Key Terms
(Frontiers of Change)

1. **“Rainfall follows the plow”**-Erroneous belief that settlement and cultivation somehow change the weather. It evolved due to heavier-than-normal precipitation during the 1870s and 1880s.

2. **Sodbuster**-Small farmer in parts of the West who adapted to the treeless plains and prairies, such as with the construction of homes out of sod.

3. **Bonanza farms**-Huge what farms financed by eastern capital and cultivated with heavy machinery and hired labor.

4. **Placer Mining**-Mining where minerals, especially gold, were found in glacial or alluvial deposits.

5. **Hydraulic Mining**-Use of high-pressure streams of water to wash gold or other minerals from soil.

6. **Longhorn**-Breed of cattle introduced into the Southwest by the Spanish that became the main breed of livestock on the cattle frontier.

7. **Railhead**-End of railroad line, or the farthest point on the track.

8. **Grangers**-Members of the Patrons of Husbandry (a farmer’s organization) and a contemptuous name for farmers use by ranchers in the West.

9. **Battle of Little Big Horn**-A battle in eastern Montana Territory on the bluffs above Little Big Horn River on June 25, 1876.

10. **Sitting Bull**-Hunkapapa Lakota (Sioux) chief and holy man who led warriors against the US Army in Montana Territory in 1876, culminating in the Battle of Little Big Horn.

11. **Crazy Horse**-War chief of the Oglala Lakota (Sioux) Indians who forged an alliance with Cheyenne chiefs to resist white expansion into the Black Hills in 1874-1875; led the attack on Custer’s 7th Calvary at Little Big Horn.

12. **George A. Custer**-Civil War hero and postwar Indian fighter who was killed at Little Big Horn in 1876.

13. **Wounded Knee**-Site of a shootout between Indians and Army troops at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwestern South Dakota.

14. **Barrios**-Spanish-speaking urban areas usually separate districts in southwestern towns and cities.

15. **Anglos**-English-speaking people.

16. **Lintheads**-Term used by wealthier whites to describe poor whites who labored in southern cotton mills.

17. **Railroad gauge**-Distance between the rails on which wheels of railroad cars fit.

18. **Crop Lien System**-System of credit used in the poor rural South whereby merchants in small country stores provided necessary goods on credit in return for a lien on the crop. As the price of crops fell, small farmers, black and white, drifted deeper into debt.

19. **Jim Crow** Laws-Laws passed by southern states mandating racial segregation in public facilities of all kinds.