

# Texas Award Program



## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TEXAS AWARD

### Qualifications:

1. To earn the Texas Award, you must be a registered and active youth member of a troop, crew, ship or post in Texas.

### State Symbols:

- 2a. Describe the flag of Texas and explain the significance of its parts.
- 2b. Give the name of the state bird and show that you can identify it in the field by sight or call.
- 2c. Give the name of the state flower and show that you can identify it in the field.
- 2d. Sing or recite the words of "Texas, Our Texas".

### State History:

- 3a. Describe the six flags of Texas. Relate some of the major events that occurred in Texas while under each flag.
- 3b. Pick any year before 1980. Describe the important events that happened in Texas that year and discuss how they influenced the future of Texas.
- 3c. Choose a famous Texan. Tell why you chose that person. Read one or more biographies of this person and explain the person's importance to Texas.
- 3d-I. Identify a site or trail in Texas of historical significance. Relate its importance to Texas history.
- 3d-II. With one or more companions, hike for at least two miles near your chosen site OR camp overnight at or near your chosen site.
- 3e. Assist a volunteer organization that preserves or perpetuates Texas history or culture by performing a service project (approved by your counselor) for at least 3 hours.

State Culture:

- 4a. Identify an Indian tribe that, at any time, lived, camped or hunted near your community. Report on its culture.
- 4b-I. Choose any ethnic group (other than the Indians in Requirement 4a) of which you are not a member. Give a brief history of the group and tell of any special customs and observances it has.
- 4b-II. Participate in and describe at least one special observance, feast, or holiday your chosen group celebrates, and explain its origin.
- 4b-III. Prepare one traditional food of your chosen group to serve four people.
- 4c. Read at least one book (fiction or non-fiction) by a Texas author on a Texas subject (in addition to the biography for Requirement 3c) OR Read at least three short stories by one or more Texas authors on Texas subjects OR Read at least three poems by one or more Texas poets on Texas subjects.
- 4d. Describe the work of five volunteer groups that in some way support the cultural activities in Texas.

NOTE: If you have already completed any of these requirements for another Scout-related recognition or advancement, you must do something different for the Texas Award.

Remember, a Scout is Honest.

## Introduction

When I was a Scout, I had the fun of growing up in the beautiful old city of San Antonio. Founded by the Spaniards in the 1700's and the capital of Spanish and Mexican Texas, the city always held a special fascination for me, with its rich history and the stories of the people who made it.

I tried to place myself within that history, and have had a lifetime of fun doing so. I was born four blocks from the Alamo. My grandfather had once kept store near the old Spanish Governor's Palace and my father had a store on the banks of the San Antonio River—a river where countless Indians, pioneers, soldiers and cowboys had quenched their thirst, watered their horses or camped. I grew up and went to school on land that once was part of the fabled Maverick Ranch. One of the friends' troops often camped at Fort Sam Houston, where the Indian chief Geronimo was imprisoned and where Teddy Roosevelt recruited and trained the "Rough Riders" in the Spanish-American War.

As I grew up, I saw that history spring up before me wherever I went in Texas. At college in Austin I discovered a hill where the famous scout of the Texas War for Independence, Erastus "Deaf" Smith, had fought an Indian. The State Cemetery, final resting place of hundreds of Texas heroes, was within walking distance of my classes. The building where I work in downtown Houston is only a few blocks from the site of the former capitol of the Republic of Texas, and every year my troop camps in the old town of San Felipe and hikes to the bend in Bullinger Creek where Stephen F. Austin built the only home he ever owned in Texas.

Our state's world-famous history and culture are all around you; earning this award can help you be prepared to recognize and enjoy them. Good luck!

**Nelson R. Block**

2a. Describe the flag of Texas and explain the significance of its parts.

