

Taming the West

Niveau : 3ème

Type d'activité : Tâche finale

Compétence principale visée :

Produire un écrit

Compétences annexes mises en jeu :

-collaborer

-comprendre un texte ; interpréter une image

-synthétiser un ensemble de documents

Déroulement :

Constitution de groupes de 4 personnes.

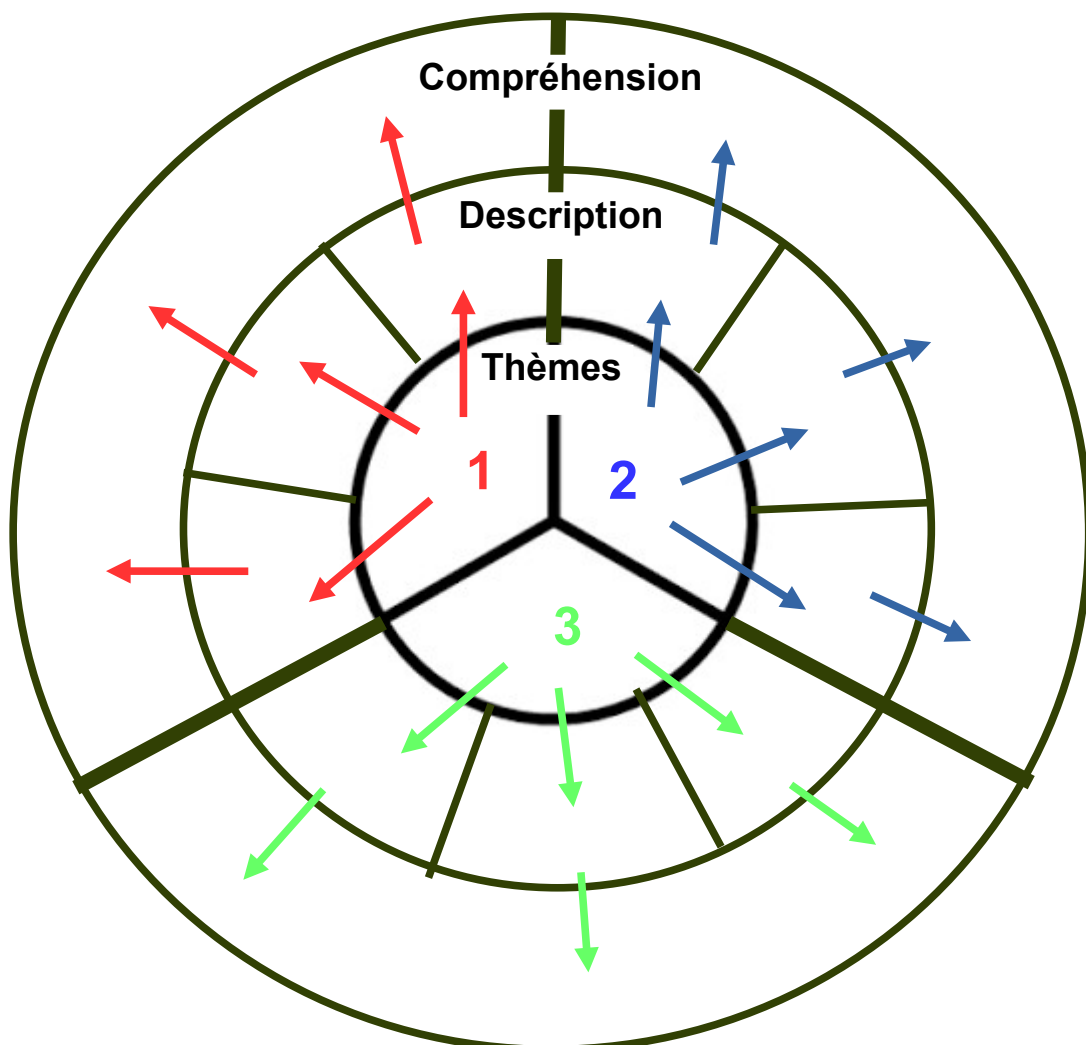
Mise à disposition des 4 documents à chaque élève mais un seul à travailler par personne.

