

Instructions for “Talk a Mile a Minute”

This is an activity that can be used as a review after you have taught the Santa Fe Trail. Make a transparency or projection of the list or simply list the eight terms on the chalkboard. Do not reveal the list until the students are seated as partners with their backs to each other and only one facing the board. All of the terms used during this quick review are related to the Santa Fe Trail or can be used with any other subject your students have been studying.

1. Partner your students up. One student from each set of partners will face the overhead, the other will have his/her back to the screen.
2. Once the “guessers” have their backs to the screen reveal four of the terms.
3. The students that are facing the overhead will begin giving clues to their partners to try to get them to say the term. They can take the terms in any order. They cannot say any word that is included in the term as a clue (i.e. Raton Pass—clue can’t be “The pass that goes over the Rocky Mountains”).
4. Have the partners continue through the four clues until one group has correctly identified all four terms. That group should shout “Done.”
5. Everyone stops at this point. The teacher can use this as an opportunity to discuss the possible clues for each term. This is a good chance to review and remind the students of concepts they have covered during this unit.
6. Once this is done, or if you choose not to use this review opportunity, have the partners change seats so the “guesser” is now the clue giver. Reveal the next four terms.
7. You are free to use however many terms that you choose to use in a class period.

Example of terms to use:

Santa Fe	Spanish territory	international trade route
Franklin, MO	mules	William Becknell
Oxen	trade	Pieces of Eight
Susan Magoffin	William Bent	Bent’s Fort
Conestoga	Indian raid	taxes
Army of the West	Louisiana Purchase	Antonio Chavez