

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Review Questions

Prologue: The Great Plow-Up (1880s-1920s)

MISSION 5: "Up from the Dust"

A NOTE TO THE EDUCATOR:

The purpose of these questions is to check the students' understanding of the action of the game and the history embedded in that action. Since the outcome of gameplay can vary depending on the choices the student makes, the answers to the questions may also vary.

Some students might learn information from the game later than others, or not at all. If you choose to discuss responses as a whole group, information can be shared among all your students.

There may be more questions here than you want your students to answer in one sitting or in one evening. In that case, choose the questions you feel are most essential for their understanding of the prologue.

Feel free to copy the following pages of this activity for your students.

If you are not planning to have your students write the answers to the questions, you'll need to modify the directions.

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Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: After you play the Prologue, read and answer these questions from the point of view of your characters, Ginny and Frank Dunn. You may not know all the answers, so do the best you can. Write in complete sentences and proofread your work.

- 1) Before much of Texas and the Midwest became wheat farms, what different groups of people lived on the land? What happened to these groups?

- 2) Why did farmers call wheat "liquid gold?"

- 3) The Dunns don't have plumbing on their farm, unlike most folks in town. Where does the family get its water? What are some of the ways they use their water supply?

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4) Describe the Dunn family's farm. What type of crops do they have? What animals do they raise?

5) According to Ginny, why are tractors better than horses for plowing fields?

6) What is the climate like in the Texas Panhandle? How does Ginny know when springtime is coming?

7) Pa tells Frank, "Farming is always a gamble." What does he mean by this?

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8) Why does Pa instruct Frank to leave some land "fallow" when they are farming?

9) During the farming game, what factors affect the price of your wheat harvest?

10) What "expenses" do the Dunns pay after they harvest and sell their wheat? For this question, your answer does not need to be complete sentences.