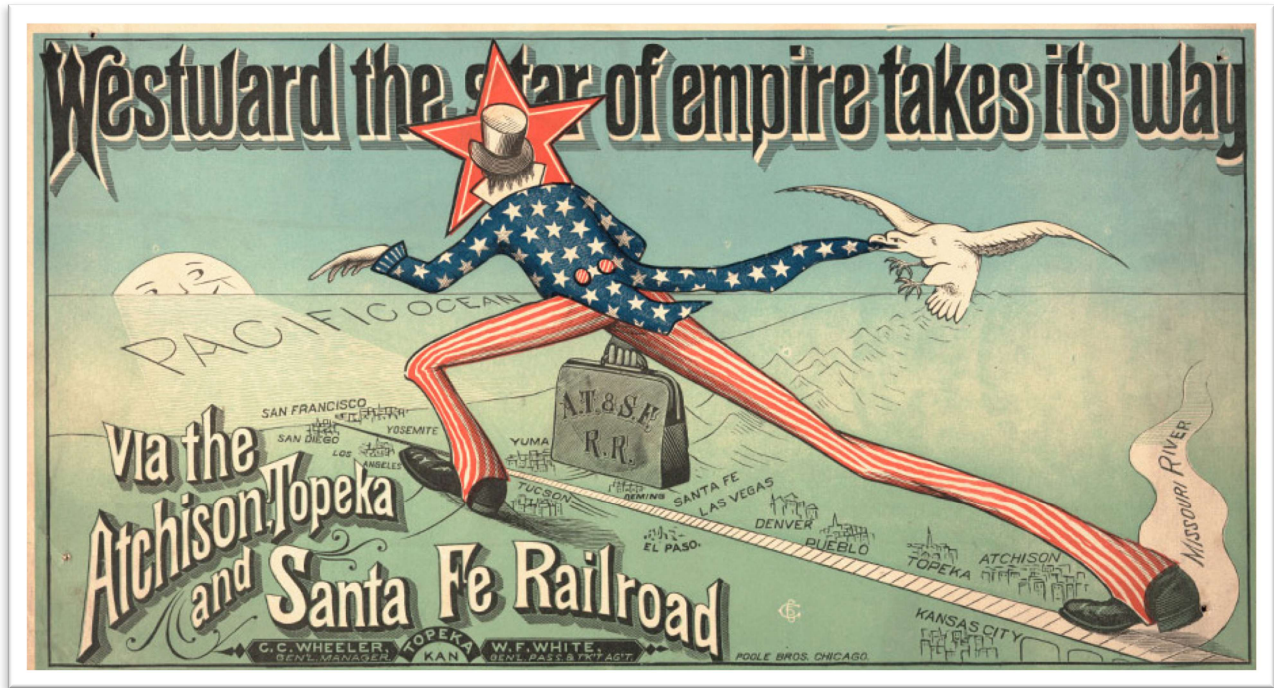
Contrainte imposée au groupe : chacun des 4 documents doit être traité par le groupe.

Travail individuel sur la tâche de production d'écrit.

Possibilité d'aide entre les élèves si nécessaire, notamment sur l'étape de compréhension de documents.

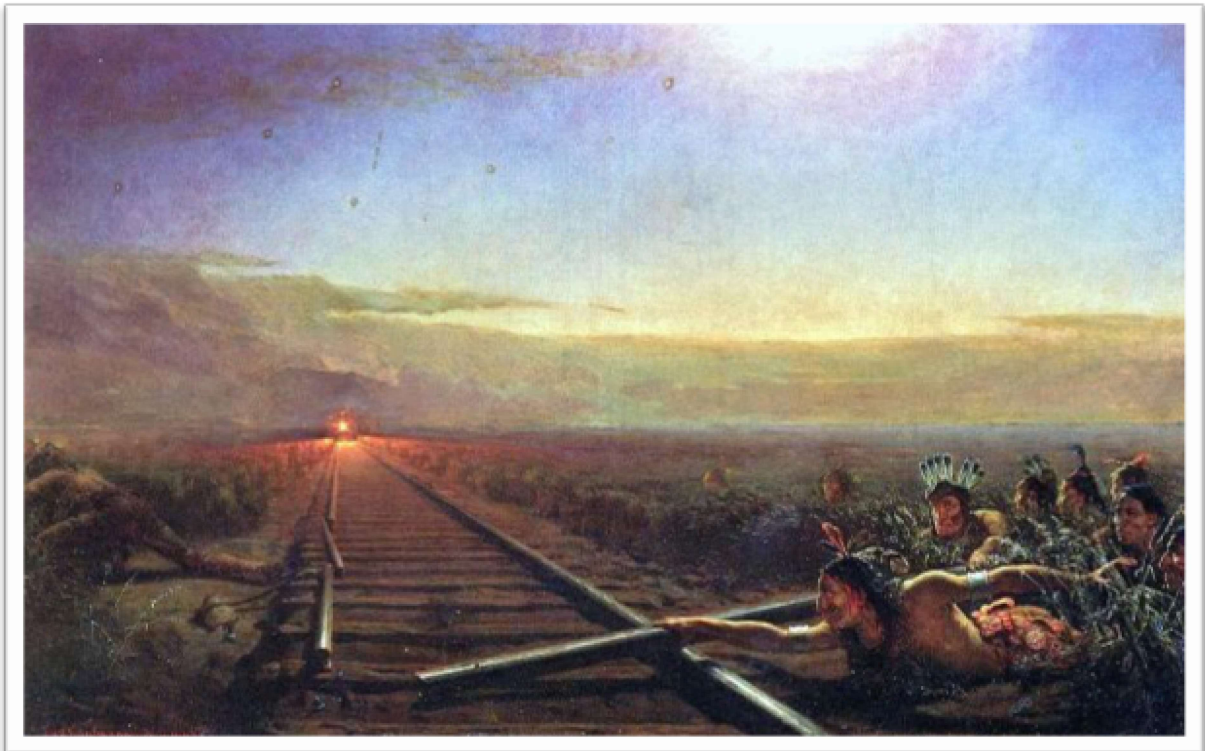
Travail collectif pour la synthèse de documents. Production finale exigée = compléter l'outil « les trois cercles concentriques »





