

A Bigger Nation

Read how the Louisiana Purchase changed westward expansion.

2.9.b “describing the impact of the Louisiana Purchase on the westward expansion of the United States.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two sentences that explain how the Louisiana Purchase changed movement west. Number the two sentences 1 and 2.

Land for Moving West

- ① In 1803, the United States bought the Louisiana Territory from France. This large area stretched west of the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains. The purchase nearly doubled the size of the United States and gave the nation much more land.
- ② After the purchase, more Americans could travel into lands claimed by the United States. Some families moved west to start farms and towns. The government sent explorers, including Lewis and Clark, to learn about the new territory.
- ③ The territory was not empty. Many Native nations already lived there and cared for the land. As more settlers moved west, they built homes and farms, and conflicts grew between settlers and Native peoples. The purchase changed where the United States could expand.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the Louisiana Purchase change the size of the United States?

2 How did the purchase help some families move west?

3 What happened as more settlers moved west into land where Native nations already lived?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write two sentences about an imaginary family that moves west after the Louisiana Purchase. Explain how the purchase helped the family move, and tell what the family does after arriving.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline two sentences that explain how the Louisiana Purchase changed movement west. Number the two sentences 1 and 2. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Louisiana Purchase change the size of the United States?	It nearly doubled the size of the United States.
2	How did the purchase help some families move west?	It gave the United States more land, so some families moved west to start farms and towns.
3	What happened as more settlers moved west into land where Native nations already lived?	Conflicts grew between settlers and Native peoples.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After the Louisiana Purchase, Mia's family traveled west because the United States had more land. They built a farm near a new town, where Native peoples already lived.

Accept answers that explain the purchase gave the United States more land and led people to move west. For the open response, accept a plausible original family action that shows a clear cause and effect.