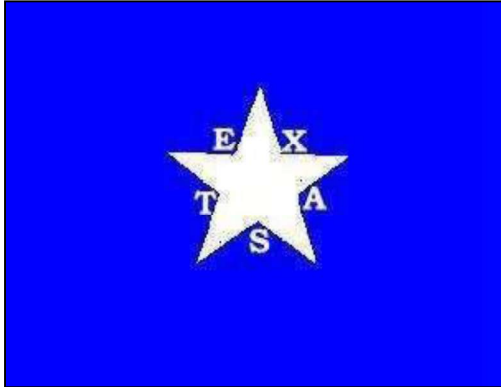
Taken from "Flags of Texas", Handbook of Texas Online, by Charles A. Spain, Jr. and published by the Texas:

The first official flag, the "National Standard of Texas," was passed by the Congress of the republic and approved by President Sam Houston on December 10, 1836. It consisted of an azure ground with a large golden star central. This flag, known as David G. Burnet's flag, served as the national flag until January 25, 1839, and the war flag from January 25, 1839, to December 29, 1845. President Burnet proposed the national standard, as well as the 1836 national flag for the naval service, in a letter of October 11, 1836, to Congress. The second official flag was the 1836 national flag for the naval service, or war ensign. This was the same flag Burnet adopted for the navy at Harrisburg on April 9, 1836. It was similar to the United States flag and showed thirteen stripes and a blue canton with a single white star. It was passed by Congress and approved by Houston on December 10, 1836, and remained in use until January 25, 1839.

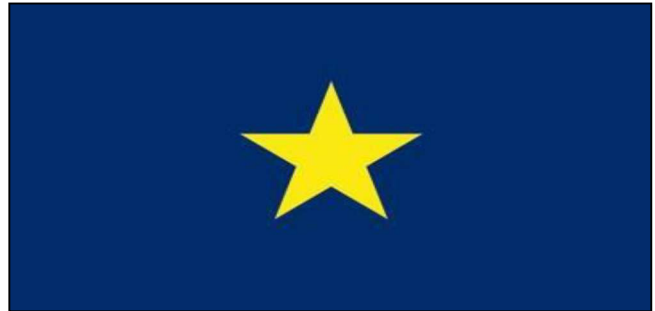
The Lone Star Flag was adopted by the Texas Congress in 1839: "[T]he national flag of Texas shall consist of a blue perpendicular stripe of the width of one third of the whole length of the flag, with a white star of five points in the centre thereof, and two horizontal stripes of equal breadth, the upper stripe white, the lower red, of the length of two thirds of the whole length of the flag." Senator William H. Wharton introduced a bill on December 28, 1838, containing the flag's design, and the bill was referred to a committee consisting of Senator Oliver Jones and two unnamed senators. This committee reported a substitute bill embodying the flag design introduced by Wharton, and the substitute bill was passed by the Congress on January 21, 1839 and approved by President Mirabeau B. Lamar on January 25, 1839. Official art for the Lone Star Flag was drawn by Peter Krag and approved by President Lamar. The actual designer of the Lone Star Flag is unknown, but it could have been Wharton. The Lone Star Flag was the legal national and state flag from January 25, 1839, to September 1, 1879, and the de facto state flag from September 1, 1879, to August 31, 1933. The Lone Star Flag was also the legal national ensign from January 25, 1839, to December 29, 1845.

The three colors of the Texas flag, blue, white, and red, each stand, respectfully, for the characteristics of loyalty, purity, and bravery. The single star stands for the unity of all Texas and Texans of the "Lone Star State". The single star's roots began with the desire of a separate

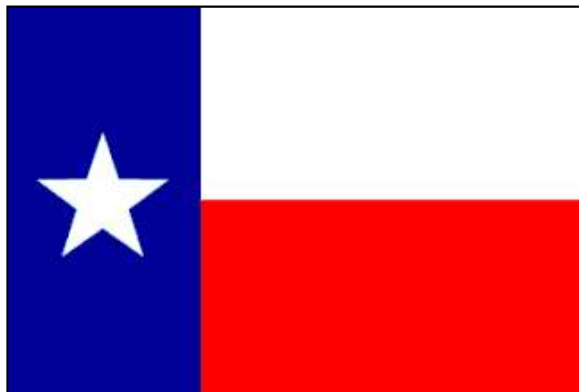
Mexican state of Texas (the flag of the Mexican state of Coahuila y Tejas possessed two stars), leading thereafter to represent complete independence from Mexico.