“Westward the star of empire takes its way”, 1886, printed by Poole Bros., Chicago.

- Introduce the document: (nature, date, title, creator)
- Describe the document: (who, what, where, when, why)
- Who is the character represented on the image and what does it represent?



“Westward the Star of Empire”, by Theodore Kaufman, 1880, New York.

- Introduce the document: (nature, date, title, creator)
- Describe the document: (who, what, where, when, why)

Name:

A2

The Transcontinental Railroad (britannica.com)



The United States began building a transcontinental railroad in 1863 to connect the East Coast with the West Coast. Work began from both sides of the country, meeting at Promontory, Utah, in 1869. During those six years workers laid some 1,800 miles (2,900 kilometers) of track from Nebraska to California.

Up until the mid-1800s in the United States, people had few ways to get from the East Coast to the West Coast. They could travel by covered wagon or stagecoach overland (it took five to six months), by ship around South America, or by ship to Panama, where they boarded a second ship to go back north to the United States. The journeys were long, expensive, and arduous. To ease the transportation difficulties, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Pacific Railway Act in 1862. This act set aside land and money to build a transcontinental railroad.

- When did the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad began?
- How long did it take to build it?
- How did people reach the West Coast before the railroad’s construction?
- How are the journeys West described?

Name:

A2 +



“Chinese workers building the railroad in 1865”, Jake Lee, 1950.

“During the construction of the railroad, thousands of Chinese migrants came to the United States to find a better life. Instead, they found severe racial discrimination and dangerous working conditions—all for very little reimbursement. At the height of construction, over 11,000 Chinese workers were involved in the construction of the Central Pacific Railroad.” (nrrbof.com)

“The work was brutally difficult, the pay was low, and Chinese workers were injured and killed at a very high rate. On the Central Pacific Railroad alone, more than ten thousand Chinese workers blasted tunnels, built roadbeds, and laid hundreds of miles of track, often in freezing cold or searing heat.” (Library of Congress, www.loc.gov)

- Describe the painting by Jake Lee:
- How many Chinese workers helped constructing the railroad?
- Why was their job dangerous?
- Why did Chinese migrants come to the United States? Were they satisfied?



Lucile Roux
Melissa Omani

Gabriel Coffinhal
Lucas Bourdareau

304

A1+

This document it's a poster printed by Poole Bros in 1886, the title is "Westward the star of empire takes its ways".

• In the foreground i can see a texte he say "Via the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad."

In the middle ground i can see a tall man, he go to the Ocean grace to the railway who crosses America. He has a suitcase in his hand. A bind hold the man so that he doesn't leave.

In the back ground i can see all city of the America, the mountains and the Pacific ocean.

The character represented is a American people. He represents a citizen who wants to leave the country.

A2: Lucas

railroad

- The construction of the Transcontinental ^{railroad} began in 1863.
- The construction of the Transcontinental railroad lasted for 1863 to 1869. Its during 6 years. The Transcontinental rail road was long of 1,800 miles or 2,900 kilometers.
- They go to a Panama in ship and they go ~~to~~ in a second ship and they go to the West Coast of United State. This dured of 6 months.
- The journey's West are very dangerous, its very long and the journey's West is very expensive with a ship.

