

Settlers and Leaders

Compare how key individuals shaped Mexican Texas.

7.2.E “identify the contributions of significant individuals, including Moses Austin, Stephen F. Austin, Erasmo Seguín, Martín De León, and Green DeWitt, during the Mexican settlement of Texas; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each leader’s name. Circle the words or phrases that explain what that person did, then number the five leaders in the order they appear.

Building Colonies in Texas

- ① In 1820, Moses Austin asked Spanish officials for permission to bring 300 families from the United States into Texas. Officials first rejected him, but he gained support and received a grant shortly before he died in 1821. His son, Stephen F. Austin, continued the plan. After Mexico won independence, Stephen worked with Mexican leaders to have the grant confirmed. He recruited families, chose settlement sites, and managed the colony. His work helped begin large-scale Anglo-American settlement in Mexican Texas during the 1820s.
- ② Erasmo Seguín was a Tejano leader who supported Mexico's independence from Spain. As a government official in San Antonio, he helped Stephen F. Austin communicate with Mexican authorities and supported Austin's colonization plan. Seguín represented the interests of Texas residents within Mexico. Martín De León, another Tejano empresario, received permission to settle families near the lower Guadalupe River. He founded Victoria in 1824, creating the only major colony in Texas settled mainly by Mexican families.
- ③ Green DeWitt received a Mexican empresario contract in 1825 to settle 400 families in the area west of Austin's colony. He organized settlers and helped establish Gonzales, an important town in his colony. These leaders did not make the same contribution. Moses Austin started the first colonization plan, Stephen F. Austin carried it out, Seguín linked Tejano and Mexican government interests, De León built a Mexican colony, and DeWitt opened another colony. Comparing their actions shows how several people shaped settlement.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Moses Austin's contribution differ from Stephen F. Austin's contribution?

2 What did Erasmo Seguín do that helped Stephen F. Austin's colonization plan?

3 What was distinctive about Martín De León's colony?

4 What did Green DeWitt contribute to settlement in Mexican Texas?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write four sentences comparing the contributions of two leaders from the passage. Explain one way their work was similar or different and how it helped shape settlement in Mexican Texas.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each leader's name. Circle the words or phrases that explain what that person did, then number the five leaders in the order they appear. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Moses Austin's contribution differ from Stephen F. Austin's contribution?	Moses Austin gained the original permission for the colonization plan. Stephen F. Austin continued the plan, had it confirmed by Mexico, recruited families, and managed the colony.
2	What did Erasmo Seguín do that helped Stephen F. Austin's colonization plan?	As a San Antonio government official, Seguín helped Austin communicate with Mexican authorities and supported the plan.
3	What was distinctive about Martín De León's colony?	He founded Victoria in 1824 and created the only major Texas colony settled mainly by Mexican families.
4	What did Green DeWitt contribute to settlement in Mexican Texas?	He received a contract to settle 400 families, organized settlers, and helped establish Gonzales.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Stephen F. Austin and Martín De León both brought families to Texas, but they built different kinds of colonies. Austin continued the first colonization plan and managed a colony of Anglo-American settlers. De León founded Victoria and developed a colony settled mainly by Mexican families. Their work increased settlement in Mexican Texas through different communities.

Accept equivalent descriptions of each person's contribution that are supported by the passage. For the open response, accept any two leaders, as long as the student accurately compares their contributions and explains an effect on settlement.