Define Manifest Destiny:

Americans' belief that they had the right to extend their boundaries to the Pacific Ocean.

List the factors that influenced Westward Expansion:

Economic (money)

- beginning to sell more products to Americans, not just Europeans
- more industries
- bountiful land:
 - rich farmland
 - vast mineral deposits
 - fine forests
 - good waterways for transportation
- more population means more customers to whom to sell goods
- steam engine:
 - factory machines
 - steamboats can travel upstream
 - farm machinery
 - railroads

Political

(power)

- democracy
- Louisiana Purchase
- Texas Annexation
- Oregon country
- Gadsden
 Purchase
- Mexican Cession

Social (people)

- population is doubling every 23 years
- large families
- immigrants