

## **Two Ways of Life** *Mary S. Black*

**Subject:** Social Studies

**Grade level:** 4 and 7

**Rationale or Purpose:** Students will compare the ways of life of Indians on the western Texas frontier and U.S. military men at the Texas forts. These two ways of life came into conflict in Texas, ending with the removal and virtual destruction of most Native Americans from the state. This conflict is a classic example of a culture with more advanced technology overcoming a less-technologically advanced group, a pattern of human affairs oft repeated throughout history.

**Materials:** computers, access to <http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/forts/indians.html> and <http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/forts/military.html> , student handouts, pens, colored pencils or markers, notebook paper

### **Objectives:**

- Social Studies 4.1A, identify Native American groups
- Social Studies 4.1B, compare ways of life
- Social Studies 4.4D, describe the effects of economic, political and social change on Native Americans
- Social Studies 4.20A, identify similarities and differences
- Social Studies 7.6A, identify factors leading to the expansion of the Texas frontier and the effects of western expansion on Native Americans
- Social Studies 7.6A, identify the Buffalo Soldiers
- Social Studies 7.20A, compare types and uses of technology past and present
- Social Studies 4.22A, 7.21A, use primary and secondary sources
- Social Studies 4.22B, 7.21B, analyze information by categorizing, identifying cause and effect relationships, comparing, contrasting, and making inferences
- Social Studies 7.21C, organize and interpret information
- Social Studies 7.21D, identify points of view
- Social Studies 7.21E, support a point of view
- Social Studies 7.22B, use standard grammar, spelling, etc.
- Social Studies 7.22C, transfer information from one medium to another
- Social Studies 4.22C, 7.22D, create written, oral and visual presentations
- Social Studies 4.24A, consider advantages and disadvantages

### **Activity:**

**Step 1:** Students explore the section “The Passing of the Indian Era” individually or in pairs.

**Step 2:** Students draw a picture in each block of the Student Handout to illustrate either Indian clothing, transportation, weapons, or shelter.

**Step 3:** Students write a one-sentence caption for each block on the student handout.

**Step 4:** Students repeat the process for the section “U.S. Army on the Texas Frontier”.

**Step 5:** Students write answers to the following questions, using their handouts to compare the two ways of life.

- I. Clothing
  - a. What materials did Indians use for clothing?
  - b. What materials did U.S. soldiers use for clothing?
  - c. In what other ways were Indian and soldiers clothing different?
  - d. Why were their clothes different?
- II. Transportation
  - a. Describe the equipment Indians used for riding horses.
  - b. Describe the equipment U.S. soldiers used for riding horses.
  - c. What were other differences in transportation used by Indians and soldiers?
  - d. Why did Indians and soldiers use different types of transportation?
- III. Weapons
  - a. What materials did Indians use for their weapons?
  - b. What materials did soldiers use for weapons?
  - c. What are some problems each group might have encountered concerning their weapons?
  - d. Which weapons do you think were more powerful and why?
- IV. Shelter
  - a. What kind of shelters did the Indians live in?
  - b. What kind of shelters did the U.S. soldiers live in?
  - c. What were some advantages of Indian shelters?
  - d. What kind of shelters do you think are most efficient for living in towns? Why?

**Modification:** Step 5 may be omitted or fewer questions may be required. Students can work in pairs or individually.

**Student Product:** completed handouts and written answers

**Closure:** Students use handouts and written answers to discuss the following questions:  
*Why do you think the U.S. soldiers were able to defeat the Indians and their way of life? Please give specific examples based on your evidence.*

**Assessment or evaluation:** completed handouts, written answers, class discussion





## Two Ways of Life Student Questions

Use your drawings, captions, and your good brains to write answers to the following questions. Use another sheet of paper to write your answers, numbering each one as below.

- V. Clothing
  - a. What materials did Indians use for clothing?
  - b. What materials did U.S. soldiers use for clothing?
  - c. In what other ways were Indian and soldiers clothing different?
  - d. Why were their clothes different?
- VI. Transportation
  - a. Describe the equipment Indians used for riding horses.
  - b. Describe the equipment U.S. soldiers used for riding horses.
  - c. What were other differences in transportation used by Indians and soldiers?
  - d. Why did Indians and soldiers use different types of transportation?
- VII. Weapons
  - a. What materials did Indians use for their weapons?
  - b. What materials did soldiers use for weapons?
  - c. What are some problems each group might have encountered concerning their weapons?
  - d. Which weapons do you think were more powerful and why?
- VIII. Shelter
  - a. What kind of shelters did the Indians live in?
  - b. What kind of shelters did the U.S. soldiers live in?
  - c. What were some advantages of Indian shelters?
  - d. What kind of shelters do you think are most efficient for living in towns? Why?