

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

99% Invisible - The Devil's rope

A podcast with Roman Mars

1. Who owned most of the land in the territories west of the Mississippi?
2. Why did the government want farmers to move west?
3. What problem did the farmers face when they tried to build fences?
4. Why were smooth wires not helpful for keeping cattle off their property?
5. The name of the man who's patent finally won-out was _____.
6. What was the disagreement between farmers and cattlemen? Explain the "law of open range" in your answer.
7. What were the "fence cutting wars"?
8. Who starting calling barbed wire "the Devil's rope"? Why did they start calling it this?
9. Usually, barbed wires serve to control, possess, and separate. What was one example of when barbed wire brought people together?