

Check for understanding:

1. Define:

- A. Forage; animal food for grazing (page 150)
- B. Cede; give up (page 151)
- C. Greenhorn; beginner (page 156)
- D. Mavericks; unidentified calves that wandered off from their mothers (page 160)
- E. Outfit; ranching operations (page 152)
- F. Vaquero; Spanish word for cowboys (page 163)

2. Identify:

- A. Conrad Kohrs; owned a ranch that turned into a cattle company (page 155)
- B. Granville Stuart; drove 76 cattle into Bannack and opened a butcher shop (page 151)
- C. Evelyn Cameron; ranched with her husband on the Yellowstone River (page 157)
- D. Charles M. Russell; Montana artist (page 154)

3. Why did ranchers value Montana grasslands? Montana grasslands have hearty species the ranchers liked.

4. How did the open-range policy affect Indians? Native Americans were not used to fences being around them so they had to adapt to them.

5. What were the main reasons for the increase in the cattle industry? There were dishonest ranch managers who reported huge losses to their owners to cover up for their own mismanagement of records.

6. What are some of the differences between cattle and sheep ranching? Cattle ranching was to raise the cattle for meat and sheep ranching was to raise the sheep for wool. Sheep are also cheaper than cattle.

7. What other animal industry developed with the growth of the cattle and sheep industries? Many ranches bred horses along with cattle and sheep.

8. What were some of the problems ranchers faced with the open range? Other unwanted animals or people came onto the open range. People stealing their stuff.

9. What was the primary change in the cattle industry as a result of the Hard Winter of 1886–87? What are some of the legacies of the open range? A lot of the cattle dies.

Critical Thinking:

1. Analyze the advantages and disadvantages of the open range for ranchers, the environment, and Indian tribes.

2. Would you have wanted to live on a Montana ranch during the 1880s? Why or why not? I'm actually in between of wanting to and not wanting to. I would want to because I could learn the differences of how we get food now vs. how we did it back then. I wouldn't want to because there are not technology so if we needed medicine or showers...basically anything like that, we wouldn't be cared for good enough.

3. An 1880s Helena Herald editorial said, “These ranges are needed for our cattle and they are of no use in the world to the Indians.” How would you respond to this if you were an Indian leader at the time? I would explain that we were there first.

4. Compare the lives of cowboys to the lives of sheepherders. Why someone might choose one life over the other? Why do you think sheepherding has never captured the imagination of people the way cowboying has? Cowboys are different compared to sheepherders. They have completely different tasks. Sheepherders have to make sure that their sheep get to the correct spot.

5. Look back at the Charles M. Russell paintings that illustrate this chapter. Do you think they offer a realistic picture of life on the open range? Why or why not? I feel like they got as close as they could to make these paintings seem more realistic like the real life open range. It’s not like they could take any pictures on their phone and upload it on Facebook. I think it’s a lot like real life open range

Past to Present:

1. Compare cattle ranching today with cattle ranching 100 years ago. What has remained the same and what has changed? For example, think about feeding, vaccinations, processing, and marketing as well as procedures for roundups, calving, and branding. Vaccinations, dirt bikes, four wheelers, side by side, and cars.

Make It Local:

1. Look for things in your town that reflect Montana’s ranching heritage, such as advertisements, business names, school mascots, street names, and so forth. List as many as you can.