

Key Points/Questions

Details

Summary

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Key Points**Details**

<p>Main purpose of Pony Express? What cities did it span?</p> <p>When started?</p> <p>What route did it follow? How long was it?</p> <p>How many riders?</p> <p>How many horses?</p> <p>Why faster than Indian ponies?</p> <p>How many relay stations? How far apart? Mileage per day, per rider?</p> <p>How were riders armed?</p> <p>How much mail was carried?</p> <p>What was the cost?</p> <p>How many days to cover full route?</p> <p>When did Pony Express cease operations?</p> <p>Why did it cease?</p>	<p>The Pony Express</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Purpose: Faster communication- U.S. mail bet. St. Joseph Mo. & Sacramento, Calif.- to San Francisco by steamer 2. Started – Apr. 3, 1860 by Russell, Majors, & Waddell 3. Followed the Salt Lake Trail, a central route. Total miles 1966. 4. Hired 80 riders. Advertised: young, fearless, light & preferably orphaned <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Buffalo Bill was only 15 5. Horses: bought 400 fast, high-grade horses <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Horses fed grain hauled in from afar. b. Indian horses poorly bred & grass fed = lacked stamina 6. Relay stations: (190) 10 - 15 miles apart <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. rode at top speed – changed horses b. riders rode 75 mi./day- all weather; summer & winter c. armed w/knife & 2 revolvers – rifle too heavy 7. Mail: 20 lbs. max. = 350 letters <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Gov. mail & Army out-posts mail b. British Gov..used for its China mail= across U.S. c. Delivered twice a week- cost \$5.00 per 1/2 ounce 8. Time: At first, 10 days <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Later: 8 to 9 days b. Best time: Pres. Lincoln's inaugural speech= 7 days 17 hrs. 9. Pony Express ended= Oct. 24, 1861 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Operated almost 19 mos. b. Why ended? -Telegraph linked east & west coasts c. Financial failure-loss 1/2 million dollars
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Summary

Fast communication highly desired. PE founded by Russell, Majors and Waddell. Took horse-rider 8 to 10 days- Followed Salt Lake Trail from St. Louis, Mo. to Sacramento, Calif. (1966 miles). San Francisco by steamer. Began Apr. 3, 1860. Lasted about 19 mos. Ended in Oct 1861. Telegraph linked E-W coasts. Rugged, fascinating historic episode.

Basic Notetaking Suggestions

Step One: Capture Main Facts and Ideas

Whether you're taking notes from a book, a recorded lecture or live lecture, you should always take notes for later review. If the lecture is moving quickly, you may use telegraphic sentences to help note the most important facts. Here's an example. Full sentence: "A top speed of over 70 miles per hour makes the cheetah the world's fastest animal."

Now, here's the telegraphic sentence: "Cheetah-world's fastest animal - 70 mph."

Step Two: Review notes in your free time

It may feel like you have no free time, because you're juggling so many things, but reviewing your notes regularly – even if it's in 5-10 minute increments – can help improve your performance on exams, and save time later. Take time to fill in the gaps. Make letters and words more legible. Write out any abbreviations.

Step Three: Write Questions

Read through your main ideas, then formulate and write questions in the questions column of your notetaking worksheet (see example in this packet). This not only helps you remember the material, but it helps to ensure you understand it in an applicable way. Plus, the questions you formulate may turn up on your next exam!

Step Four: Recite Notes Aloud

Reciting is the most powerful and dependable memory enhancing technique known to the science of learning. This technique works for several reasons: First, saying the words forces you to think. Secondly, hearing the words is an additional technique involving the auditory memory. Thirdly, the sound of your voice will keep you alert, motivated, and actively engaged.

Here's how you can recite: Cover the right hand column of your notes exposing only the questions you've written when you completed step 3. Read the question, provide an answer, check to see if correct. Recite until you get it right.

Step Five: Summarize

At the end of each page, write a brief summary of the ideas covered on that page.

Step Six: Globalize

An assemblage of unconnected facts and ideas is not enough. To improve your memory of the information, and increase your ability to apply it, integrate the facts and ideas to understand how each piece is connected. For example: When we look at the following fact: "The Pony Express lost money and was forced out of business." Yes, that is correct, but the reason the pony express came to exist in the first place was the need for faster communication, so it likely would not have gone out of business without something to fill this need. According to what we see on the sample notetaking sheet, the other factor that played a part is that there was now a faster, more cost effective option – the telegraph.

Step Seven: Reflect

Linking your notes to your previous knowledge is proven to help you retain information. You can do this by asking how these new facts and ideas fit into the mental model you already have? What do these facts and ideas imply? Questions like these also help you think more creatively.