**GUIDED READING EXERCISE**

**Chapter 17—The Contested West, 1865–1900**

* **What was most significant about American expansion after the Civil War?**

***Download and save this document so you can return to it to take notes and later use it for studying.*** *As you read the chapter, fill in the chart below to remind yourself how expansion after the Civil War affected different aspects of American society. If you copy and paste from the text, make sure you place quotation marks around the copied material; if you are able to describe the expansion in your own words, however, you should do so.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Effects of expansion** | **Specific examples** |
| **Indian populations** |  |  |
| **White settlers** |  |  |
| **Indian policy** |  |  |
| **Business and the economy** |  |  |
| **Environment** |  |  |
| **Demographics** |  |  |

*After you have read the chapter, use your notes to compose an essay that answers the following question:*

* **What was most significant about American expansion after the Civil War?**

*Be sure to include an opening, introductory paragraph in which you state your thesis. Then use the body of your essay to provide evidence from the chapter to support that thesis. End by writing a clear conclusion to your essay.*