

Jefferson's Big Actions

Read about three ways Thomas Jefferson helped the United States.

2.7.e "Thomas Jefferson;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the passage. Write 1 beside the sentence about writing the Declaration of Independence, 2 beside the sentence about buying the Louisiana Territory, and 3 beside the sentence about sending Lewis and Clark. These are three important actions Thomas Jefferson took.

Thomas Jefferson

- ① Thomas Jefferson lived in Virginia. He loved reading and learning. In 1776, leaders asked him to write the Declaration of Independence. This paper said the colonies wanted to be free from Great Britain. It gave Americans words for their new country.
- ② Jefferson became the third president of the United States in 1801. As president, he bought the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803. This purchase gave the United States a huge area of land west of the Mississippi River.
- ③ Jefferson also sent Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore land in the west. They learned about rivers, plants, animals, and people there. Their trip gave the United States useful information about land near the Louisiana Territory.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What important paper did Thomas Jefferson write in 1776?

2 What land did Jefferson buy for the United States, and which country did he buy it from?

3 Why did Jefferson send Lewis and Clark to the west?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one action Thomas Jefferson took. Finish these sentences: Thomas Jefferson helped the United States by _____. This helped because _____.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Read the passage. Write 1 beside the sentence about writing the Declaration of Independence, 2 beside the sentence about buying the Louisiana Territory, and 3 beside the sentence about sending Lewis and Clark. These are three important actions Thomas Jefferson took. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What important paper did Thomas Jefferson write in 1776?	The Declaration of Independence.
2	What land did Jefferson buy for the United States, and which country did he buy it from?	He bought the Louisiana Territory from France.
3	Why did Jefferson send Lewis and Clark to the west?	He sent them to explore land in the west.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Thomas Jefferson helped the United States by buying the Louisiana Territory. This helped because the United States got a huge area of land.

Accept one of the three passage actions and a matching, simple effect from the passage. Accept invented spelling when the action and effect are clear.