

**Video Review Questions**  
**“Modern Marvels- Comstock Lode”**

**Short answer/notes – these questions are in order**

1. What was the early settlers’ general opinion about Nevada?
2. Explain why miners began to work the hills and mountains of desolate Nevada.
3. About how much gold did miners on Gold Hill find in an average day?
4. What was the annoying, muddy, “damn blue stuff” that clogged miner’s troughs on Gold Hill?
5. What was the job of the Assayer and explain why this individual was so important to the miners?
6. How much did George Hearst pay Alva Gould for his claim on Mount Davidson?
  - 6b. What eventually happened to George Hearst (the buyer)?
  - 6c. What eventually happened to Alva Gould (the seller)?
7. Who was the person that all the silver claims in Virginia City were named after?
8. How large were some of the veins of silver ore in the Comstock Lode?
9. What was the total value of silver taken from the Comstock mines?
10. What type of support system was developed to keep the large mines from collapsing?

**Sketch a picture of what a Square Set Timbering System would look like.**

11. How many miles of tunnels ran below Mt. Davidson?
12. Who was the famous American author who began as a newspaper reporter in Virginia City?
13. How much did an average Virginia City miner earn for a day’s work?
14. How hot was it in the mines at 2,000 feet?

15. How did miners stay cool in the extremely hot mines?
16. What animals actions helped miners detect if a cave-in was about to happen?
17. At what level did mines begin to flood?
18. What happened to the forests and trees throughout northern Nevada and Lake Tahoe?
19. How many homes could be built from the wood used to support the mineshafts of the Comstock?
20. Name two items that the train brought to Virginia City that allowed the mining industry to survive.
21. How many hours did it take to get from Virginia City to San Francisco by train?
22. What was the danger of using the new powerful air powered drills?
23. Explain why the Sutro Tunnel was built and, in your opinion, whether or not it was successful.
24. How deep did Virginia City miners dig into the ground before giving up in the 1880's?
25. Explain which city benefitted the most from the silver taken out of the Comstock Lode and why.

**Short Essay - Write your answers in complete sentences. BE THOROUGH. BE THOUGHTFUL!**

26. Briefly describe how silver and gold are mined today. Provide two (2) examples of how modern mining is similar / different from mining methods used on the Comstock Lode.
27. Describe three (3) specific new technologies that made mining the Comstock Lode possible and profitable and briefly explain how each was used.
28. Would you have wanted to be a miner on the Comstock Lode? Explain why or why not and provide at least two (2) examples.