



TIME TRAVELERS'

19th Century America from the Gold Rush to the founding of Fresno County

Civil War Medicine

1. In this video, medicine is described as "crude" during the period-of-time before the Civil War, which was also known as the "Heroic Age of Medicine." Specify what you saw in the video as evidence to support this description.

Bloodletting, purging, leaches and toxins were all part of health care before the 1800s.

2. What important medical innovation did Dr. Jonathan Letterman implement as the medical director of the Army of the Potomac? Describe how it changed military medicine.

The Triage system was developed to sort patients by the type of injuries that they received. Medicine became more of a science.

3. Who said "a wounded soldier is no longer my enemy"? What does this suggest or reveal about his character?

Dr. Letterman said this. It suggests that he sees the humanity in all people.

4. Based on the information presented in the video, describe the different stages of the triage system, and outline what happens at each stage.

The field dressing station, the field hospital and general hospital.

5. Approximately how many amputations were performed during the Civil War? Why did doctors increase their use of this procedure as the war progressed?

50,000 amputations were performed. They increased the amputations because they observed that patients more likely to survive.

6. Compare hospitals at the beginning of the war to the later years. How did the buildings change? What were the reasons for this change? Were they effective?

General hospitals were divided into wards that classified by sickness and need. They were well ventilated and clean. Doctors observed that these changes helped patients to survive.

7. Explain how medical innovations during the Civil War impacted the civilian hospital system and changed Americans' expectations regarding healthcare after the war.

When soldiers returned home they expected the kind of medical care they had received in the war, leading to general hospitals to be built in communities.

General Store

1. What is the responsibility of the Storekeeper in the General Store? *To know what the needs of the towns people are and stock the items that they are interested in purchasing.*
2. What kinds of items did the General Store sell? *Ties, fabric, sewing notions, pomade, dry and canned goods, toothbrushes and other household items*
3. What is each section of products in the General Store called? *A Department.*
4. What hair product was popular for men in the 1880s and purchased at the General Store? *Hair pomade (made from Rocky Mountain bear grease.*
5. Why was the General Store important to a town? *It was a way to bring the townspeople together. It often housed the post office and served as a community meeting place.*
6. How is a General Store different than a store you shop in today? *We have large malls with whole stores dedicated to a single type of item, like a clothing store, or grocery store. We also have many more options or places to shop unlike 19th century residents who had very limited options.*
7. What is the same about a General Store and the stores of today? *Stores today have clerks that help you make your purchases. Today's mall offers much of the same community gathering opportunity that a General Store offered in the past. Store owners still buy their products in bulk at wholesale prices and sell them on to the community.*

Visit Chinatown

1. What group of people were among the first immigrant communities to come to the Central Valley? What work brought them here? *The first immigrants to Fresno County were Chinese men. They came to help build the railroad and to work as miners in Millerton, CA.*
2. Who was one of the first Pioneers to travel from China and settle in the Central Valley? What business did he own? *Ah Kitt was one of the first Chinese pioneers to arrive in the Central Valley. He became a blacksmith and owned his own business.*
3. What natural disaster caused the white settlers to write a Chinese Exclusion Law in 1867 in Fresno County? *The Christmas Eve flood of 1867 that flooded the town of Millerton, CA.*
4. In 1872 what drew settlers to move from Millerton to the new city of Fresno, CA.? *A major train station was established in Fresno in 1872 and many moved from Millerton to Fresno to avoid the floods. In 1874 the County Seat was moved from Millerton to Fresno.*

5. What is the reason that the Chinese settlers built their own neighborhood, called Chinatown, in Fresno and other cities?
Chinese immigrants were excluded from many aspects of life in the town and limited to only a few square blocks on the Westside of the city.
6. How many Chinese settlers lived in in the city of Fresno by 1874? What percentage of the population did they make up?
200 Chinese residents made up one-third of the population.
7. When looking that the early pictures of Chinatown in Fresno, CA what do you notice?

