traveled. Then the Rocky Mountains loom before them.*

At the distance of 4 miles further, the road took us to the most distant fountain of the waters of the mighty Missouri in search of which we have spent so many tiring days and restless nights. Thus far I had accomplished one of those great objects on which my mind has been unwaveringly fixed for many years. Judge, then, of the pleasure I felt in allaying my thirst with this pure and ice-cold water, which issues from the base of a low mountain or hill of a gentle climb for one-half mile. The mountains are high on either hand, except this gap at the head of this stream through which the road passes.

After refreshing ourselves, we proceeded on to the top of the dividing ridge, from which I discovered huge ranges of high mountains still to the west of us, with their tops partially covered with snow. I went down the mountain about three quarters of a mile, which I found much steeper than on the opposite side, to a handsome bold running creek of cold, clear water. Here I first tasted the water of the great Columbia River.

After a short halt of a few minutes, we continued our march along the Indian road, which led us over steep hills and deep hollows to a spring on the side of a mountain where we found an ample quantity of dry willow brush for fuel. Here we encamped for the night. As we had killed nothing during the day, we now boiled and ate the remainder of our pork, having yet a little flour and dry meat.

This morning Captain Clark set out early. Found the river rapid, shallow, and extremely difficult. The men in the water almost all day. They are getting weak, sore, and tired. They complained of the being tired to which the navigation subjected them and wished to go by land. Captain Clark encouraged them and calmed them. One of the canoes was very nearly upsetting in a rapid today. They proceeded but slowly.

---Captain Lewis, 12 August 1805

*Sacagawea helps Lewis and Clark bargain for horses. Then the group sets off across the mountains. They get trapped in the snow. There is no game to hunt. They have so little food that they nearly starve. At last they find their way through the pass. They learn to make and move the canoes.*

Great joy in camp. We are in view of the ocean, the great Pacific Ocean, which we have been so long anxious to see, and the roaring or noise made by the waves breaking on the rocky shores (as I suppose) may be heard clearly.

----Captain Clark, 7 November 1805

*By now they've traveled more than 4,000 miles. Although they're in sight of the ocean, the Corps is stuck. Terrific storms rage. The storms keep them in camp for weeks.*

Our situation is dangerous. We took the advantage of a low tide and moved our camp around a point to a small wet bottom, at the mouth of a brook, which we had not observed when we came to this cove, from its being very thick and hidden by drift trees and thick bushes. It would be upsetting to see our situation—all wet and cold, our bedding also wet (and the robes of the party which make up half the bedding are rotten, and we are not in a situation to supply their places), in a wet bottom barely large enough to contain us, our baggage half a mile from us, and canoes at the mercy of the waves, although secured as well as possible—sunk, with immense parcels of stone to weight them down to prevent their dashing to pieces against the rocks. One got loose last night and was left on a rock a short distance below, without receiving more damage than a split in her bottom. Fortunately for us, our men are healthy.

-----Captain Clark, 12 November 1805

*Lewis and Clark and company finally reached the ocean. They build a place to stay for the winter. Here they rest and prepare for their trip home. On September 23, 1806, after two year and four months, they return to Saint Louis.*

**Note Guidelines for Source #2: A Pioneer Woman Looks Back**

<b>Line Numbers</b>	<b>Main Idea: Most Important Who and What in 10 words or less</b>
0-5	<hr/> <hr/>
6-10	<hr/> <hr/>
7-15	<hr/> <hr/>
16-20	<hr/> <hr/>
21-25	<hr/> <hr/>
26-30	<hr/> <hr/>
31-35	<hr/> <hr/>
36-40	<hr/> <hr/>
41-45	<hr/> <hr/>
46-50	<hr/> <hr/>



as I waited and I watched-  
endless land. . .                      endless sky. . .

25                      Young John was born  
   early that fall.

   Next came Mary,  
   then Elizabeth . . .  
   nine kids in all.

30                      I schooled the children.

   Town was too far away.

   There were so many chores  
   to fit into a day!

35                      Cooking, sewing, laundry-  
   and much more to do.

   Yet somehow I found time  
   to be lonely, too:

   The endless droning of the wind,  
   a lone coyote's call,

40                      the chatter of the children,  
   no visitors at all.

