

Spain Takes Root

Track people, places, and challenges in colonial Texas.

7.2.C “identify important individuals, events, and issues related to European colonization of Texas, including the establishment of Catholic missions, towns, and ranches, and the contributions of individuals such as Fray Damián Massanet...”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each of the three people named in the passage. Circle each named or described establishment, including missions, the presidio, the town, and cattle ranches, then number these four challenges in the order they appear: drought, sickness, scarce food, and the French incursion.

Building Spanish Texas

- ① In 1690, Franciscan friar Fray Damián Massanet traveled with Spanish soldiers into East Texas. Spain wanted to strengthen its claim to the region and share Catholic teachings with the Hasinai people. Massanet helped establish Mission San Francisco de los Tejas near a Hasinai community. The mission was one of Spain’s first efforts to build a permanent presence in East Texas. Priests taught religion, while soldiers at nearby posts offered protection. The mission also depended on food and supplies sent from far away.
- ② Life at the mission was difficult. Drought hurt crops, sickness affected both Native people and Spaniards, and the long distance from supply centers made food scarce. In 1693, Spain abandoned Mission San Francisco de los Tejas and other East Texas missions. Years later, Father Francisco Hidalgo, who had served in East Texas, urged officials to return. His letters helped press Spain to restore missions. In 1716, a new Spanish expedition established several East Texas missions, including Mission Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de los Nacogdoches.
- ③ Franciscan Antonio Margil de Jesús led the founding of Mission Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de los Nacogdoches in 1716. A French incursion in 1719 caused Spain to temporarily withdraw from East Texas; missions were restored around 1721. In central Texas, Spain established Mission San Antonio de Valero and the presidio of San Antonio de Béxar in 1718. Canary Island settlers established the town of San Fernando de Béxar in 1731. Nearby settlers started cattle ranches, which supplied food and helped make San Antonio a lasting Spanish community.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Fray Damián Massanet contribute to Spain’s colonization of East Texas?

2 Name the three problems that made life difficult at the East Texas mission before Spain abandoned it in 1693.

3 What did Francisco Hidalgo and Antonio Margil de Jesús each do to support the return of Spanish missions to East Texas?

4 What town and what kind of rural settlement helped make the San Antonio area a lasting Spanish community? Explain how the rural settlement helped.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write four sentences explaining how one individual, two kinds of Spanish establishments, and one challenge shaped colonization in Texas. Include what Spain did in response to the challenge.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each of the three people named in the passage. Circle each named or described establishment, including missions, the presidio, the town, and cattle ranches, then number these four challenges in the order they appear: drought, sickness, scarce food, and the French incursion. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Fray Damián Massanet contribute to Spain's colonization of East Texas?	He helped establish Mission San Francisco de los Tejas near a Hasinai community.
2	Name the three problems that made life difficult at the East Texas mission before Spain abandoned it in 1693.	Drought hurt crops, sickness affected people, and the long distance from supply centers made food scarce.
3	What did Francisco Hidalgo and Antonio Margil de Jesús each do to support the return of Spanish missions to East Texas?	Hidalgo urged officials to return and wrote letters that helped press Spain to restore missions. Margil led the founding of Mission Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de los Nacogdoches in 1716.
4	What town and what kind of rural settlement helped make the San Antonio area a lasting Spanish community? Explain how the rural settlement helped.	The town was San Fernando de Béxar. Cattle ranches supplied food and helped support a lasting Spanish community.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Fray Damián Massanet helped Spain begin a permanent presence by establishing a mission in East Texas. Drought and sickness made the mission hard to maintain, so Spain abandoned it in 1693 and restored missions years later. Spain also built a presidio and established a town near San Antonio to protect and settle the area. Cattle ranches supplied food and supported a lasting community.

Accept accurate explanations that connect a named individual, establishments, and a colonization challenge using passage evidence. For the open response, accept any two establishment types from the passage and a correct response to a challenge.