

Name: _____

THE IMPACT OF THE GOLD RUSH ON NATIVE AMERICANS OF CALIFORNIA

SOURCE INVESTIGATION

United Nations (UN) Definition of Genocide:

Genocide means *any* of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group, as such:

- a) killing members of the group;
- b) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- c) deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- d) imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- e) forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

Central Question: *Do American actions against California Native Americans during the gold rush meet the United Nations definition of genocide?*

Directions: Write your original hypothesis below.

Original Hypothesis: Based on your prior knowledge, write your first hypothesis (educated guess) to the central question in the box below.

GOLD RUSH SOURCE INVESTIGATION:

Do American actions against California Native Americans during the gold rush meet the United Nations definition of genocide?



Directions: Next, read each source and decide if the source provides evidence of genocide in California during the gold rush. Complete the graphic organizer below. Consider whether sources support or contradict your original hypothesis. In the space provided, revise your original hypothesis as necessary based on the evidence you find in each source.

	Source Information	Does the source provide evidence of genocide? If so, what criteria of the UN definition of genocide does it meet and why?	Hypothesis Revision: Do American actions against California Native Americans during the gold rush meet the UN definition of genocide? Note here any changes you would like to make to your original hypothesis.
Source A	“Horrible Slaughter of Indians” <i>The Daily Alta California</i> May 28, 1850		
Source B	Survivor’s Account: Sally Bell, Massacre at Needle Rock ca. 1850		

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Source C	California Governor Peter Burnett’s State of the State Address January 6, 1851		
Source D	Indian Appropriation Bill Congressional Debate Transcript <i>The Daily Union</i> Speaker: California Senator John Weller August 15, 1852		
Source E	State of California Expenditures for Military Expeditions Against Indians 1850–1852		

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Source F	<p>“Hunting Indians” <i>The Red Bluff Beacon</i> April 1859</p>		
Source G	<p>“Horrible Massacre of Indians at Humboldt Bay” <i>The Placer Herald</i> March 3, 1860</p>		
Source H	<p>“Apprenticing Indians” <i>Sacramento Daily Union</i> July 31, 1860</p>		

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Source I	An Act for the Payment of Expenses incurred in the Suppression of Indian Hostilities in the State of California United States Congress March 2, 1861		
Source J	“Kidnapping Indians” <i>The Nevada (CA)</i> <i>Democrat</i> April 12, 1862		
Source K	Survivor’s Account: Lucy Young Summer 1862		

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Summative Assessment

Directions: Construct an argument (detailed outline or essay) that uses the evidence from the graphic organizer to answer the central question: *Do American actions against California Native Americans during the gold rush meet the UN definition of genocide?* Use your final hypothesis as your thesis statement or main idea.