

Texas Joins Union

Trace the causes of annexation and the effects of war.

4.3.E “explain the events that led to the annexation of Texas to the United States and the impact of the U.S.-Mexican War.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the three sentences that begin with First, Next, and Finally to show the events leading to annexation. Then circle the two result phrases in the last sentence that tell how the war changed the border and land controlled by the United States.

From Republic to State

- ① In 1821, Mexico became independent from Spain, and Texas was part of Mexico. Mexico allowed some settlers from the United States to move there, but required them to follow Mexican laws. Tension grew over rules, land, and slavery. In 1835, many Texas settlers fought Mexican troops. The next year, Texas declared independence and formed the Republic of Texas.
- ② First, after winning independence, the Republic of Texas asked the United States to add it as a state. Next, many U.S. leaders hesitated because Mexico still claimed Texas and because adding a slave state could upset the balance between free and slave states. Finally, President James K. Polk supported annexation, and Congress admitted Texas as a state in 1845.
- ③ Mexico warned that annexation could lead to conflict. After Texas joined the United States, both countries claimed land between the Nueces River and the Rio Grande. Fighting began in 1846. The United States won the U.S.-Mexican War. In the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Mexico accepted the Rio Grande as Texas's border and gave the United States a large area of western land.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What did the Republic of Texas ask the United States to do after Texas won independence?

2 Name the two reasons many U.S. leaders hesitated to annex Texas.

3 What happened after President Polk supported annexation in 1845?

4 What were the two changes named in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three sentences that explain a chain of events from Texas independence to one result of the U.S.-Mexican War. Include the 1845 annexation and use the word because or so to show a connection.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Number the three sentences that begin with First, Next, and Finally to show the events leading to annexation. Then circle the two result phrases in the last sentence that tell how the war changed the border and land controlled by the United States. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did the Republic of Texas ask the United States to do after Texas won independence?	It asked the United States to add Texas as a state.
2	Name the two reasons many U.S. leaders hesitated to annex Texas.	Mexico still claimed Texas, and adding a slave state could upset the balance between free and slave states.
3	What happened after President Polk supported annexation in 1845?	Congress admitted Texas as a state.
4	What were the two changes named in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo?	The Rio Grande became Texas's border, and the United States gained a large area of western land.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Texas became independent and asked the United States to add it as a state. In 1845, Congress admitted Texas after President Polk supported annexation. This led to conflict with Mexico, and after the war, the Rio Grande became Texas's border.

Accept equivalent wording that identifies the three steps toward annexation and the two treaty results. For the open response, accept a logical cause-and-effect chain that includes Texas independence, annexation in 1845, and one stated impact of the war.