The Zavala Flag (variant)  
1st Texas Republic Flag  
[www.tamu.edu](http://www.tamu.edu)



Burnet's Flag  
2nd Texas Republic Flag  
[www.crwflags.com](http://www.crwflags.com)



[www.texasflag.us](http://www.texasflag.us) 3rd  
Texas Republic Flag

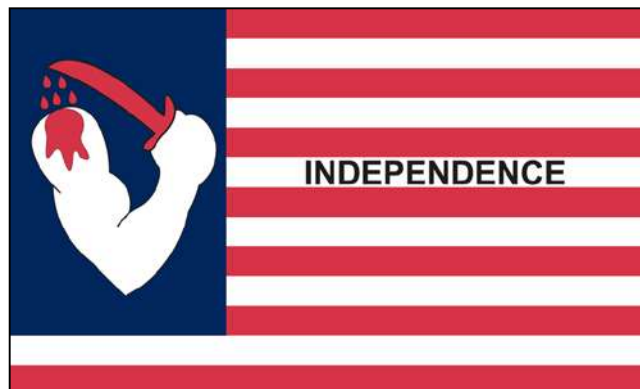
The groups of volunteers who fought for Texas in the War of Independence from Mexico and earlier conflicts against Spain, carried many flags, often made by the ladies of the soldiers' home towns. Some of these appear below:



Gonzales Flag  
[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)



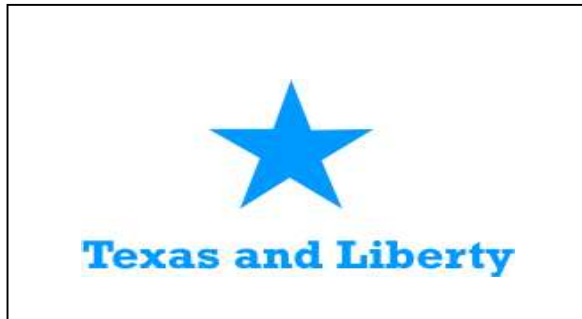
Captain Phillip Dimmitt's "First Flag of Texas Independence" - The Goliad Flag  
[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)



Brown's Flag of Independence



New Orleans Greys Flag  
[www.crwflags.com](http://www.crwflags.com)



Troutman Flag (variant)  
Another version read "Liberty or Death"



Sherman's Volunteers Flag  
San Jacinto Liberty Flag  
[www.crwflags.com](http://www.crwflags.com)



Green Flag of the First Texas  
Republic Army  
[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)



Colonel James Long's Flag  
"Second Republic of Texas"  
[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)



Scott's Flag of the Liberal Faction  
[www.tamu.edu](http://www.tamu.edu)



Mexican Flag Variant Showing Support for the  
Constitution of 1824, Opposing Santa Ana  
[www.texasflag.us](http://www.texasflag.us)



- 2b. Give the name of the state bird and show that you can identify it in the field by sight or call.



[www.bowman.50statesproject.com](http://www.bowman.50statesproject.com)

The mockingbird is the state bird of Texas and found in all parts of the state throughout the year. It is about the size of a robin (9 to 11 inches long), mostly colored gray, with distinctive patches of white on its wings which best appear during flight. The mockingbird gets its name from its ability to imitate the calls of other birds. While doing these “bird calls”, the mockingbird will repeat the “mock call” several times. On your next campout, identify the “mockers” by sight or call for your unit leader.

Have your leader write a note to your Texas Award counselor that you have passed this requirement.

- 2c. Give the name of the state flower and show that you can identify it in the field.



[www.chinatownconnection.com](http://www.chinatownconnection.com)

Anyone travelling a Texas country road in spring will see seas of beautiful brightly colored bluebonnets, the state flower. State law protects them by making it illegal to pick those growing on the public highways. You can grow them at home and use them for decorations.

