

Read the text about the 19th century gold rushes around the world. Use the word in bracket to form a new word that fits into each blank.

## Gold Rush

The mid to late 19th century was a groundbreaking period marked by a series of gold rushes that (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (**SHAPE**) economies, societies, and landscapes across the globe. These events were driven by the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (**DISCOVER**) of gold in previously (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (**EXPLORE**) regions, sparking mass migrations and fuelling dreams of wealth and prosperity.

One of the earliest and most famous was the California Gold Rush (1848–1855), which began when gold was found at Sutter's Mill. Within months, hundreds of thousands of people from across the United States and abroad—especially from Latin America, Europe, and China—flooded into California. The rush accelerated the region's (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (**DEVELOP**), led to California's rapid (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (**ADMIT**) as a U.S. state, and had lasting impacts on infrastructure, agriculture, and indigenous populations.



**California Gold Rush**

Image: Unknown author, Public Domain  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1850\\_Woman\\_and\\_Men\\_in\\_California\\_Gold\\_Rush.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1850_Woman_and_Men_in_California_Gold_Rush.jpg)

Soon after, the Australian gold rushes began in the 1850s, notably in New South Wales and Victoria. These discoveries attracted prospectors from around the world and transformed Australia from a penal colony into a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (**BOOM**) economy. Melbourne, in particular, became one of the richest cities in the world during this period.

In the 1860s, the British Columbia gold rushes in Canada, including the Fraser Canyon and Cariboo rushes, drew thousands of miners and helped establish key (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (**SETTLE**) and trade routes in western Canada.

Toward the end of the century, the Klondike Gold Rush (1896–1899) in the Yukon Territory captured (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (**GLOBE**) attention. Harsh conditions and remote terrain made the journey (9) **perilous** (**PERIL**), but the promise of riches lured tens of thousands of gold-seekers northward.

These gold rushes were more than just economic booms—they were social phenomena that spurred innovation, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (**MIGRATE**), and conflict. While some individuals struck it rich, many faced hardship and (11) \_\_\_\_\_ (**DISAPPOINT**). Nonetheless, the legacy of these events continues to shape the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ (**CULTURE**) and economic landscapes of the regions involved.

## KEY

The mid to late 19th century was a groundbreaking period marked by a series of gold rushes that **(1) reshaped (SHAPE)** economies, societies, and landscapes across the globe. These events were driven by the **(2) discovery (DISCOVER)** of gold in previously **(3) unexplored (EXPLORE)** regions, sparking mass migrations and fuelling dreams of wealth and prosperity.

One of the earliest and most famous was the California Gold Rush (1848–1855), which began when gold was found at Sutter's Mill. Within months, hundreds of thousands of people from across the United States and abroad—especially from Latin America, Europe, and China—flooded into California. The rush accelerated the region's **(4) development (DEVELOP)**, led to California's rapid **(5) admission (ADMIT)** as a U.S. state, and had lasting impacts on infrastructure, agriculture, and indigenous populations.

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These gold rushes were more than just economic booms—they were social phenomena that spurred innovation, **(10) migration (MIGRATE)**, and conflict. While some individuals struck it rich, many faced hardship and **(11) disappointment (DISAPPOINT)**. Nonetheless, the legacy of these events continues to shape the **(12) cultural (CULTURE)** and economic landscapes of the regions involved.