**GUIDED READING EXERCISE**

**Chapter 12—The New West and the Free North, 1840–1860**

* **How was freedom defined in the North and West in the mid-nineteenth century?**

***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 various people living in the northern and western United States defined freedom in the mid-nineteenth century. Keep in mind that, even within a specific category, the definitions of freedom may have varied. 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 definitions in your own words, however, you should do so.*

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| **Who** | **Definitions of freedom in the North and West** |
| **Farmers and western migrants** |  |
| **Business leaders** |  |
| **Native-born workers** |  |
| **Immigrants** |  |
| **Native Americans** |  |
| **Tejanos** |  |
| **Political leaders** |  |
| **Transcendentalists/utopians** |  |
| **Abolitionists, African Americans, and women’s rights activists** |  |

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

* **How was freedom defined in the North and West in the mid-nineteenth century?**

*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. When thinking about how to organize this essay, you might want to consider what ideas about freedom were shared among different groups of northerners and westerners and what ideas were unique to specific groups. Did one definition of freedom dominate more than others? If so, why? If not, why not? End by writing a clear conclusion to your essay.*