NAME: __________________________

You Be the Historian Student Worksheet

Answer these questions as you explore the buffalo hide painting to learn more about the Plains Indians and the buffalo.

MEN ON HORSEBACK
How many men do you see and what are they doing? ______________________________________________________
How many buffalo do you see in this section of the hide painting (look at both sides of the hide)?

The buffalo with a knife next to it represents buffalo that have been killed. How many do you see?________________________________________

What do you think the Indians did with the buffalo they killed? Use the evidence from other sources to answer this question.________________________________________

How are the Indians at the top different from the others? Compare notes with the Smithsonian historian to find out. __________________________________________

Where are the buffalo bleeding? Why? Compare notes with the Smithsonian historian to find out. __________________________________________

What does this image say about the relationship between the Plains Indians and the buffalo? __________________________________________

BUFFALO SKULL
Look at the photograph clue. What is the man holding and how is he holding it? ____________________________

Where did Indians use parts of the buffalo? ____________________________

How did the Indians of the Plains show respect for the buffalo? Summarize the historian’s response: ____________________________
MAN WITH A RIFLE
What are these men doing? ________________________________

How many buffalo do you see in this section of the hide painting? __________________

How many men are there and how many buffalo have been killed? __________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Compare this with the number killed by the Indians at the top of the hide; is it higher or lower?

______________________________________________________________________________

What do you think these people did with the buffalo they killed? Use the pictures at the bottom
of the page to help you answer the question. ________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

What part of the buffalo is bleeding most? ____________ Why? Compare your notes with the
Smithsonian historian to find out. ________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

How many buffalo could one hunter kill in one day? Compare your notes with the Smithsonian
historian to find out. ________________________________

TRAIN
How many people do you see? ________________________________

Who do you think these people are? ________________________________

How did they travel to the northern Plains? What kinds of transportation do you see in this pic-
ture? ________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

How did they use the land differently from the Indians? Look at the pictures at the bottom of the
page to help you answer the question. ________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

What animals do you see in this part of the painting? How many are there? ____________

How did the arrival of settlers change life on the northern Plains? Compare your notes with the
Smithsonian historian to help answer the question. ________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________