Home Life

1. Describe a typical morning like in a 19th century home? What chores need to be done each morning?
Morning started at the washstand. Children brought up warm water from the fireplace to the bedroom to wash.
2. How is this different that how you wake up every day?
3. Compare and contrast the difference between morning in a 19th century home and a home today.
4. We learned that most people made their own soap. What are the ingredients in the soap that they made? *Ashes, rainwater and cooking grease.*
5. Why was fire so important in daily life? What are some of the uses of the household fire?
It was used for warmth, heating water for baths and washing and for cooking. It was also important for lighting candles for light.
6. Explain how the Wilson family work together to make butter?
The rocking butter churner had to be kept swinging. Each family member would kick it whenever they walked by to keep it going.
7. What was the way some people bought items in the general store without money?
Bartering was used for those who did not have cash they could trade items for merchandise.
8. What is a “one room schoolhouse”? How is it different from a classroom today?
All children of the community regardless of their grade level or age were all taught together by the same teacher in the same room.
9. What subjects did 19th century children study in school? How are these lessons different than what you learn today?
Reading, writing, history and morals were the main subjects.

Armenian Immigration

1. What year did the first Armenian settlers arrive in Fresno County?
1881
2. What was the name of the first settler in Fresno County from Armenia? What business did he start?
Hagop Seropian was an Armenian merchant who with his brothers opened a grocery store in Fresno.
3. What drove the largest influx of Armenian Immigrants into Fresno County in 1914 and 1915?
The Genocide
4. By the 1930's what crop did Armenian farmers own 40% of in Fresno County?
Raisin Grapes
5. What are some prejudices that Armenian immigrants faced when settling in Fresno County?
Prejudices about their appearance, language and customs made it hard or early immigrants to gain acceptance into the community.
6. What did some Armenian settlers do to combat prejudice in Fresno County?
Armenians formed their own benevolent and fraternal organizations for charitable purposes, to perpetuate an awareness of the Armenian heritage and to give a cultural uplift to its members. Armenian-language newspapers were important to the community.
7. Look at the images of the early Armenian settlers in Fresno County. Describe what you see in the. What do the photos tell you about the people in this community?

Italian Immigrants

1. How long was the journey aboard the steam ship from Italy to America? (See photo captions)
The journey took 10 days by steam ship.
2. What percentage of Italian immigrants returned home to Italy after a period working in America?
Only 20% to 30% of immigrants returned home to Italy.
3. How did the new immigrants travel from Ellis Island to California?
The largest number traveled by train.
4. By 1880 how many Italian families were living in Fresno County? (See photo captions)
By 1880 20 Italian families were living in Fresno County.
5. What did Prohibition make illegal and how may it have affected many Italian immigrant workers?
The sale of alcohol was made illegal by Prohibition which effected many Italian families that owned vineyards and farmed wine grapes.
6. What agricultural industry flourished in Fresno County during Prohibition?
The juice grape industry flourished during Prohibition.

8. In what other industries did many Italian immigrants to Fresno County work?
They achieved great success as restaurateurs as well as in law enforcement and other public service, the military, politics, education, business, medicine, sports and agriculture, especially winemaking.
9. Look at the images of the early Italian settlers in Fresno County, what do you observe in the photos? What do these pictures tell you about the people in this community?

Native Americans

1. By what name are the first native peoples to settle in Fresno County collectively referred to?
The Yokuts.
2. How long ago did the first Native Americans arrive in Fresno County?
50,000 to 7,000 years ago.
3. What area of the County did the Yokuts call home?
The San Joaquin Valley
4. What tribe inhabited the upper reaches of Fresno County's major rivers?
The Mono Tribe
5. What year were the peaceful lives of the Native peoples disrupted? Who invaded their land?
In 1776 Spaniards came to the Valley and disrupted the lives of the Native peoples living there.
6. What discovery in California brought waves of outsiders to the area and negatively affected the lives of the Native peoples?
The discovery of gold in California.
7. By 1900 what percentage of Native peoples living in the San Joaquin Valley had disappeared?
85% to 90%
8. What is the difference between a Rancheria and a Reservation?
Reservations were created to be a place where Indians could live, work the land and otherwise make a living. Consequently, many of the Rancherias were small, often with less than 300 acres.