A2+

- In the foreground of this painting, we can see Chinese on a bridge, who are building a railroad, in front of mountains.

In the middle ground, we can see men on footbridge, who are breaking the stone of the mountain for the passage of the train.

In the back ground, on the left, there is a forest.

- There were 11,000 Chinese workers who helped constructing the railroad.

- This job was dangerous because the Chinese did a very difficult work, in dangerous places like tunnels, roadbeds... It's job was dangerous too because the Chinese workers were injured and killed.

- The Chinese migrants went to United States to find a better life but they don't were satisfied because they found severe social discrimination and dangerous working conditions.

A2

- Introduce the document

This document is a painting by Theodore Kaufman. It dates from 1880, in New York. It is entitled "Westward the Star of Empire".

- Describe the document:

In the document I can see native americans who break the traintraks. There is a clouds in the sky. There is a train on the traintraks. Is in a far West.

COMPREHENSION

The native americans weren't happy. A speed expansion

bad life for the workers. The workers were exploited by a big racial discrimination, Empire.

DESCRIPTION

Nebraska
California
Construction
Sabotage
"the Central Pacific railroad"
1800 miles

THEMES

dangerous working condition, Chinese attraction.

real life
chinese workers were injured and killed, low pay

promised land
a new life
new beautiful land

better life big empire

fake dreams

A lot of people went to the west coast.

Expansion of the Empire.

William, Lilou, Mohame, Athana

A1+ The nature of the document is a print called "Westward the star of empire takes its way" by Poole Bros in Chicago in 1886

On the document we see a man ^{who is} walking along a track in a countryside and we see an eagle in the background. In front of him there is the sun. The man has a t-shirt with stars and a pants with stripe, and ^{he} has a bag, and goes to the Pacific Ocean. The character represents the train and the man ~~is~~ an american. It represents the americans who will work in west to have more money.

A2+ a) On this painting, in the foreground, there are "chinese workers" on a bridge and they are building a railroad. In the middle ground, there are other "chinese workers" who are breaking rocks in a mountain and putting rocks in their bags. One of them is climbing. I think this work is very hard.

b) 11,000 workers helped constructing the railroad.

c) Their job was dangerous because it was very hard, the meteorologic condition was extremely bad, there was severe racial discrimination.

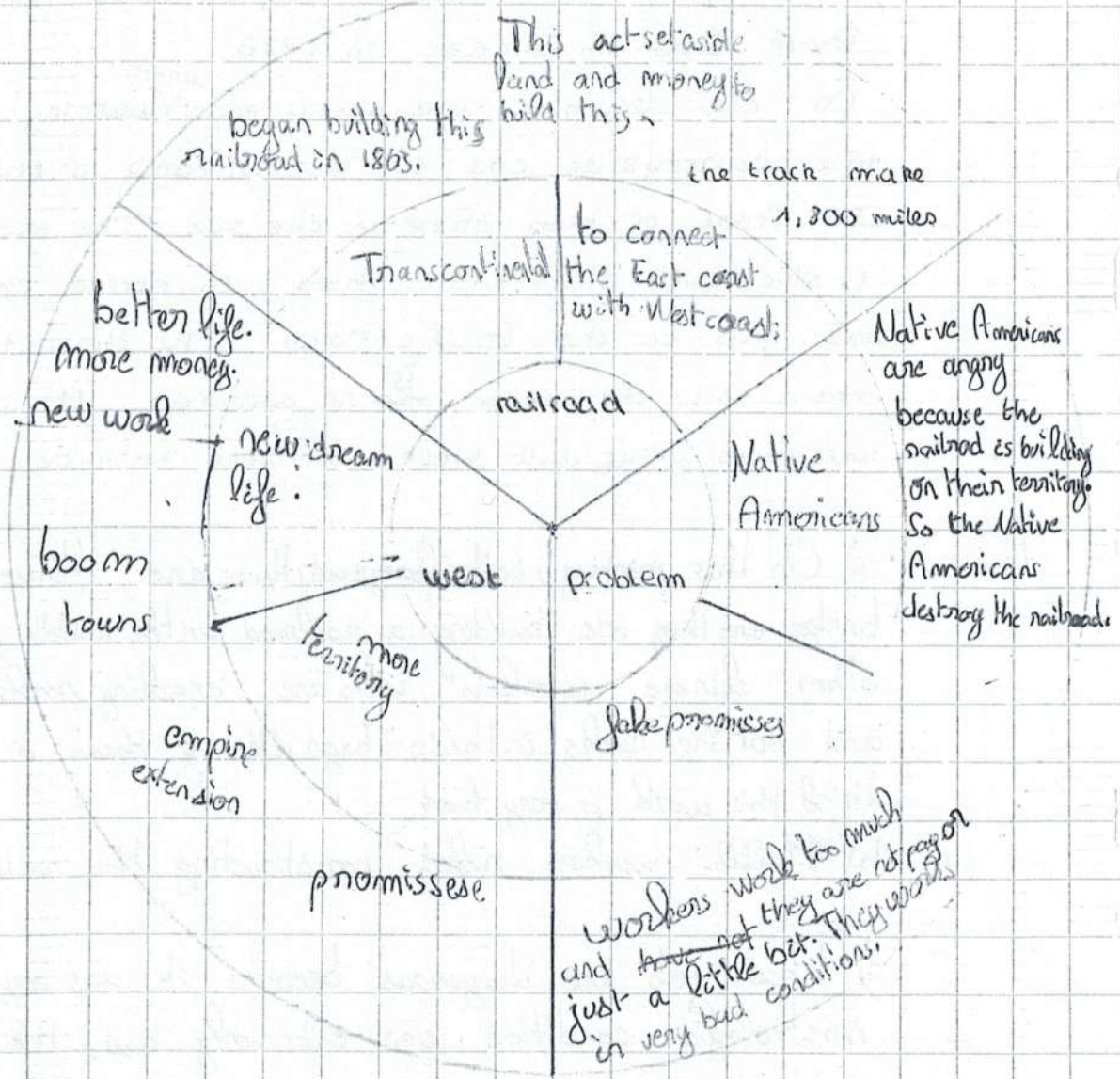
d) Chinese migrants came to the United-States because they wanted a better life. They didn't be satisfied because the work was brutally difficult, the pay was low and they were injured and killed at very high rate.

