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| Exit Ticket1. Name one advantage and one disadvantage Charles Bent and Ceran St. Vrain may have had by joining New Mexican families while also living and doing business there?

Advantage: (possible answers)Advantage: Charles Bent and Ceran St. Vrain had the benefit of local business connections through their partners. They would have been trusted by the local community and the government more easily because of their family relationship. Their extended families would have helped them adapt to the cultural manners, habits, and language of the people they would be doing business with the most. When the political situation between the U.S. and Mexico changed, they had the potential benefit of protection from their family against those who resisted American take-over. Because they resided in New Mexico with their families, trading from the southern end of the Santa Fe Trail helped them manage and protect their goods. Living in New Mexico with New Mexicans helped them understand the resources available for trade and what goods would be best to import.Disadvantage: Charles Bent and Ceran St. Vrain were taking a risk by setting up business in a country in which they were not citizens. They may have put their families in a difficult social situation with those who did not want American influence in the area. Because they were so far from their native country, it was difficult for them to have the full protection of the American government. They both had to learn and adopt customs, habits, diet, and language that was unfamiliar to them. They may not have agreed with the social expectations of the New Mexican culture. They would need to be aware of and follow the laws of both Mexico and the United States.   |