

The Battle of San Jacinto Extension *Advanced*

Unit 5: The Texas Revolution

Name:

Date:

Period:

Video Vocabulary

Directions: Before you begin the video, read the terms below to familiarize yourself with new vocabulary introduced in this video.

| Term | Definition |
|-------------------------|---|
| Improbable (adj) | Unlikely or unexpected |
| Vulnerable (adj) | In a position to be easily attacked; not completely safe. |
| A ridge (n) | A long, narrow, elevated area of land |
| Crest (n) | The highest point of elevated land, like a hill or ridge. |
| Barrage (n) | A continuous and heavy period of bombing or shooting in a war or battle, typically aimed at a specific area |
| Cavalry (n) | A branch of the military in which soldiers travel and fight on horses. |

Before you watch

Before you watch the video, complete the following **True or False** activity below. Answer to the best of your ability based on your previous knowledge or your best educated guess.

After your watch the video, return to this chart to answer the “After your watch” column.

Compare your answers. Were your first answers correct? What was different?

| Before you watch | After you watch | Statement |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| T / F | T / F | 1. Sam Houston retreated from Santa Anna because he did not want to face the centralist army in battle. |
| T / F | T / F | 2. Santa Anna divided his army in an attempt to move as quickly as possible to capture the Texas government and defeat Houston's army. |
| T / F | T / F | 3. The Texas victory at the Battle of San Jacinto was not the primary factor that ended the Texas Revolution. |
| T / F | T / F | 4. The Texas Revolution was important in Texas history but had little influence on the history of the United States or Mexico. |

While you watch

There were many factors that led to the Texan victory at the Battle of San Jacinto. Some were strategic plans, some were mistakes, and some were arguably just lucky. As you watch, make quick notes in a bulleted list about the factors that contributed to the Texan victory at San Jacinto. Write at least five factors.

Factors that contributed to the Texan victory at San Jacinto

After you watch

Step 1: Return to the True or False statements on page one of this assignment and complete the “After You Watch” portion.

Step 2: Answer the following questions about the Battle of San Jacinto based on the information presented in the video.

1. Why did Sam Houston’s army retreat toward east Texas after the fall of the Alamo? How did many people at the time view this decision?

2. Read the following excerpt from a report on the progress of the Texas army after the fall of the Alamo, then answer the question that follows.

The retreat of Gen. Houston from the Colorado, has also been distorted into an evidence of the falling fortunes of the Texans, instead of which it should be looked upon as a guarantee of success. The Texans are known to be brave, and this maneuver is evidence that they have caution and skill equal to their bravery. Exasperated as Gen. Houston was at the conduct of Santa Ana[sic], he was not rash; he would not risk an engagement till he had taken measures to secure success.

- *Report on the progress of the Texas Revolution, April 14, 1836*
The Portal to Texas History

Based on this report, what were two different opinions regarding Sam Houston's order for the Texas army to retreat? Which opinion did the author support?

3. Complete the graphic organizer below to show why specific events happened and how each event helped lead to the Texan victory at San Jacinto.

| 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. | | |
| Houston's men destroyed Vince's Bridge at San Jacinto. | | |
| Santa Anna ordered his men to "stand down" in the afternoon of April 21, 1836 at San Jacinto. | | |

4. Which of the following statements most accurately describes the end of the Texas Revolution? Choose one.

- The swift and decisive Texan victory against Santa Anna's centralist troops at the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, caused the entire Mexican army to surrender, ending the Texas Revolution.
- Texans captured Santa Anna after the Battle of San Jacinto, forcing him to order the rest of his army to surrender and return to Mexico, which effectively ended the Texas Revolution.
- Sam Houston ordered the execution of Santa Anna and his top military generals which abruptly ended the war and forced the Mexican government to recognize Texan independence.
- The United States of America offered financial and military support to Sam Houston's army which ultimately allowed the Texans to overpower Santa Anna's centralist troops, bringing about an end to the war.