

Settling Texas

Compare the purposes and methods behind three settlement efforts.

7.2.F "contrast Spanish, Mexican, and Anglo purposes for and methods of settlement in Texas."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the purpose sentence in each paragraph, beginning with "Their purpose," "Mexican leaders wanted," and "They sought," then circle the method sentence beginning with "Beginning," "They used," and "Rather than," to compare each group.

Three Reasons to Settle

- ① Spanish officials viewed Texas as a distant northern frontier of New Spain. Their purpose was to claim the land for Spain and protect it from rival European powers. Beginning in the late 1600s, Spain used a linked settlement system. Missionaries built missions to convert Indigenous people to Christianity, soldiers guarded nearby presidios, and settlers formed towns. These places helped Spain extend its presence, but many missions depended on local Indigenous labor and faced resistance, illness, and shortages.
- ② After Mexico won independence from Spain in 1821, Mexican leaders wanted Texas to become more populated, productive, and easier to defend. These goals would also help Mexico strengthen control of the distant region. They used land grants and empresario contracts. An empresario received permission to bring families into a colony, and Stephen F. Austin led many Anglo-American families to his colony. Mexico expected settlers to become Mexican citizens, follow Mexican laws, and support the Catholic faith. This method rapidly increased settlement, although enforcing these requirements became difficult as Anglo-American newcomers greatly outnumbered Mexican residents.
- ③ Many Anglo-American settlers had a different personal purpose. They sought inexpensive land and chances to farm, ranch, or build wealth. Rather than creating settlements for a government, they usually arrived as families under Mexican empresario contracts and established colonies along rivers and roads. They cleared fields, raised crops, and traded with nearby communities. As their numbers grew, many Anglo settlers wanted more local influence and objected to some Mexican policies. Thus, Anglo settlement began through Mexico's legal system but served settlers' economic goals.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Spain's purpose for settling Texas connect to its use of missions, presidios, and towns?

2 How did Mexico's use of land grants and empresario contracts support its goals for Texas?

3 What government purpose did Spain and Mexico share for settlement in Texas? Give evidence from both paragraphs.

4 Contrast Mexico's purpose for encouraging settlement with Anglo-American settlers' personal purpose. Then name one method both Mexico and Anglo-American settlers used.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence comparison of Spanish, Mexican, and Anglo settlement in Texas. Name one purpose and one method for each group, and use *while* or *however* to explain a major contrast.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the purpose sentence in each paragraph, beginning with "Their purpose," "Mexican leaders wanted," and "They sought," then circle the method sentence beginning with "Beginning," "They used," and "Rather than," to compare each group. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Spain's purpose for settling Texas connect to its use of missions, presidios, and towns?	Spain wanted to claim and protect Texas. Missions, presidios, and towns extended Spain's presence, supported conversion, and provided military protection.
2	How did Mexico's use of land grants and empresario contracts support its goals for Texas?	The grants and contracts brought families into Texas, helping make the region more populated and productive and easier to defend and control.
3	What government purpose did Spain and Mexico share for settlement in Texas? Give evidence from both paragraphs.	Both used settlement to strengthen government control of Texas. Spain wanted to claim and protect the land, and Mexico wanted to strengthen control of its distant region.
4	Contrast Mexico's purpose for encouraging settlement with Anglo-American settlers' personal purpose. Then name one method both Mexico and Anglo-American settlers used.	Mexico wanted Texas to be more populated, productive, defendable, and under stronger control. Anglo-American settlers mainly wanted inexpensive land and wealth. Both used empresario contracts, Mexico issued them and many Anglo-American families came under them.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Spain used missions, presidios, and towns to claim and protect Texas from rivals. Mexico used land grants and empresario contracts to increase population, production, defense, and control. Anglo-American families used empresario contracts to enter Texas while seeking inexpensive land and wealth. However, Spain and Mexico settled Texas for government goals, whereas Anglo settlers mainly pursued personal economic goals.

Accept equivalent descriptions of purposes and methods when they are supported by the passage. For the open response, check for an accurate purpose and method for all three groups and a clear contrast.