A2 It began in 1863, It took six years to build. They took covered wagons or stagecoaches overland, or they by ship traveled to Panama. The journeys were "long, arduous, and expensive".

A2

1) This document is a painting. It date from 1880 it is entitled "Westward the Star of Empire". This painting it come from New York. It was painted by Theodore Kaufman.

2) In this painting i can see a train and look't a people in the bottom- Right hand corner. This painting is in a desert, there is a Sun at the top.



Ilian
Estelle
Liv
Hatem

The railroad in United States.

A1+

- This document is a drawing^{ing} made by Poole Bros in 1886 in Chicago. The title is "Westward the star of empire takes its way".
- At the top of the document, there is a title. In the middle, we can see a man with a clown clothes. He walks on the railroad. In the background, we can see ^{the} Pacific ^C ocean.

A2:

- This document is a painting, it dates from 1880. Its title is "Westward the Star of Empire" and it was taken by Theodore Kaufman in New York.
- In the foreground, we can see Native Americans who try to stop the train. They are hiding ^{so they} ~~not~~ ^{can't be seen / found.} ~~make~~ to find. In the middle ground we can see prairies, there is a wild landscape. In the background we can see ^a train, the mountains, sky and cloud.

A2

- The construction of the Transcontinental Railroad began in 1863.
- This railroad, did take six years to build.
- Before, the railroad's construction ~~for~~^{to} reach the West Coast, people had few ways. They ^{could use} covered wagons or stagecoaches ~~overland~~ ^{OR [ou]} ~~and after~~, they boarded a second ship to go on the North of the United States.
- The journeys were long, arduous and very expensive ^{required} because the transportation was difficult and it ~~s~~ ^{required} necessitated a lot of money ~~for~~ to build the Transcontinental railroad.

A2 +

- First, painting by Jake Lee in Chinese workers building the railroad in 1865. I can see people construction the railroad of the Central Pacific Railroad.
- Then, ^{for the} construction the railroad ^{they needed} ~~had~~ many Chinese workers is 11,000. ^[11,000 Chinese came.]
- And, the job is dangerous because ~~is~~ ^{it} killed and the job is very tired ^{tiring} every day. During the construction, ^{it was} freezing cold or searing heat. He ^{They blasted} ~~make~~ a blasted tunnels, built roadbed and rail. For the job is very bad for a physic and morale.
- Finally, the migrants come to the United State because they wanted a ^{better} life and more money. But ~~we don't~~ ^{they were not} satisfied because first the conditions of life is very bad, the racial discrimination and dangerous working, then the reimbursement is little. And finally the temperature ~~is~~ ^{were} freezing cold or very hot.

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 Hatem

