As you do the readings, I would want you to consider the following specific or over-arching points. (These are merely points to guide you and help us with discussion (no written responses required.)

The overarching themes of our class are cross-cultural encounters, expansion, ethnic cleansing, survival, and how they relate to leadership and decision making both on the United States and the Native American side.

1. Berkhofer provides some insights into the way Native Americans are seen in history and mainstream society today. What are some of the main points he is making?

2. Brown's article on the Cherokee removal: What are the arguments (native, federal, state, judicial) leaders use for and against removal?

3. How the West was Lost. This is a little dry and information packed, but it is worth fighting your way through. This article gives you a good insight into the historical complexity and the diversity of our themes and will provide you with valuable background knowledge.

4. The primary documents give you some specific historic evidence, but more importantly they put a human face on many of the problems we will be talking about.