

## Document Based Question – Market Revolution and Manifest Destiny

**Task** – Analyze the impact of economic and territorial expansion on national unity during the period 1815 to 1860.

USE AT LEAST SIX DOCUMENTS (YOU MUST USE DOCUMENTS 1 AND 2) – CAPP FOR FOUR OF THE SIX.

### Document 1: Canals in the United States 1825



### Document 2: South Carolina Ordinance of Nullification

We, therefore, the people of the State of South Carolina, in convention assembled, do declare and ordain and it is hereby declared and ordained, that the several acts and parts of acts of the Congress of the United States, purporting to be laws for the imposing of duties and imposts on the importation of foreign commodities, and now having actual operation and effect within the United States . . . are unauthorized by the constitution of the United States, and violate the true meaning and intent thereof and are null, void, and no law, nor binding upon this State, its officers or citizens;

And we, the people of South Carolina, to the end that it may be fully understood by the government of the United States, and the people of the co-States, that we are determined to maintain this our ordinance and declaration, at every hazard, do further declare that we will not submit to the application of force on the part of the federal government, to reduce this State to obedience, but that we will consider the passage, by Congress, of any act . . . to coerce the State . . . as inconsistent with the longer continuance of South Carolina in the Union; and that the people of this State will henceforth hold themselves absolved from all further obligation to maintain or preserve their political connection with the people of the other States; and will forthwith proceed to organize a separate government, and do all other acts and things which sovereign and independent States may of right do

### **Document 3 - John L. O'Sullivan, "Annexation", The Democratic Review 1845**

It is now time for the opposition to the Annexation of Texas to cease, all further agitation of the waters of bitterness and strife, at least in connexion with this question. But, in regard to Texas, enough has now been given to party. It is time for the common duty of Patriotism to the Country to succeed. . .

Texas is now ours. Already, before these words are written, her Convention has undoubtedly ratified the acceptance, by her Congress, of our proffered invitation into the Union; and made the requisite changes in her already republican form of constitution to adapt it to its future federal relations. Her star and her stripe may already be said to have taken their place in the glorious blazon of our common nationality; and the sweep of our eagle's wing already includes within its circuit the wide extent of her fair and fertile land. . . . If we needed a reason for taking Texas into the Union, it surely is to be found in the manner in which other nations have interfered in the matter. Their object is to oppose our policy and hold back our power to limit our greatness, and to check the fulfillment of our manifest destiny to spread over the continent.

### **Document 4. Thomas Hart Benton, Senator of Missouri, Speech to the Senate, 1845.**

The American population has begun to extend itself to Oregon; two thousand are now setting out from the frontier of Missouri; tens of thousands are considering the adventure. I say to them all, Go on! The government will give you protection and fertile land!

The settlers of Oregon will open for us the North American road to Asia. . . . The sun of civilization must shine across the sea: socially and commercially, Anglo-Saxons and Asians must intermix. They must talk together, and trade together, and marry together. Commerce is a great civilizer – and marriage greater. The White and Yellow races can marry together, as well as eat and trade together.

### **Document 5. Senator McDuffie, of South Car Speech on Oregon. 1845**

What do we want with this Oregon territory? What are we to do with it? If this were a case of gradual settlement, rather than a situation where Oregon will be separated from civilization by a thousand miles of wilderness, I might support the acquisition of this land. I must confess, that even in the most optimistic days of my youth, I never believed of the possibility of a government governing a territory three thousand miles away.

## Document 6. Congressional Vote on the Annexation of Texas, 1845



## Document 7. Charles Sumner, Speech to Senate, 1847

This war is waged ingloriously – by a powerful nation against a weak neighbor, and without just cause, and for the purpose of strengthening the “slave power.”

A war of conquest is bad; but the present war has darker shadows. It is a war for the extension of slavery into a territory which has already purged itself of that institution by Mexican authorities. Should we acquire this land, fresh markets of human beings will be established and further opportunities for this hateful traffic will be opened. Congressman Sims of South Carolina has already said that he had “no doubt that every foot of territory we shall permanently occupy, south of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes, will be slave territory.”

**Documents 8** Sen. John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, Speech to U.S. Senate, 1850

What has caused the almost universal discontent within the Southern states? . . . It is to be found in the fact that the balance between free states and slave states, in the Government as it stood when the constitution was ratified, has been destroyed. At that time there was nearly a perfect equilibrium between the two, which gave ample means to each side to protect itself against the aggression of the other; but, as it now stands, one section (the North) has the exclusive power of controlling the government, which leaves the other (the South) without any adequate means of protecting itself.

**Document 9** – “Forcing Slavery Down the Throat of a Free Soiler,” 1856

