These cards are for potential essay questions that haven’t yet been on our exams. Lists of things, and/or things TestPrep specifically said could be on exam.

They have slide numbers on them that match with the information on the California History PowerPoint.

Also useful to put them in the correct chronological order.
Discuss the impact of the Mission system on the development of California.

Mission system had a religious and an economic impact on California. Spanish explorers crossed South America from the East Coast and came into California through Mexico. They established Missions 1) to spread Christianity to Native Americans, and 2) to exploit (use) the Native Americans as labor to grow food (agriculture). This didn’t work well. Native Americans didn’t want to convert, and Missions didn’t produce enough food to make it worthwhile. Later the Mexicans became independent of Spain and abolished the Missions (in the next video). Government gave the land to private people who had supported the government. These people became the Ranchero class and lived on Rancheros. They farmed and raised cattle. Pueblos = small towns. Presidio = fort/jail to maintain order and protect trade routes.
Discuss similarities and differences between the California and US Constitutions.

Slide 12

CA constitution is similar to US Constitution. **US has 3 branches:** Legislative (Congress makes laws, Senate and House of Representatives), Executive (President, Vice President executes laws), Judicial (Supreme Court and lower courts, determines if laws are constitutional). VP presides over US Senate.

**CA has 3 branches:** Legislative (State Legislature = State Senate and Assembly, make laws, Bicameral = 2 houses), Executive (Governor, Lieutenant Governor), Judicial (State Supreme Court and lower courts). Lieutenant Governor presides over State Senate.

3 branches provides for Checks and Balances or Separation of Powers, so one branch doesn’t have too much power.

**4 Differences between CA and US:**

1) CA Governor has “line item veto” which means he can veto any part of a bill (law) before he signs it. US President has to accept or veto an entire bill. This leads to Congressmen or Senators adding “riders” which are things that don’t really relate to the bill but they are trying to get extra money for special projects they want funded. Early 1900s citizens wanted more power so they added

2) **Initiative** means citizens can write a petition and get signatures to put a law on the ballot. If passed, it becomes a law.

3) **Referendum** means citizens can get signatures to put a measure on the ballot to remove a law.

4) **Recall** means citizens can get signatures to call an election to remove an elected official. Example was Governor Gray Davis was recalled.
Discuss the impact of immigration on the development of California.

Slide 14
Also see CSET example question on Slide 16

Waves of immigration to CA (large groups of people coming into the state).
1) Gold Rush – 1847 discovered gold. Between 1847 and 1860 large number of people came to CA to mine gold. Population grew from 15,000 to 380,000 people.
2) 20 years later in 1880s – CA land boom of 1880s. People were given free or cheap land if they would move to CA to farm. Called “homesteaders”.
3) Great Depression – There was a drought (no rain) in Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas. There was no rain and fields dried up and soil blew away up into the air. Called these areas the “Dust Bowl”. Farmers moved to CA to try to find jobs. But there were not enough jobs, so workers were exploited and abused. John Steinbeck wrote book “Grapes of Wrath” to describe what happened.
4) 1965 reforms to US Immigration Laws. Immigration Reform Act. McClaren-Walters Act. “Nativist”, racist laws that were in effect to keep people from immigrating into the US were repealed. Nativist means people who already lived in US thought they had become natives, and had more right to live here than new immigrants. In particular, Asians had been excluded: Chinese Exclusion Act. When laws were changed or repealed, many more people came to US, and many chose to live in CA. CA had good economic opportunities. Huge numbers of Asians moved to CA in late 60s and early 70s.