

1. Describe the effects of the dust storms of the 1930's.
2. In what ways did the Joads in John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* place a face on the tragedy of the Great Depression?
3. In what ways do the "skeptical cross-examinations" by historians support or challenge the collective reality presented by novelists and photographers such as Steinbeck and Lange? Provide specific examples from this chapter.
4. What does one learn about the Joads and the migration to the West when they are placed in a statistical context? Why is the 1940 census important to this process?
5. Why are tractors a symbol of the agricultural reorganization and mechanization of farming? In what ways did they lead to the exodus?
6. What were conditions really like in California during the 1930's? How was the journey compare to that of the Joads?

7. What was “chain migration” and how did it affect the migrant experience?
  
8. In what ways did diversity shape California’s agriculture and history?
  
9. How does multiculturalism help explain the experiences of the “Okies?”
  
10. How were migrants and ethnics groups similar? Why were they unable to make common cause in dealing with the prejudice and exploitation they experienced?