

Capital and Country

Read how a new capital and new land shaped the United States.

2.9 "The student will apply history and social science skills to understand key events in United States history including, but not limited to recognizing the reasons for moving the nation's capital from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the two sentences in paragraph 1 that tell why leaders wanted a new capital, circle the three sentences in paragraph 2 about the president, Congress, and Supreme Court, and number 1, 2, and 3 the three effect sentences in paragraph 3.

A New Capital and New Land

- ① In 1790, leaders chose a new capital city beside the Potomac River. Philadelphia was a temporary capital. Leaders wanted a permanent capital in a new place near the middle of the growing country. The city was named Washington, D.C., after President George Washington.
- ② Washington, D.C., became the capital in 1800. The capital is important because the president works there. Congress meets there to make laws. The Supreme Court meets there, too. These leaders and groups help run the United States.
- ③ In 1803, President Thomas Jefferson bought the Louisiana Territory from France. This Louisiana Purchase nearly doubled the size of the United States. It gave the nation land west of the Mississippi River. More settlers could move west, and explorers could learn about the land.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Why did leaders want a new capital city?

2 How does Washington, D.C., help run the United States?

3 Name one way the Louisiana Purchase helped the United States grow west.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Draw two small scenes. In Panel 1, show one reason leaders wanted a new capital. In Panel 2, show one change after the Louisiana Purchase. Add a short label to each scene.

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PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the two sentences in paragraph 1 that tell why leaders wanted a new capital, circle the three sentences in paragraph 2 about the president, Congress, and Supreme Court, and number 1, 2, and 3 the three effect sentences in paragraph 3. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did leaders want a new capital city?	Philadelphia was temporary, and leaders wanted a permanent capital near the middle of the growing country.
2	How does Washington, D.C., help run the United States?	The president works there, Congress makes laws there, and the Supreme Court meets there.
3	Name one way the Louisiana Purchase helped the United States grow west.	It gave the nation land west of the Mississippi River, or it let more settlers move west, or it helped explorers learn about the land.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Panel 1: A permanent capital near the middle. Panel 2: Settlers move west to new land.

Accept any accurate reason for the new capital and any accurate effect of the Louisiana Purchase from the passage. In the panels, accept simple drawings with labels that clearly match one reason and one effect.