

## CHAPTER 10: THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

The early years of the United States were marked by a period of exploration and discovery. The first European settlers arrived in North America in the late 15th century, and the country's borders expanded westward over the next two centuries. The American Revolution (1775-1783) led to the formation of the United States as an independent nation.

The 19th century was a time of rapid growth and change. The Industrial Revolution brought new technologies and economic power to the United States. The Civil War (1861-1865) was a defining moment in the nation's history, leading to the abolition of slavery and the strengthening of the federal government.

### The American West and the Frontier

The American West was a region of vast, open land that attracted settlers and explorers alike. The discovery of gold in California in 1848 led to a massive influx of people to the region, known as the California Gold Rush. The westward expansion of the United States was a defining characteristic of the 19th century, as settlers moved across the continent in search of land and opportunity. The frontier was a place of adventure and risk, where new frontiers were constantly being discovered and settled. The American West was a land of opportunity and hope, where dreams were often realized. The westward expansion of the United States was a defining characteristic of the 19th century, as settlers moved across the continent in search of land and opportunity. The frontier was a place of adventure and risk, where new frontiers were constantly being discovered and settled. The American West was a land of opportunity and hope, where dreams were often realized.

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