

How do we know what we know? *Grade Level*

Unit 7: Early Statehood

Name: Date: Period:

Part I: Texas, the 28th State in the United States of America

Texas experienced a number of significant changes during the era of Early Statehood from 1845 to 1860. The population of Texas seemed to explode as people flooded into the new state. A large number of cotton farmers from southern states moved into Texas. As a result, plantation agriculture increased significantly in Texas, along with the number of enslaved people in the state. Additionally, many German, Czech, and Polish immigrants also moved into Texas during this era, bringing their unique cultures with them. As Anglo settlers moved into the western frontier, conflicts between Anglos and Indian tribes of the Great Plains increased. Many members of Texas Indian tribes were killed in battle, died of disease, or were pushed out of the state.

As many Americans had feared, the annexation of Texas also caused conflict between the United States and Mexico. Disputes between the U.S. and Mexico over the southern border of Texas led almost immediately to the U.S.-Mexico War in 1846. The United States won the war in 1848 and acquired Mexico's territory west of Texas all the way to California on the Pacific coast. The acquisition of this new land reignited intense debates over slavery in the United States, causing the political divide between the North and the South to grow even larger. With its agricultural economy and use of slave labor, Texas found itself squarely on the side of the South in this growing sectional division.

What were some of the significant changes or developments that Texas experienced from 1845 to 1860? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Texas' economy decreased after annexation and its debt increased.
- ☐ The population of Texas greatly increased.
- ☐ The U.S. and Mexico fought a war over Texas' southern border.
- ☐ European immigrants from different countries moved to Texas.
- ☐ A lot of southern cotton farmers moved to Texas.
- ☐ Most new settlers in Texas sided with the northern states about slavery.
- ☐ The enslaved population of Texas increased.
- ☐ Many Texans opposed slavery and wanted to abolish it in the state.
- ☐ Anglo migration west caused a decrease in the Texas Indian population.
- ☐ The people of Texas shared a lot of characteristics with other states in the South.

Part II: Primary Source Analysis

Directions: There are eleven primary source materials and excerpts available for this activity. You will choose any five of the materials to analyze. Record your analysis in the charts below.

Complete each chart to the best of your ability. If some specific information is not explicitly stated in the primary source material, make an inference based on the information available. Consider the main ideas, major themes, and key words more than understanding every specific detail.

It is **NOT** necessary to understand every single part of the materials you examine. Focus on main ideas and overall meaning. Look for key words or phrases related to what we have talked about so far.

Primary Source Number:	Create a brief, descriptive title for this source (5 - 10 words)
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Think about the reading on page 1. Circle or highlight the topic or topics that this material fits in. <i>(Some materials may fit in more than one topic.)</i>
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Texas Indians	Slavery	U.S.-Mexico War	Immigration	Economy
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Summarize the main idea of this material <i>(Questions to consider: What was the material MOSTLY talking about, what point of view, major themes, significant information or arguments were presented?)</i> (1 or 2 sentences)

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