

Answer Key: The Battle of San Jacinto Extension

Warm-up

- Responses will vary

Lesson

BEFORE YOU WATCH – responses will vary.

After students watch the video, they will return to the “Before you watch” segment and answer the “After you watch” column. Answers for that column are as follows:

1. F
2. T
3. T
4. F

WHILE YOU WATCH

Factors that contributed to the Texan victory at San Jacinto

Responses will vary but may include:

- Santa Anna made a mistake when he divided his troops in order to move faster. This meant the army he was moving with was much smaller, and more vulnerable.
- Texans captured a Mexican messenger and learned about Santa Anna’s location, plans, and small numbers.
- Houston’s army had a good hidden location with a perfect view of the approaching Mexican Army.
- Houston had his men destroy a bridge, preventing more of Santa Anna’s army from arriving or later, from escaping.
- Santa Anna’s men were exhausted from building a barricade and waiting for an attack. The reinforcements were tired, and all of them were hungry. Santa Anna told his troops to “stand down” to eat and rest. They were not prepared to fight.
- The Texans’ lack of training meant their attack was chaotic and not well-planned, which took the Mexican Army by surprise.

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AFTER YOU WATCH QUESTIONS

Grade Level and Foundations

1. Houston's army retreated east because (B) he wanted more time to recruit men and train them. Many people at the time (D) opposed this decision. They wanted Houston's army to fight Santa Anna.
2. This author had a **positive** opinion of Houston's retreat. Evidence from the excerpt that supports this claim is when he stated (C) Houston's retreat guaranteed their success because he was being careful.
3. Responses are as follows:

Event	Why did it happen?	How did it help lead to the Texan victory at San Jacinto?
Santa Anna divided his army as he moved east.	A) He wanted to move quickly and capture the Texas government.	C) It reduced the number of men with Santa Anna, making him easier to defeat.
Santa Anna ordered his men to "stand down" in the afternoon of April 21, 1836 at San Jacinto.	B) He didn't believe the nearby Texas army would attack.	B) It caused the Mexican army to be unprepared for an attack.

4. B

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Advanced

1. Houston's army retreated east because he wanted more time to recruit men and train them. Many people at the time opposed this decision. They wanted Houston's army to fight Santa Anna.
2. According to the excerpt there were two different opinions of Sam Houston's retreat. One opinion was that his retreat proved that the Texans were failing. The other opinion was that it proved the Texans would be successful because it showed that Houston understood that he needed to pick the right time to attack. The author supported the opinion that Houston's actions were positive.
3. Answers are as follows:

Event	Why did it happen?	How did it help lead to the Texan victory at San Jacinto?
Santa Anna divided his army as he moved east.	He wanted to move quickly and capture the Texas government.	It reduced the number of men with Santa Anna, making him easier to defeat.
Houston's men destroyed Vince's Bridge at San Jacinto.	Houston didn't want Santa Anna to receive any reinforcements, and he also wanted to prevent Santa Anna's retreat.	Destroying the bridge cut off any retreat route for Santa Anna's army.
Santa Anna ordered his men to "stand down" in the afternoon of April 21, 1836 at San Jacinto.	He didn't believe the nearby Texas army would attack.	It caused the Mexican army to be unprepared for an attack.

4. B

Exit Ticket

- Responses will vary