## 2d. Sing or recite the words of “Texas, Our Texas”

Our state song, written by William Marsh and Gladys Yoakum Wright, is “Texas, Our Texas”. The words appear below ([texasourtexas.info](http://texasourtexas.info)):

Texas, Our Texas! All hail the mighty State!  
Texas, Our Texas! So wonderful so great!  
Boldest and grandest, withstanding ev'ry test  
O Empire wide and glorious, you stand supremely blest.

(Chorus)

Texas, Our Texas! Your freeborn single star,  
Sends out its radiance to the nations near and far,  
Emblem of Freedom! It sets our hearts aglow,  
With thoughts of San Jacinto and glorious Alamo!

(Chorus)

Texas, dear Texas! From tyrant grip now free,  
Shines forth in splendor, your star of destiny!  
Mother of heroes, we come your children true,  
Proclaiming our allegiance, our faith, our love for you.

(Chorus)

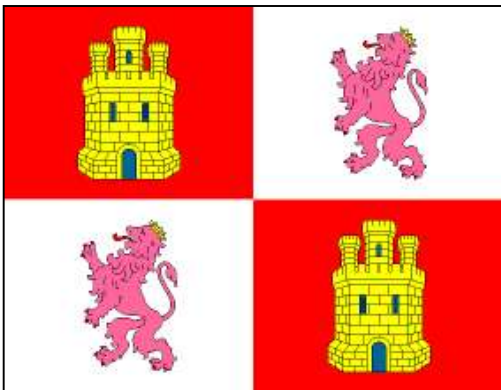
Chorus:

God bless you, Texas! And keep you brave and strong,  
That you may grow in power and worth, throughout the ages long.

### 3a. Describe the six flags of Texas. Relate some of the major events that occurred in Texas while under each flag.

The six flags of Texas tell the story of the settlement of Texas by those who crossed the state to find their fortunes, bringing with them the culture of their homelands and using it as a base for creating a new culture in Texas.

#### SPANISH EMPIRE & NEW SPAIN



[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

With the great excitement aroused by Columbus' voyage of 1492, the Spanish king and nobles sought to find land and riches in the New World. The first journeys explored Cuba and the other Caribbean islands discovered by Columbus. Then they visited the lands now known as Mexico and Central America, where the Aztec and Mayan Indian civilizations built great cities and amassed large fortunes of gold, silver,

and jewels, which the adventurers desired. To the north of Mexico lay Texas. The Indians here neither built large cities, nor amassed wealth. As a result, the area of Texas initially did not attract much interest from the Spanish conquistadors.

In 1519, a band of Spaniards led by Alonso Alvarez de Pineda charted the coast of Texas as their expedition continued to Veracruz, Mexico. Some historians argue that Pineda returned later that year and sailed up the Río Grande River. In 1528, the explorer Panfilo de Narváez led an expedition into the western coast of Florida and soon lost contact with his ships. In northwestern Florida they met hostile Indians and experienced food shortages. The men built five new ships with the meager materials they found. They sailed along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, headed for Tampico, Mexico. Four of the boats barely survived the crossing, landing/wrecking in various locations on the Texas Coast. One wrecked at the mouth of the San Bernard River. Another boat drifted out to sea after landing, taking Narváez with it.

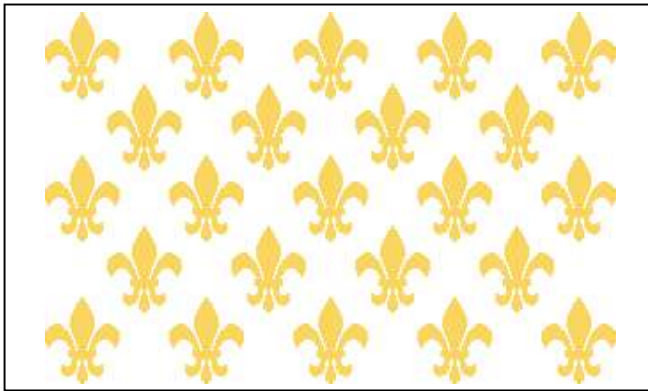
The expedition's treasurer, a nobleman named Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca survived. He kept an account of the terrible suffering of the Spanish who landed near Galveston Island almost starved. The Karankawa Indians offered aid. Cabeza de Vaca gained a reputation for healing the sick. He and the few remaining Spaniards lived with the Karankawa Indians for nearly four more years. They then lived two more with the Coahuiltecan Indians, as the natives would not let him go. In 1534, he and three companions escaped and wandered over a great expanse of Texas and northern Mexico. In two years, they crossed over to the Gulf of California, where they reached Culiacán, a northern outpost of Spanish Mexico and civilization.

