

Texas Voices

Trace how Texas leaders shaped state and national government.

7.17.B “identify the contributions of Texas leaders such as Lawrence Sullivan “Sul” Ross, John Nance Garner (“Cactus Jack”), James A. Baker III, Henry B. González, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Barbara Jordan, Raymond L. Telles, Sam Rayburn, and Raul A...”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each leader’s name. Number the leaders 1 through 9 in passage order, then write the same number beside the words that state each leader’s contribution.

Leaders From Texas

- ① Texas leaders have served their state in Austin and in Washington, D.C. Lawrence Sullivan “Sul” Ross was governor of Texas from 1887 to 1891 and later led Texas A&M College as its president. John Nance Garner, called “Cactus Jack,” represented Texas in Congress, became Speaker of the U.S. House, and later served as vice president. Sam Rayburn, another Texas congressman, served longer as House speaker than anyone else and guided major national laws through the House.
- ② Barbara Jordan broke barriers in public office. She became the first Black woman in the Texas Senate and then represented Texas in the U.S. House. Her powerful speeches during the Watergate hearings defended the Constitution. Henry B. González served many years in Congress for Texas, where he spoke for civil rights and for affordable housing and health care. Raymond L. Telles served as mayor of El Paso and later as U.S. ambassador to Costa Rica.
- ③ Later Texas leaders continued to influence national and state government. James A. Baker III served as U.S. secretary of state and helped build an international coalition during the Gulf War. Kay Bailey Hutchison became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate from Texas. Raul A. Gonzalez Jr. was the first Hispanic justice on the Texas Supreme Court. Their roles show that leadership can mean representing voters, leading a court, or shaping decisions at home and abroad.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What two leadership roles did Sul Ross hold after serving Texas?

2 How were John Nance Garner and Sam Rayburn alike, and what is one difference in their contributions?

3 Which leader defended the Constitution during the Watergate hearings? What public offices did this leader hold?

4 What barrier did Raul A. Gonzalez Jr. break, and on which court did he serve?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose two leaders from the passage. Write four sentences that compare their contributions, including one role for each leader and one way their leadership was alike or different.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each leader's name. Number the leaders 1 through 9 in passage order, then write the same number beside the words that state each leader's contribution. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two leadership roles did Sul Ross hold after serving Texas?	He was governor of Texas and later president of Texas A&M College.
2	How were John Nance Garner and Sam Rayburn alike, and what is one difference in their contributions?	Both represented Texas in Congress and became Speaker of the U.S. House. Garner later served as vice president, while Rayburn served longer as speaker than anyone else.
3	Which leader defended the Constitution during the Watergate hearings? What public offices did this leader hold?	Barbara Jordan. She served in the Texas Senate and the U.S. House.
4	What barrier did Raul A. Gonzalez Jr. break, and on which court did he serve?	He was the first Hispanic justice on the Texas Supreme Court.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

John Nance Garner and Kay Bailey Hutchison both represented Texas in the national government. Garner became Speaker of the U.S. House and later vice president. Hutchison became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate from Texas. Their contributions differed because Garner led the House, while Hutchison broke a barrier in the Senate.

Accept accurate descriptions of contributions stated in the passage. For the open response, accept any two leaders, as long as the student gives an accurate role for each and a supported comparison.