Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Tall Tale Assignment**

When the mountain men got together, they would tell stories of their exploits. Usually, these stories were exaggerations on what had really happened. This is known as a tall tale. I want you each to write a 1-2 page tall tale of your own. Imagine you are a trapper or mountain man and that you came out to Utah to catch beaver. What interactions did you have with Native Americans, animals, or other mountain men? Please include at least 3 mountain man slang words found on this paper.

We will be sharing our Tall Tales in class next time. I would love it if you could tell your story without reading it, however it is fine if you just read it. Get into the story, use an accent or language the mountain men would have used. This will be more fun if everyone gets involved in the activity; have fun! Be a mountain man (or woman).

Please attach this paper to your story.

What were the three mountain man slang words you used? Circle them in your paper.

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Mountain Man Slang Words

Big dance= a celebration

Dry= thirsty

Firewater= alcohol or whiskey

Fix= a problem or trouble

Have it on the prairie= to get something for free

Make tracks= to run fast

Outfit= fur company

Possible sack= a leather pouch hung around the neck that contained necessities such as a pope and awl, tobacco and a bullet mold.

Rubbed out= a murder or death

Sign= beaver tracks

Buffler= buffalo

Cache= a hiding place for furs

Critter= animal

Fixins= things needed in the trapping business

Pill= bullet

Give ‘em a teach= teach them a lesson

Make beaver= make money

Para swap= an even trade

Shining Mountains= rocky mountains

The way the stick floats= the way things happened

Vittles= food