

Road to Revolution

Trace how rising tensions became a fight for Texas independence.

7.3 "History. The student understands how individuals, events, and issues related to the Texas Revolution shaped the history of Texas. The student is expected to: describe the chain of events that led to the Texas Revolution..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the four events in paragraph 1 in the order they happened. Underline words that show Mexico's response or the colonists' response to an earlier event.

From Tension to Independence

- ① In 1826, the Fredonian Rebellion near Nacogdoches warned Mexican leaders that some settlers might challenge Mexican control. General Manuel Mier y Terán inspected Texas in 1828 and reported that Anglo-American settlers outnumbered Mexicans in several areas. Mexico responded with the Law of April 6, 1830, which limited immigration from the United States and increased the Mexican military presence. Colonists protested these changes. In 1832, the Turtle Bayou Resolutions backed Santa Anna's fight against President Bustamante and asked for the Mexican Constitution of 1824 to be restored.
- ② Tension continued when Stephen F. Austin traveled to Mexico City to request changes for Texas. Mexican officials arrested him in 1834 after they found a letter in which he urged Texans to form a separate state. Fighting began at Gonzales in October 1835, when settlers refused to return a cannon to Mexican troops. During the Alamo siege, William B. Travis commanded defenders and wrote "To the People of Texas and All Americans in the World," asking for help. Tejanos and volunteers from several places fought despite being greatly outnumbered, and many gave their lives when Santa Anna's army attacked.
- ③ Delegates met at the Constitutional Convention of 1836 and declared Texas independent from Mexico. George Childress led the committee that wrote the Texas Declaration of Independence, while Lorenzo de Zavala became vice president of the interim government. James Fannin surrendered his force at Coleto near Goliad and was later executed with many prisoners. On April 21, Sam Houston's army defeated Santa Anna's army at San Jacinto. Texans captured Santa Anna on April 22. Juan N. Seguín, a Tejano captain, carried messages and helped Texas forces. These events helped secure independence.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the Mier y Terán Report help lead to the Law of April 6, 1830?

2 Why did the Battle of Gonzales begin, according to the passage?

3 How did Travis's letter and the defenders' actions show the importance of the Alamo siege?

4 What happened to Fannin's force after its surrender, and what did Houston's army do at San Jacinto?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a five-sentence cause-and-effect explanation of how tensions in Texas grew into independence. Include at least three events from the passage and the actions of two different individuals.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Number the four events in paragraph 1 in the order they happened. Underline words that show Mexico's response or the colonists' response to an earlier event. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Mier y Terán Report help lead to the Law of April 6, 1830?	The report warned that Anglo-American settlers outnumbered Mexicans in parts of Texas. Mexico responded with the law, which limited U.S. immigration and increased the military presence.
2	Why did the Battle of Gonzales begin, according to the passage?	It began when settlers refused to return a cannon to Mexican troops.
3	How did Travis's letter and the defenders' actions show the importance of the Alamo siege?	Travis asked for help in his letter while commanding the defenders. Tejanos and volunteers fought despite being greatly outnumbered, and many gave their lives.
4	What happened to Fannin's force after its surrender, and what did Houston's army do at San Jacinto?	Fannin and many prisoners were executed after his force surrendered. Houston's army defeated Santa Anna's army at San Jacinto on April 21. Texans captured Santa Anna the next day.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Law of April 6, 1830 increased tension by limiting immigration and adding Mexican troops. After the Turtle Bayou Resolutions and Austin's arrest, many colonists became more frustrated with Mexican rule. When settlers refused to return the cannon at Gonzales, fighting began. At the Constitutional Convention, George Childress helped write the declaration of independence. Finally, Sam Houston's victory at San Jacinto led to Santa Anna's capture and helped Texas secure independence.

Accept equivalent cause-and-effect explanations that use accurate details from the passage. For the open response, check for five sentences, at least three events, two individuals, and a logical explanation of how events led toward independence.