

NAME:

PERIOD:

DATE:

## Part 6. Historical Inquiry Questions

Each group member is assigned one of four short readings (found in the DOCUMENTS section of the *GIS for History* web site).

- Document 1: letter from Jefferson to Louis regarding the exploration of the Western Territories
- Document 2: Andrew Jackson's Message to Congress on Indian Removal
- Document 3: John O'Sullivan's description of manifest destiny.
- Document 4: Letter describing a surveyor's business interests in the West.

After carefully reading your document, present the information to the rest of your group. Then respond to the following questions. Be sure to keep detailed notes about your group responses. Be prepared to present your group's thoughts to the entire class.

1. Identify three reasons why the United States pushed its boundaries westward.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Choose one of these reasons above and, as a group, reflect on the impact this expansion had on (a) American Indians, (b) citizens of the United States, (c) slaves, and (d) the land.

a. What were some positive outcomes of the expansion?

b. What were some negative outcomes of the expansion?

c. Who benefited from the expansion? Who did not benefit?

d. What is your opinion about the expansion of the United States?