

Revolution Roles

Trace how key people shaped Texas independence.

7.3.B “explain the roles played by significant individuals during the Texas Revolution, including George Childress, Lorenzo de Zavala, James Fannin, Sam Houston, Antonio López de Santa Anna, Juan N. Seguín, and William B. Travis; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the first appearance of each of the seven named people, then number the circles 1 through 7 in the order the names first appear. Underline the words or phrases that tell what each person did.

People and Decisions in 1836

- ① In March 1836, delegates gathered at Washington-on-the-Brazos to decide Texas's future. George Childress chaired the committee that prepared the Texas Declaration of Independence and wrote much of its first draft. Lorenzo de Zavala, a Mexican-born supporter of Texas independence, signed the declaration. Soon afterward, the new government chose de Zavala as its interim vice president. These men helped turn a rebellion against Mexico into a government that claimed the right to rule itself for its people.
- ② At the Alamo, William B. Travis shared command before becoming commander of the Texian defenders. He sent urgent messages asking for help while Santa Anna's army surrounded the mission. Juan N. Seguín, a Tejano captain, carried one of Travis's requests for reinforcements through enemy lines. East of the Alamo, James Fannin commanded Texas troops at Goliad. He did not reach the Alamo, and his force later surrendered after fighting Mexican soldiers near Coleto Creek in 1836.
- ③ Sam Houston, commander in chief of the Texas army, led his soldiers eastward during a retreat that gave them time to train and gather supplies. On April 21, 1836, Houston ordered a surprise attack at San Jacinto. Texas forces defeated and captured Antonio López de Santa Anna, Mexico's president and the general leading the campaign against Texas. As a prisoner, Santa Anna signed agreements calling for Mexican troops to withdraw. Houston's military decision changed the revolution's outcome.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did George Childress and Lorenzo de Zavala help Texas move toward independence?

2 Explain how William B. Travis and Juan N. Seguín worked together to seek help for the Alamo defenders.

3 What was James Fannin's role during the revolution, and what happened to his force?

4 Contrast Sam Houston's role with Antonio López de Santa Anna's role at San Jacinto.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose two people from the passage who had different roles. Write four sentences that explain each role, compare how their actions affected the revolution, and state which action you think had the more immediate effect.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the first appearance of each of the seven named people, then number the circles 1 through 7 in the order the names first appear. Underline the words or phrases that tell what each person did. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did George Childress and Lorenzo de Zavala help Texas move toward independence?	Childress chaired the committee and wrote much of the first draft of the Texas Declaration of Independence. De Zavala signed the declaration and later served as interim vice president.
2	Explain how William B. Travis and Juan N. Seguín worked together to seek help for the Alamo defenders.	Travis sent urgent messages asking for help. Seguín carried one of Travis's requests for reinforcements through enemy lines.
3	What was James Fannin's role during the revolution, and what happened to his force?	Fannin commanded Texas troops at Goliad. His force surrendered after fighting Mexican soldiers near Coleto Creek.
4	Contrast Sam Houston's role with Antonio López de Santa Anna's role at San Jacinto.	Houston commanded the Texas army and ordered the surprise attack at San Jacinto. Santa Anna was Mexico's president and the general leading the campaign against Texas, and Texas forces captured him.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Childress wrote much of the first draft of the Texas Declaration of Independence, while Houston commanded the Texas army. Childress helped create a government claim for independence, and Houston led soldiers in battle. Their roles were different because one was political and one was military. Houston's surprise attack had the more immediate effect because it defeated and captured Santa Anna.

Accept accurate explanations that connect each person's action to a political or military result described in the passage. For the open response, accept a supported opinion about immediate effect if the student accurately explains and compares two different roles.