

What's the Story? *Foundations*

Unit 4: The Mexican National Era

Name:

Date:

Period:

Part I Directions:

1. Read each passage about a significant event during the Spanish Colonial Era.
2. **What happened:** Highlight or circle **two** statements that are most significant to this event. **NOTE:** All three statements may be true, but only **two** are directly related to the significance of the event.
3. **Significance:** A helpful tip: read the significance of each event FIRST to help you understand what's most important about each reading. Then choose which 2 events under "What Happened" best support the significance.

First Significant Event(s)

The Economy & the Cotton Revolution

When:	What happened?	Significance:
1819: Financial Crisis	a) Many American cotton farmers couldn't afford land in the U.S.A. b) Slave labor was often used on cotton plantations in the U.S. South c) Spanish Texas was underpopulated and had a weak economy.	Cotton could provide a solution to Tejano and Anglo struggles.

Second Significant Event(s)

The Empresario System & "The Old 300"

When:	What happened?	Significance:
1821: Stephen F. Austin settled first Anglo immigrants in Texas	a) Moses Austin proposed Anglo-American immigration to Texas b) Moses Austin got sick and died on his way back to the U.S. c) Stephen F. Austin settled the "Old 300" in Texas with Tejano support.	Tejanos and Anglos worked together to bring Anglo cotton farmers to Texas

Third Significant Event(s)

Political Challenges in Texas

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
1827: The State Constitution of Coahuila y Tejas was passed	a) Texas was joined with the state of Coahuila because the people of Texas didn't want their own government. b) Distance and less representation were challenges for Tejano and Anglo representatives in the state government. c) The state constitution prohibited slavery, but some Anglos continued to bring enslaved people into Texas.	Texas' weak position in its state government meant Anglos and Tejanos had little control over what happened in the state.

Fourth Significant Event(s)

Trouble in Texas: The Fredonian Rebellion

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
Dec. 1826 – Jan. 1827: Fredonian Rebellion	a) Some Anglos in east Texas led a rebellion against the Mexican government. b) Haden Edwards was an empresario in east Texas near Nacogdoches. c) Stephen F. Austin helped Mexico end the Fredonian Rebellion.	The Fredonian Rebellion caused the Mexican government to grow concerned about Anglo immigrants in Texas.

Fifth Significant Event(s)

The Mier y Terán Report

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
1828: Mier y Terán Report 1830: The Law of April 6, 1830	a) Mier y Terán's report on Anglos in Texas greatly worried the Mexican government. b) Mexico passed a law restricting Anglo immigration based on Teran's report. c) Mier y Terán was a Mexico official for the government in Mexico City.	In response to the perceived threat of Anglos in Texas, Mexico passed restrictions on Anglo immigration.

Sixth Significant Event(s)

Growing Challenges to the Empresario System

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
1834: Stephen F. Austin arrested	a) Issues grew in Texas, including the arrest of Stephen F. Austin for treason. b) Santa Anna was a Mexican official who became president in 1833. c) Texas Anglos were angry with the centralist takeover and wanted to join the civil war.	Tension continued to grow in Texas over restrictions on Anglo immigration and the national conflict between centralists and federalists.

Seventh Significant Event(s)

Political Challenges in Mexico

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
1835: Centralists took over the Federalist government.	a) Mexico faced many economic and political challenges which led to instability. b) Spain invaded Mexico in 1829, and Texas joined Spain fighting against Mexico. c) Antonio López de Santa Anna switched from federalist to centralist and took over the government in 1835.	Mexico continued to face many challenges leading to a centralist takeover of government that caused a civil war.

Significance of the Mexican National Era:

Place a checkmark next to the significant events that occurred during the Mexican National Era. Choose **THREE** correct answers.

- ☐ Mexico became a Federal Republic but was later taken over by Centralists including Santa Anna.
- ☐ Cotton growth in Texas caused many Tejanos to immigrate to the southern United States in order to take part in profitable plantation agriculture.
- ☐ Texas was joined with the more populated state of Coahuila, causing Texas to have less power in its state government.
- ☐ An Anglo rebellion in East Texas caused Mexico to investigate empresarios there and then pass laws to restrict Anglo-American colonization in Texas.
- ☐ Moses Austin settled the first 300 families in Texas, with the help and support of the Tejano leadership in the state. These families were known as the "Old 300."

Part II Directions: Answer the comprehension questions based on information from the readings.

1. Compare the Tejano and Anglo motivations for supporting Anglo immigration into Texas in the 1820s and 1830s.

The Tejano motivations for supporting Anglo immigration to Texas were **(a) to increase the population and improve the economy of the state (b) to have their own opportunities for cheap land in plantation agriculture growing cotton.**

The Anglo motivations for supporting immigration to Texas were **(a) to increase the population and improve the economy of the state (b) to have their own opportunities for cheap land in plantation agriculture growing cotton**

2. What political challenges existed in Mexico in its first years as a new country?

Choose **TWO** correct answers.

- ☐ Tejanos and Anglos had less power in their state government because it was combined with the more populated state of Coahuila.
- ☐ Filibusters entering Texas and New Mexico continued to challenge Mexican authority in those states.
- ☐ The country was divided politically between Centralists and Federalists who were often in conflict for control of the government.
- ☐ Spain quickly regained control of Mexico, returning the country to its position as a colony of the Spanish Crown.

3. Read the prompt below and write your response in the space provided.

One challenge the Empresario System faced was that **Tejanos and Anglos had little power in their state government.** I think Tejanos and Anglos will try to

overcome this challenge by _____
