

The Promise

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Definitions

Slavery: the institution of forced labor where one person is the legal property another.

Abolitionist: a person who favors ending slavery.

Expansionism: the policy of increasing a country's size by expanding its territory.

Collaboration: act of working jointly on a project.

Adaptation: changing a written work to present it in another medium.

*The Oregon Trail was the route west taken by 350,000 to 500,000 men, women and children from the 1840s to the 1860s.

*The trail began at Independence, Missouri, and ended at Fort Vancouver, (now in Washington State.)

* While making the trip almost 10% of the people died from diseases spread by poor sanitation.

*Travelers packed wagons as light as possible, only taking easily preserved staple foods.

*Most meals consisted of bacon, beans, coffee, biscuits and bread.

*Although some people tried to carry along furniture, books, and treasured belongings, as the journey progressed, many pioneers had to throw away extra baggage to avoid overworking the oxen.

*The 2,000 mile journey took five months by ox-drawn wagon.

*Today, you could take the same trip 2,000 mile trip on the Oregon Trail by car in 4 days or on a airplane in 4 hours.