

Handout A: Point-Counterpoint Graphic Organizer

Claim A	Issue on the Table	Claim B
Summarize this argument in one sentence, using your own words:	Was Manifest Destiny a natural outcome of American economic, political, and ideological trends supporting western expansion, or was it an example of American imperialism driven by land hunger, cultural superiority, and racism?	Summarize this argument in one sentence, using your own words:
Select and record the sentence or sentences that best demonstrate the historian's point of view:	Compare the two arguments. To what extent do these claims support or oppose each other?	Select and record the sentence or sentences that best demonstrate the historian's point of view:

Which argument do you find more convincing? Explain what evidence led you to this point of view.

List at least two primary sources that would provide additional context to help you evaluate the arguments presented in this Point-Counterpoint.

Explain how this debate highlights the establishment of an American identity and American superiority on the North American continent.