
— Native California (~10,000 BCE) to Gilded Age California (~1880s CE) —

1. “What do historians do? What is history? In answering these questions, define the art and science of history. Using your definition and answers as guides, compare and contrast the most significant myths and realities produced and interpreted by historians about this first period in California history.”
2. “The legend of Juakin Murrieta, according to historian Susan Lee Johnson, represents a “parable of resistance” to Anglo-American conquest in California. Using the legend as a parable, identify, describe and explain the most significant social conflicts between Anglo-Americans and perceived outsiders during the Gold Rush period. For each conflict connect cause and consequence.”
3. “Many did not enjoy the rewards produced by industrial and financial capitalism in California. Compare and contrast the conditions and consciousness of the following relative to the “winners”: farmers, urban workers, women, and immigrants. How did winners “understand” the casualties of the American system?”

Practice ‘Learned Resourcefulness.’ Avoid procrastination, develop appropriate help-seeking behaviors, ask questions, learn to recognize & utilize resources (e.g. the library, fellow students, the instructor, tutoring, and study groups), and embrace realistic goals & priorities.