Cabeza de Vaca kept an account of his travels known as the *Relación*. He and one of his companions, Estevanico, also told fantastic stories of the riches in the areas they traveled. Fray Marcos de Niza, took Estevanico as a guide on an expedition to find the fabled Seven Cities of Cibola – cities believed filled with gold. The Zuñi Indians killed Estevanico due to his demands on them. Fray de Niza saw the Zuñi pueblos against the backdrop of the mountains and, believing that he found the Seven Cities of Cibola, returned to Mexico City reporting that a conquest of these pueblos would represent the largest Spanish conquest to date.

Fray de Niza's stories caused great excitement in Mexico City. This desire to find the Indian cities of gold led to the first official Spanish exploration of Texas in 1540. Francisco Vázquez de Coronado set out with 370 Spaniards and 1,000 Indians to find the Seven Cities of Cibola, guided by Fray de Niza. Finding the site indicated by Fray de Niza, Coronado only found shabby pueblos occupied by hostile Indians. He continued his search westward toward the Grand Canyon and then returned. With the assistance of an Indian guide named "the Turk", the Spaniards crossed eastern New Mexico and traveled across the Texas plains as far as present day Kansas in search of Quivira, another legendary land of great riches. They never found the fabulous wealth of which they dreamed.

A brief sojourn by the Kingdom of France into Texas coaxed the Spanish to colonize the area. As Spain developed its American empire, it came to regard Texas as a northern outpost, requiring

settlement and protection. The Roman Catholic Church sent churchmen to convert the Indians to Christianity as well as to help the soldiers and government officials turn the Texas frontier into a Spanish province. Unsuccessful attempts occurred in eastern Texas for several years. In 1718, Franciscans and Spanish representatives established a fort and a mission in modern-day San Antonio. Soon the mission system grew throughout Texas. Within 13 years, four more missions appeared on the banks of the San Antonio River. Consolidation of the mission system around San Antonio increased the town's population and importance. In 1731, 55 colonists from the Spanish Canary Islands travelled to San Antonio to establish a community.



[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

## EMPIRE OF FRANCE

France, already firmly entrenched in Canada in early 1600's, looked to expand their holdings. In 1682, the explorer René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle traveled across Canada to the headwaters of the Illinois River. He sailed down the river, which emptied into the Mississippi River.

He then sailed down the Mississippi River

and reached the Gulf of Mexico. La Salle claimed the river and all lands drained by it for the King of France. This was a bold claim, for France could not send an army or colonists to take this vast area of land. La Salle, determined to turn the claim into fact, petitioned and received permission from the king to found a settlement at the mouth of the Mississippi River. In traveling through the Gulf of Mexico, he missed the mouth of the Mississippi and sailed instead into Matagorda Bay in 1685. One of the ships wrecked on a mud bar in the channel. The colonists salvaged it and built Fort Saint Louis. The other ship returned to France. The approximately 200 colonist at Fort Saint Louis suffered from disease, low food stores, and hostile Indians.

La Salle, who since establishing Fort Saint Louis failed to find the Mississippi in several attempts, decided to try once again. He took a small party and set off. Near Navasota, the men quarreled. La Salle and several others died. A few of the men eventually reached French towns in Louisiana. Almost all left at Fort Saint Louis all died from disease, lack of food, and hostile Indians.

The Spanish eventually heard of the fort and sent expeditions to find it. In 1689, after years of unsuccessful trips, one of these expeditions found Indians with items from the fort. The Indians led the Spanish to the remnants of the outpost. The Spanish buried the French remains. While this closed the chapter on French attempts to colonize Texas, it opened the capture for increased colonization by the Spanish via exploration and the establishment of missions.

