

Florida Changes Hands

Trace how an agreement made Florida a United States territory.

SS.4.A.3.9 "Explain how Florida (Adams-Onís Treaty) became a U.S. territory."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the actions Spain and the United States agreed to take. Then number 1, 2, and 3 beside three events that show how Florida became a U.S. territory.

The Adams-Onís Treaty

- ① In the early 1800s, Florida belonged to Spain. The area bordered the United States, but Spain had trouble governing it. Some people crossed the border to raid farms or hide after breaking laws. U.S. leaders wanted a safer border and control of Florida's ports. Spain faced wars and conflicts in its American colonies, so holding Florida was difficult.
- ② In 1819, Secretary John Quincy Adams and Spanish minister Luis de Onís signed the Adams-Onís Treaty. Spain agreed to give Florida to the United States. In exchange, the United States gave up its claim to Texas, then part of Spanish territory. The United States also agreed to settle up to \$5 million in claims that its citizens had made against Spain. This agreement helped both nations settle border disagreements.
- ③ The treaty did not immediately make Florida a state. After both governments approved it, the agreement took effect in 1821. In July 1821, Spain formally transferred Florida, and U.S. troops took control. Florida became a U.S. territory, meaning Congress could govern it. Florida later became the 27th state in 1845. Its residents had different political rights from citizens of a state.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What two reasons did U.S. leaders want control of Florida?

2 What did Spain agree to do in the Adams-Onís Treaty?

3 What two things did the United States agree to do in exchange for Florida?

4 How did the Adams-Onís Treaty lead to Florida becoming a U.S. territory?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence cause-and-effect explanation of how Florida became a U.S. territory. Include one agreement Spain made, one agreement the United States made, and what happened in 1821.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the actions Spain and the United States agreed to take. Then number 1, 2, and 3 beside three events that show how Florida became a U.S. territory. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two reasons did U.S. leaders want control of Florida?	They wanted a safer border and control of Florida's ports.
2	What did Spain agree to do in the Adams-Onís Treaty?	Spain agreed to give Florida to the United States.
3	What two things did the United States agree to do in exchange for Florida?	The United States gave up its claim to Texas and agreed to settle up to \$5 million in claims by its citizens against Spain.
4	How did the Adams-Onís Treaty lead to Florida becoming a U.S. territory?	After both governments approved the treaty, it took effect in 1821. Spain formally transferred Florida, U.S. troops took control, and Congress governed Florida as a territory.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In 1819, Spain agreed in the Adams-Onís Treaty to transfer Florida to the United States. The United States gave up its claim to Texas and agreed to settle certain claims against Spain. When the agreement took effect in 1821, Florida became a U.S. territory.

Accept equivalent explanations that correctly connect the treaty terms, approval in 1821, Spain's transfer of Florida, and U.S. territorial control. For the open response, require all three requested parts and a clear cause-and-effect sequence.