

# The Battle of San Jacinto Extension *Grade Level*

## 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
<b>Improbable</b> ( <i>adj</i> )	Unlikely or unexpected
<b>Vulnerable</b> ( <i>adj</i> )	In a position to be easily attacked; not completely safe.
<b>A ridge</b> ( <i>n</i> )	A long, narrow, elevated area of land
<b>Crest</b> ( <i>n</i> )	The highest point of elevated land, like a hill or ridge.
<b>Barrage</b> ( <i>n</i> )	A continuous and heavy period of bombing or shooting in a war or battle, typically aimed at a specific area
<b>Cavalry</b> ( <i>n</i> )	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 three 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?

Houston’s army retreated east because... (Choose ONE)	Many people at the time... (Choose ONE)
A) he was too afraid to face Santa Anna’s army in a direct conflict.	D) opposed this decision. They wanted Houston’s army to fight Santa Anna.
B) he wanted more time to recruit more men and train them.	E) supported this decision. They knew Houston’s army could not defeat the centralists.
C) he knew his men could not win a conventional battle against the centralist army.	F) were neutral about this idea. They fully trusted Houston to do what was best for Texas.

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.

<p><i>The retreat of Gen. Houston from the Colorado, has also been <b>distorted</b> into an evidence of the falling fortunes of the Texians, instead of which it should be looked upon as a guarantee of success. The Texians are known to be brave, and this <b>maneuver</b> is evidence that they have caution and skill equal to their bravery. <b>Exasperated</b> as Gen. Houston was at the conduct of Santa Ana[sic], he was not <b>rash</b>; he would not risk an <b>engagement</b> till he had taken measures to secure success.</i></p> <p>- Report on the progress of the Texas Revolution, April 14, 1836. The Portal to Texas History</p>	<p><b>Distorted</b> (v): Changed to not be entirely accurate.</p> <p><b>Maneuver</b> (n): movement (of troops in war)</p> <p><b>Exasperated</b> (adj): Frustrated</p> <p><b>Rash</b> (adj): impulsive, reckless, not careful.</p> <p><b>Engagement</b> (n): confrontation with the enemy</p>
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Did this author have a positive or negative opinion of Houston's retreat? Use evidence from the excerpt to support your conclusion.

This author had a positive / negative opinion of Houston's retreat. Evidence from the excerpt that supports this claim is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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.		
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 Texan victory against the centralists at San Jacinto brought an immediate end to the Texas Revolution.
  - The Texans forced Santa Anna to order his army to surrender when they captured him, which effectively ended the Texas Revolution.
  - Sam Houston ordered the execution of Santa Anna which 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.