

Adapted from

ONE MAN'S GOLD

BY ENOS CHRISTMAN

Friday, May 25, 1851

One who has not been in California can hardly credit the changes that take place here in a very short period of time. Just one short year ago, I was crossing the barren plains on foot. Back then, a gold hunter had to carry everything he required with him. Often have I footed it a distance of fifteen or twenty miles over a burning, dusty plain without being able to get a drop of water unless I carried it with me. Now everything here is different. No canteen is needed. You need not carry your blankets. All along the roads, trading tents and good houses are erected. Travelers can find good meals as well as a good, clean bed.



Highlight the two main events in yellow.

Highlight in green signal words and text clues to their relationship.

Explanation:



Events

Clues

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Explanation:

The two events contrast the effects of the California Gold Rush. They show the changes that occurred within a year.



Events

Clues

A LETTER HOME

BY EDMUND BOOTH *Adapted from personal letters*

Nov. 3, 1850

My Dear Wife,

Probably you are thinking that I am now on my way home, and so I expected to be. Alas! I am in California for another winter.

[Several weeks ago,] a man offered me a half share in a damming company on condition that I worked until the dam was finished. After two weeks of the most laborious work I ever performed, we had a rain which must have been very heavy in the higher mountains. On the next day, every dam on the river, including our own, was either destroyed or greatly injured.

It was a most bitter disappointment all along. We had all expected to make our thousands and go home this Autumn.

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Explanation:



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It was a most bitter disappointment all along. We had all **expected to make our thousands and go home this Autumn.**

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Explanation:

Heavy rains destroy the dam Edmund built. As a result, he does not find gold and has to stay another winter.



Events

Clues