## MEXICO: EMPIRE & REPUBLIC



[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

Spanish rule of Mexico was largely one-sided, with Spain taking from Mexico all it could of the land's great wealth. The Spanish lords and churchmen who ruled Mexico typically came from the Old World, rather than the New. Mexicans wanted to rule themselves. An eleven-year rebellion began when Father

Manuel Hidalgo y Costilla raised an army in 1810 and began fighting the Spanish rulers. Although executed in 1811, Hidalgo's successors continued the fight, even into Texas.

Bernardo Gutiérrez de Lara led the Republican Army of the North to victories against the Spanish from Nacogdoches to La Bahía (Goliad) and eventually into San Antonio where, on April 6, 1813, Gutiérrez declared Texas independence from Spain. This brief period of independence ended with the Battle of the Medina when royalist troops under the command of Joaquín de Arredondo completely defeated the Republican Army of the North. To set an example,



Arredondo executed approximately 320 soldiers that surrendered during the Battle of the Medina, 40 suspected rebels in San Antonio, and 70 more accused rebels on his way to Nacogdoches – an act of retribution certainly not lost on a young officer named Antonio López de Santa Anna. Additional skirmishes continued over the following years in Texas and in Mexico with little result.

Catalyzed by Spain's distractions during the Napoleonic Wars, revolutionary sentiment continued throughout New Spain. Eventually, the King of Spain relented at the insistence of the Spanish army and accepted governmental reforms. When these reforms (especially those centering on the establishment of a constitutional monarchy) reached Mexico, the powerful Mexican merchants, army officers, churchmen, and the other leaders joined forces to split with Spain.

Augustín de Iturbide, an army colonel, established peace with rebel forces and proclaimed the famous Plan de Iguala for governing Mexico in 1821. The Mexicans, accustomed to royal rulers, tried to get a member of the Spanish royal family to assume the role of Emperor of Mexico. None accepted, and the provisional congress named Iturbide, Emperor Augustín I. A weak ruler, he abdicated in 1823. Mexican government converted to a republic in name only as the military held a strong influence on politics. Officials and generals often effectively seized power by controlling the army. Eventually, General Antonio López de Santa Anna rose to power by 1833.

In the midst of this political chaos, many colonists arrived in Texas from the United States of America. They came in large numbers, attracted by offers of cheap land made by the empresarios or land contractors. The Mexican government authorized the empresarios to offer land for sale at a profit to a restricted number of colonists and to govern them under Mexican law. The government required colonists of good character, who farmed or practiced a trade, and followed the precepts of the Roman Catholic Church. The most famous of the empresarios, Stephen F. Austin, arrived in Mexico City to discuss the establishment of a new colony with

government officials just as Iturbide was rising to power. Austin established his colony in 1823 on the banks of the Brazos River. By late 1824, Austin successfully completed his contract by settling the “Old Three Hundred” families in his colony. Through 1836, San Felipe de Austin served as the social, economic, and political center of the Anglo settlements in Texas. The town also hosted the first provisional government of Texas.

Acceptance of Mexican rule by the American settlers decreased over time. Most Americans could not understand or communicate with the government officials who spoke in Spanish, the official language. Many American settlers only pretended to be Roman Catholic to gain entrance to Texas and missed the religious freedom of the United States. Additionally, the American settlers appreciated a more orderly and democratic government. Even among the Tejanos, led by José Erasmo Seguín, father of Juan Seguín, support for Mexican central authority waned. Haden Edwards led an ill-fated revolution around Nacogdoches in 1826, declaring the Republic of Fredonia. Not supported by the majority of Anglo settlers, it failed.

When Santa Anna rose up against the Bustamante government in 1832, many Anglos supported Santa Anna and fought in his name. However, these actions made them even more independent minded.

