

Texas Stories and Symbols

Read how symbols, places, words, and celebrations connect Texans to history.

4.14 "Citizenship. The student understands important customs, symbols, and celebrations of Texas. The student is expected to: explain the meaning of various patriotic symbols and landmarks of Texas, including the six flags that flew over Texas..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the names of Texas symbols and landmarks, circle the celebrations, and star each sentence that tells why a symbol, landmark, song, pledge, or celebration matters.

Signs of Texas History

- ① Texas has had six governments or nations fly flags over its land: Spain, France, Mexico, the Republic of Texas, the Confederate States of America, and the United States. These six flags remind us that Texas has a changing history. The Alamo in San Antonio was a mission and the site of an 1836 battle. It stands for courage and sacrifice.
- ② The San Jacinto Monument near Houston honors the Battle of San Jacinto, fought on April 21, 1836. That victory helped Texas win independence from Mexico. Texans also show respect through words. In the Texas pledge, people promise loyalty to the Texas flag and to Texas as one state under God, united and not divided. "Texas, Our Texas" is the state song. Its words honor Texas and its people.
- ③ State celebrations help people remember important events. Texas Independence Day is March 2. It marks the 1836 day Texas declared independence from Mexico. Juneteenth is June 19. It remembers the day in 1865 when news that enslaved people were free reached Galveston. Juneteenth celebrates freedom and honors the long struggle for equality. By learning these symbols, words, landmarks, and celebrations, Texans connect history to citizenship today.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How do the six flags help explain that Texas has a changing history?

2 What does the Alamo stand for, and what does the San Jacinto Monument honor?

3 What do the Texas pledge and "Texas, Our Texas" each express?

4 Give the date and meaning of Texas Independence Day and Juneteenth.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one Texas symbol, landmark, song, pledge, or celebration from the passage. Write exactly three sentences: explain what it represents, tell why it is important, and name one respectful action a citizen can take.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the names of Texas symbols and landmarks, circle the celebrations, and star each sentence that tells why a symbol, landmark, song, pledge, or celebration matters. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the six flags help explain that Texas has a changing history?	They represent six different governments or nations that flew flags over Texas at different times.
2	What does the Alamo stand for, and what does the San Jacinto Monument honor?	The Alamo stands for courage and sacrifice. The San Jacinto Monument honors the Battle of San Jacinto and its victory, which helped Texas win independence from Mexico.
3	What do the Texas pledge and “Texas, Our Texas” each express?	The pledge expresses loyalty to the Texas flag and to Texas as one state under God, united and not divided. The state song honors Texas and its people.
4	Give the date and meaning of Texas Independence Day and Juneteenth.	Texas Independence Day is March 2 and marks the 1836 declaration of independence from Mexico. Juneteenth is June 19 and remembers when news of freedom reached enslaved people in Galveston in 1865.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The San Jacinto Monument honors the Battle of San Jacinto, a victory that helped Texas win independence from Mexico. It represents an important turning point in Texas history. A citizen can show respect by learning about the battle and caring for historic places.

Accept equivalent explanations that connect each item to its meaning or historical event. For the open response, accept any accurate choice from the passage and a reasonable respectful action.