Alabama in Motion

Connect Alabama's early history to the nation's expansion.

SS24.US1.5e "Compare major events in Alabama from 1781 to 1823, including statehood as part of the expanding nation, acquisition of land, settlement, and the Creek War, to events occurring elsewhere in the developing nation."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three developments in Alabama and circle three related events elsewhere in the nation. Give each related pair the same number to show a connection.

Land, War, and Statehood

1. In 1781, American and French forces won at Yorktown, Virginia, but the future Alabama was not yet a U.S. state. Creek, Choctaw, and Chickasaw nations held homelands there, while Spain controlled Mobile. After independence, the United States claimed inland lands, though its claims did not erase Native sovereignty. Congress organized part of the region as Mississippi Territory in 1798. Georgia gave up its western land claims to the federal government in 1802, even though Native nations still held land. In 1803, the Louisiana Purchase brought the United States vast territory west of the Mississippi River, not land in Alabama.

2. During the War of 1812, the United States fought Britain along the Atlantic coast and the Canadian border. In the Southeast, divisions within the Creek Nation and growing pressure on Creek lands helped spark the Creek War in 1813. Some Creek fighters, called Red Sticks, battled U.S. forces and their Creek and Cherokee allies. At Horseshoe Bend in 1814, Andrew Jackson's forces defeated the Red Sticks. The Treaty of Fort Jackson then forced the Creek Nation to cede more than 20 million acres, including lands of Creeks who had allied with the United States. This loss opened land to more U.S. settlers.

3. In 1817, Congress split the Mississippi Territory, creating Alabama Territory while Mississippi became a state. Alabama entered the Union in 1819 as a slave state. Settlers moved onto lands taken from Native nations, and planters expanded cotton production using enslaved labor. National expansion also raised questions about where slavery would be allowed. The Missouri Compromise of 1820 admitted Maine as a free state and provided for Missouri's admission as a slave state, preserving a balance in the Senate. By 1823, Alabama's growing cotton economy showed how new states could increase national wealth while deepening dispossession and slavery.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the U.S. victory at Yorktown in 1781 differ from the situation in the future Alabama at that time?

2. How were Georgia's 1802 cession and the 1803 Louisiana Purchase alike as steps in U.S. expansion? What limit applied to Georgia's cession?

3. Compare the fighting in the War of 1812 elsewhere with the Creek War in the Southeast. What changed in Alabama after the Treaty of Fort Jackson?

4. How did Alabama's statehood in 1819 connect to the national concern addressed by the Missouri Compromise of 1820?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a museum label of 75 to 95 words arguing whether Alabama's growth was mainly a local story or part of national expansion. Connect two dated Alabama developments to two dated events elsewhere in the nation, and explain one consequence for Native peoples or enslaved people.

ANSWER KEY

Alabama in Motion

GRADE 10 · SS24.US1.5e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three developments in Alabama and circle three related events elsewhere in the nation. Give each related pair the same number to show a connection. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the U.S. victory at Yorktown in 1781 differ from the situation in the future Alabama at that time?	**American and French forces won at Yorktown, but the future Alabama was not a U.S. state. Native nations held homelands there, and Spain controlled Mobile.**
2	How were Georgia's 1802 cession and the 1803 Louisiana Purchase alike as steps in U.S. expansion? What limit applied to Georgia's cession?	**Both increased land claimed by the federal government. Georgia gave up its western claims, but Native nations still held land there. The Louisiana Purchase added territory west of the Mississippi River.**
3	Compare the fighting in the War of 1812 elsewhere with the Creek War in the Southeast. What changed in Alabama after the Treaty of Fort Jackson?	**The United States fought Britain along the Atlantic coast and Canadian border. In the Creek War, Red Sticks fought U.S. forces and their Creek and Cherokee allies. The treaty forced a large Creek land cession that opened land to settlers.**
4	How did Alabama's statehood in 1819 connect to the national concern addressed by the Missouri Compromise of 1820?	**Alabama entered as a slave state. The Missouri Compromise addressed the balance between free and slave states by admitting Maine as a free state and providing for Missouri's admission as a slave state.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Alabama's path to statehood was part of a larger national push for land and power. Georgia surrendered its western claims in 1802, while the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 enlarged U.S. claims west of the Mississippi River. These changes did not erase Native land rights. After the Creek War, the 1814 Treaty of Fort Jackson forced a massive land cession, making room for more settlers. Alabama became a slave state in 1819. The Missouri Compromise of 1820 showed that adding slave states also affected the balance of power in Congress.

Accept other accurate, passage-supported comparisons. For the museum label, look for an argument, two dated Alabama developments, two dated national events, and a clearly explained consequence.