The Mexican government remained suspicious of the American settlers, fearful that they constituted a plot to join Texas with the United States of America. The Mexican government passed the Law of April 6, 1830, which prohibited all immigration from the United States of America in an attempt to strengthen Mexico’s hold on Texas. This created bitter resentment among the Anglo colonists. The settlers had two conventions, in 1832 and in 1833, to air their grievances and discuss possible solutions, such as separating Texas from the Mexican state of Coahuila y Tejas. Austin traveled to Mexico City to discuss statehood for Texas immediately following the 1833 convention. On his return trip from Mexico City, Mexican authorities arrested him in Saltillo for having written what they considered a treasonous letter. Austin spent nearly a year in prison and another eight months before he could return home to Texas. In September 1835, the Mexican government sent an army, under the command of General



Martín Perfecto de Cos, to Texas to put down all the quarrelsome rebels and to keep the peace. The Texans answered by forming an army.

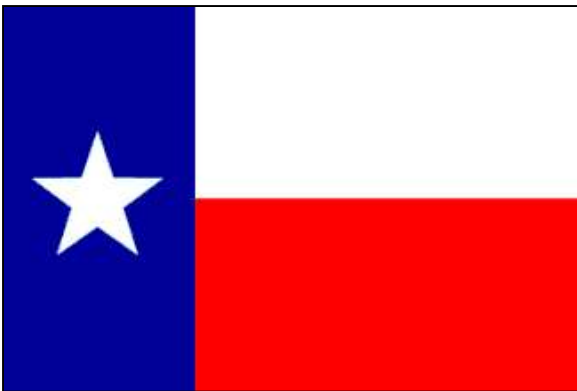
Empresario Green DeWitt established Gonzales, the first Anglo-American settlement west of the Colorado River, as the capital of his colony in August 1825. He named it in honor of Rafael Gonzales, the governor of the Mexican state of Coahuila y Tejas. For defense against Indian attack, the Mexican government gave the American colonists a small cannon. On October 2, 1835, fighting began when six Mexican soldiers under the command of Colonel Domingo de Ugartechea attempted to retake the cannon. The colonists responded by unveiling a flag with a depiction of the cannon and the words "Come and Take It" on it. The resulting skirmish opened the Texas War of Independence. In November 1835, the Texans laid siege to B  xar. In December 1835, the Texans stormed and took the town. The Mexican army, under the command of General Mart  n Perfecto de Cos, brother-in-law of Santa Anna, retreated south of the R  o Grande River.

In early March 1836, representatives met at Washington-on-the-Brazos to form a new government. On March 2, 1836, Texas declared its independence from Mexico. After a 12-day siege, 189 or more defenders fought approximately 1,500 Mexican soldiers in the pre-dawn hours of March 6, 1836. With the rising of the sun, all male defenders lay dead and their bodies then burned. General Antonio L  pez de Santa Anna allowed the women and children to leave and to spread the word of the fight. As word spread eastward, the "Runaway Scrape" began.

On March 13, the main body of the Texan army, under the command of General Sam Houston, left and burned Gonzales so as not to leave it standing for the advancing Mexican army. Houston headed east toward modern-day Houston, attempting to gain time and train his troops. On March 20, Colonel James W. Fannin surrendered the Goliad garrison to General Jos   Cosme de Urrea after the Battle of Coleto Creek. They returned to the presidio at Goliad. One week later, on Palm Sunday, March 27, 1836, the Mexican Army under direct orders of General Santa Anna marched approximately 300 men outside the walls and shot them in cold blood.

The Mexican army simply shot those too ill to march outside the walls. Knowing his fate, Colonel Fannin requested that he not be shot in the face, that his family receive his belongings, and that he receive a Christian burial. The Mexican Army accommodated none of his requests.

By mid-April, both the remaining Texan force and a formidable Mexican force under the direct command of General Santa Anna reached the Gulf Coast. On April 21, 1836, while the Mexican army rested in the late afternoon at San Jacinto, the Texan army launched a surprise attack. The Texans routed the Mexicans in less than 20 minutes. The next day, Texans captured General Antonio López de Santa Anna, the self-proclaimed “Napoleon of the West”, and the head of the Mexican government and army. This victory ended the Texas war for independence, but not the disputes over borders. Fighting between The Republic of Texas and Mexico would continue until the Mexican-American War of 1846 – 1848.



