

Name:

Date:

Class/Period:

Voices: American Indians in the Texas Revolution

Exit Ticket: The First Texas Presidential Inaugural Address

Sam Houston's stance regarding relations with American Indians in Texas was made clear during his first inaugural address to the citizens of Texas.

Instructions: Read the excerpt below and answer the analysis questions.

Excerpt from Sam Houston's Inaugural Address: Wednesday, November 9, 1836

... "A subject of no small importance to our welfare, is the situation of an extensive frontier, bordered by Indians, and subject to their depredations [attacks]. Treaties of peace and amity [friendliness] and the maintenance of good faith with the Indians, present themselves to my mind as the most rational ground on which to- obtain their friendship. Abstain on our part from aggression, establish commerce with the different tribes, supply their useful and necessary wants, maintain even handed justice with them, and natural reason will teach them the utility of our friendship.

Admonished [advised] by the past, we cannot injustice disregard our national enemies. Vigilance [caution] will apprise us of their approach, a disciplined and valiant [courageous] army, will insure their discomfiture [defeat]. Without discrimination and system, how unavailing would all the resources of an old and overflowing treasury prove to us." ...

G. & T.H. Borden. "Sam Houston's Inaugural Address" *Telegraph and Texas Register* (Columbia, Tex.), Vol. 1, No. 37, Ed. 1, Wednesday, November 9, 1836, newspaper, November 9, 1836; Columbia, Texas. (<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph47901/m1/2/>; accessed September 25, 2021), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, <https://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting The Dolph Briscoe Center for American History.

Analysis Questions:

1. Based on the excerpt above, how does Sam Houston plan to manage American Indian relations in Texas during his presidency?

2. What does he urge the citizens of Texas to do regarding relations with American Indians?
3. State your hypothesis: Do you think Sam Houston was able to successfully follow through with his promises stated above regarding relations with the American Indians of Texas? Why or why not?