

Early Statehood *Advanced*

Unit 7: Early Statehood

Name: Date: Period:

Directions: Read the following passages about the development of Texas during the early statehood era, and answer the questions that accompany each passage.

Population Growth & the Economy

In 1821, at the beginning of the Mexican National Era, there were approximately 4,000 Tejanos and 20,000 Indians in Texas.

When Texas joined the United States forty-four years later in 1845, Texas' non-Indian population had increased dramatically to approximately 125,000 people.

Throughout the era of early Texas statehood, that number would grow to more than 600,000 by 1860, as people flooded into Texas seeking new opportunities.

Many of these new arrivals were people who migrated to Texas primarily from other states in the South like Mississippi and Alabama.

Like many other Southern states in the U.S., the most profitable agricultural activity in Texas was farming cotton on plantations, often with the use of slave labor. As more and more plantation owners moved to the state, the population of enslaved people brought into the state also increased dramatically. By 1860, there were more than 180,000 enslaved people working primarily on cotton plantations in Texas. As a result, Texas became increasingly connected economically, socially, and politically with the other cotton-producing slave states in the South.

1. What significant development occurred in Texas from 1821 to 1860?
2. Where did many of the people who migrated to Texas come from? Why did they move to Texas?
3. As sectionalism between the North and the South increased, do you think most Texans sided more with the North or the South? Why?

Immigration & Population Growth

As people flooded into Texas during the Early Statehood era, some of the new arrivals were immigrants from other countries. Most immigrants to Texas arrived through the port at Galveston, and often established or settled in communities of people from their own home countries.

Most of the immigrants arriving in Texas during this era came from countries in central Europe. The largest group to immigrate to Texas were Germans, who established towns including New Braunfels, Fredericksburg, Boerne (*burn-y*), and Gruene (*green*). A German immigrant named John Meusebach settled in New Braunfels in May 1845, and worked to establish peaceful relations with the Comanches by signing the Meusebach-Comanche Treaty in 1847.

Immigrants from Poland established the towns of Polonia, Cestohowa, Falls City, and Yorktown. Panna Maria, founded southeast of San Antonio in 1854, is the oldest Polish settlement in the United States.

Smaller groups of immigrants came from the Kingdom of Bohemia (now the Czech Republic), Slovakia, and Austria. Some also arrived from Scandinavia, France, and Great Britain.

While many immigrants who moved to Texas worked to integrate themselves into Texas culture and society, many also tried to preserve their own cultural traditions from their home countries by maintaining their religious practices, holidays, celebrations, food, language, and architecture.

1. Where did many immigrants to Texas come from?
2. What role did many German immigrants play in the development of Texas in the 1800s?
3. Who was John Meusebach and how was he significant to this era?
4. How did some immigrants to Texas preserve their own cultures while integrating into life in Texas?

Texas Indians & the Western Frontier

As more people moved into Texas, some began to migrate west into the Great Plains region of the state. Most had little knowledge of the western frontier, which had long been controlled by powerful Indian tribes like the Comanche.

After Texas' annexation to the United States in 1848, the U.S. government sent 1,500 troops under the command of General William J. Worth to Texas. The army's primary goal in Texas was to secure and defend the western frontier as Anglo settlers continued migrating west.

General Worth's troops established a series of military forts along the frontier. With the protection of the U.S. army, more American settlers began to move westward in search of new opportunities.

As the number of American settlers increased in Indian territory, so did conflicts with tribes like the Comanche. The U.S. government attempted to negotiate treaties with several Indian tribes during this era, though it was often unable to enforce many of the terms of the treaties because the federal government did not own the public lands in Texas – the state did.

In March 1847, the U.S. government appointed Texas Ranger Robert S. Neighbors as special Indian agent for the state of Texas. In this role, Neighbors worked to establish and maintain relations with Indian tribes like the Comanche, Apache, and Tonkawa.

In 1849, Neighbors attempted to establish reservations along the Brazos River to house the Caddo, Comanche, and Wichita tribes and assimilate them into Anglo American society. The reservations were unsuccessful, however, due to opposition

1. What was one significant effect of the increase in Texas' population as people moved to the new state?
2. Why did the United States government send military troops to Texas in 1848?
3. How did the presence of the U.S. army and the establishment of forts affect the development of west Texas?
4. Who was Robert S. Neighbors and how was he significant to Anglo-Indian relations during this era?

<p>from Anglos in the area, epidemics of diseases like cholera, and disinterest from many Indians, especially the Comanches.</p> <p>Many Texas Indian tribes were forcibly driven out of the state during the 1850s and relocated to Indian Territory, or modern-day Oklahoma. Some remained in Texas, like the Comanche, who continued to carry out raids on Anglos along the frontier, hoping to maintain control of the lands that they had called home for generations.</p>	<p>5. What were some of the significant results of the U.S. Indian policy along the western frontier during the era of early Texas statehood?</p>
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The Compromise of 1850

<p>The Compromise of 1850 was a law written by U.S. Senator Henry Clay that attempted to satisfy both the pro-slavery South and the anti-slavery North regarding slavery in the new territories of the Mexican Cession.</p> <p>The law allowed California to enter the Union as a free state to satisfy the North. It also passed the Fugitive Slave Act, which included stricter requirements for Northerners to capture and return runaway slaves to satisfy the South.</p> <p>The Compromise of 1850 also adjusted the western border of Texas. According to the terms of the Treaty of Guadalupe - Hidalgo, Texas claimed to include land as far west as the present-day states of New Mexico and Colorado, and as far north as present-day Wyoming. Because Texas was a slave state, this significantly extended the amount of slave territory in the west and angered many anti-slavery Northerners.</p> <p>As part of the Compromise of 1850, Texas agreed to cede the disputed western territory to the U.S. government in exchange for \$10 million. Slavery in the ceded territories would be decided by popular sovereignty. This change established the borders of Texas that still exist today.</p>	<p>1. What was the purpose of the Compromise of 1850? Give examples of how the law attempted to fulfill its purpose.</p> <p>2. How did the Compromise of 1850 affect Texas' borders, and why was this change made?</p>
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