

CHAPTER 6 / Placer versus Quartz Mining

Compare and Contrast

“The process of placer mining involves filling a pan with the crushed ore to separate the gold. This could be done individually by one prospector on his or her own.

The process of lode [quartz] mining involves the labor of many miners working together to extract the gold from tunnels in a mountain or the earth.”

—<http://wells.entirety.ca/lode.htm>

In the space below, compare and contrast placer mining with quartz mining. Your essay may include the differences in the way the precious metal is recovered; the impact the different techniques had on the environment; the kinds of towns that grew up around the different kinds of mining; and the long-range effect of these mining techniques on Montana’s economy.