The Transcontinental Railroad and the West

Role:

**Railway owners**  
As railway owners you will want to maximize your profits. Your lawyers are ready to look over both acts to see how your company can make the most money. As a group plan whatever strategies, you can to do so. (In your thinking, be sure to include use of the land you will acquire.)

**Brainstorm:**

**Proposal:**

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The Transcontinental Railroad and the West

Role:

**Land Speculators**  
You are neither settlers nor railway owners, but people who want to buy land as cheaply as possible and then re-sell it at a much higher rate. Your lawyers will look at both these acts to find as many loopholes as possible for ways in which you can purchase land for re-sale.

**Brainstorm:**

**Proposal:**

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The Transcontinental Railroad and the West

Role:

**Settlers**  
You are people who want to purchase land for farming. The Homestead Act seems like the bonanza you have been waiting for. However, profiting from both these acts may be harder than you imagine. Discuss the various difficulties you may face in terms of staking your claim to land, holding on to it, and making it profitable.

**Brainstorm:**

**Proposal:**

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