   I longed to see a woman-  
   to hear a woman's voice.

   Instead, I hear winds whisper:

45                      *Free land! You made a choice.*

   Often, I wonder,

   and I can't help but sigh-

   What price we really paid

   for

50                      endless land . . .                      endless sky . . .



**Note Guidelines for Source #3: Elbow Room**

<b>Number of Stanza</b>	<b>Main Idea</b> Most Important Who and What in 10 words or less
1-2	<hr/>
3	<hr/>
4-5	<hr/>
6	<hr/>
7	<hr/>
8	<hr/>
9	<hr/>
10-11	<hr/>
12	<hr/>

**Source #3: Elbow Room** This video from School House Rock identifies groups of people that travel west for various reasons and the ways they expanded west.

<http://www.gamequarium.org/cgi-bin/search/linfo.cgi?id=3794>

### Lyrics to Elbow Room

Stanza Number	Lyrics
1	One thing you will discover When you get next to one another Is everybody needs some elbow room, elbow room
2	It's nice when you're kinda cozy, but Not when you're tangled nose to nosey, oh Everybody needs some elbow, needs a little elbow room
3	That's how it was in the early days of the U.S.A. The people kept coming to settle though The east was the only place there was to go
4	The president was Thomas Jefferson He made a deal with Napoleon How'd you like to sell a mile or two (Or three, or a hundred, or a thousand?)
5	And so, in 1803 the Louisiana Territory was sold to us Without a fuss And gave us lots of elbow room
6	Oh, elbow room, elbow room Got to, got to get us some elbow room It's the west or bust In God we trust There's a new land out there Lewis and Clark volunteered to go Goodbye, good luck, wear your overcoat! They prepared for good times and for bad (and for bad)
7	They hired Sacagawea to be their guide She led them all across the countryside Reached the coast And found the most Elbow room we've ever had
8	The way was opened up for folks with bravery There were plenty of fights To win land rights But the West was meant to be It was our Manifest Destiny!

Stanza Number	Lyrics
9	<p>The trappers, traders, and the peddlers  The politicians, and the settlers  They got there by any way they could (any way they could)  The Gold Rush trampled down the wilderness  The railroads spread across from east to west  And soon the West was opened up for - opened up for good</p>
10	<p>And now we jet from east to west  Goodbye New York, hello L.A.  But it took those early folks to open up the way</p>
11	<p>Now we've got a lot of room to be  Growing from sea to shining sea  Guess that we have got our elbow room (elbow room)  But if there should ever come a time  When we're crowded up together  I'm sure we'll find some elbow room . . . up on the moon!</p>
12	<p>Oh, elbow room, elbow room  Got to, got to get us some elbow room  It's the moon or bust  In God we trust  There's a new land up there!</p>



3. Which answers show information that was presented in the sources on the reasons people traveled west? Select **all** that apply.

- A. People traveled west to explore.
- B. People traveled west for new land.
- C. People traveled west searching for gold.
- D. People traveled west to escape slavery.

### **Student Directions for Part 2**

You will now look at your sources, take notes, and plan, draft, revise and edit your article. Now read your assignment and the information about how your informational article will be scored; then begin your work.

#### **Your Assignment:**

You are in the explorer club at school. Write an article that is several paragraphs long for the club's newsletter in which you explain why groups of people traveled west, the costs and benefits of their decision, and the affects the geographic features had on their travel.

Your article will be read by other students, teachers, and parents. Make sure to have a main idea, clearly organize your article, and support your main idea with details from the sources using your own words. Be sure to develop your ideas clearly.

#### **REMEMBER: A well written informational article:**

- Has a clear main idea
- Is well-organized and stays on the topic
- Uses transitions
- Uses details from the sources to support your main idea
- Develops ideas clearly
- Uses clear language
- Follow rules of writing

#### **Now begin your work on your informational article**

1. Plan your article
2. Write your article
3. Revise and edit the final draft

**Combining Notes from all 3 Sources: This will help begin your pre-write**

<b>Questions you need to Answer in your Article</b>	<b>Bullet answers to questions using your notes in your own words</b>
<b>Why did people travel West?</b>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<b>What were the cost and benefits of traveling West?</b>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<b>What were the geographical features that affected traveling West?</b>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>