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## REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

For almost ten years, Texas lived as an independent nation. A constitution and legal system based upon that of the United States of America provided the underlying basis of the government. Its Congress consisted of a Senate and House of Representatives. A President headed the executive branch and chose his cabinet members. A judicial branch consisted of

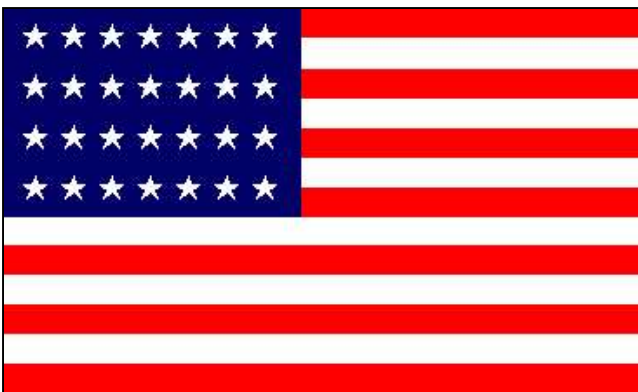
a three-member Supreme Court with lower courts operating under it. Just like citizenry of the United States of America following its Revolution, Texans chose their chief war hero, General Sam Houston, as the first president. Stephen F. Austin, the greatest of the empresarios and the “Father of Texas”, died in 1836.

As the United States grew, its interest in expanding westward increased. It had certain grievances against Mexico and sought the support of Texas as a buffer against Mexico and as a

vital link in expansion westward to California. Former U.S. citizens, the majority of the recent settlers in Texas promoted the idea of joining the Union. The Republic of Texas entered into a treaty with the United States of America that provided for the annexation of Texas and entrance into the Union as the 28th state in 1845. The final ceremony took place in Austin on February 19, 1846.

The terms of the treaty favored Texas. Texas retained ownership of its public lands, which provide a vast source of income for the good of the state. The Texas Legislature retains the right, which still survives today, to divide Texas into as many as five separate states.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



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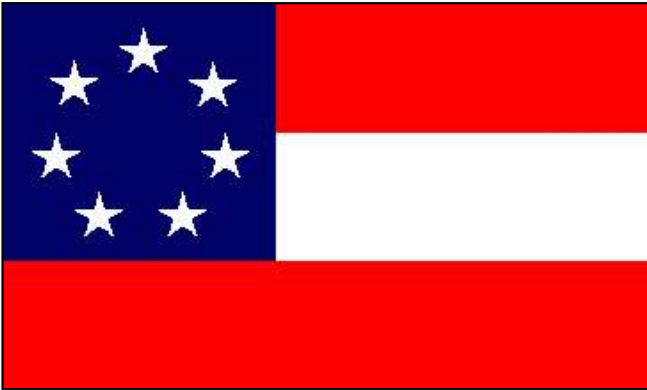
Texas entered the Union during a turbulent period as the 28th state. As soon as annexation was complete, the United States of America engaged in a war with Mexico, still led by General Antonio López de Santa Anna. This war ended in 1848 with Mexico finally releasing its claims to Texas (which it considered disputed

territory, even though the Texans had won their freedom years before) and to a large expanse in the West from Texas to the Pacific Ocean.

Disputes between the industrialized, non-slaveholding Northern States and the agricultural, slaveholding Southern States, which included Texas, continued to plague the Union. The Compromise of 1850 only slightly eased tensions and set the current borders of the state. As time continued, Texans faced the decision of whether to join the other Southern States in seceding from the Union. The issue, difficult for Texans, left many friends divided. Sam Houston, who now served Texas as governor when war broke out, stood against secession. The

“spirit of the South” carried the day, and Texas joined the Confederate States of America on March 2, 1861.

## CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA



[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

From 1861 to 1865, Texas fought the Union as one of the eleven Confederate States of America. The flag shown represents the 1st National Flag of the Confederate States of America, otherwise known as the “Stars and Bars” with each star representing one of the original seven states to join the Confederacy. Texas

supplied the Confederacy with agricultural products, exports and brave soldiers, including men like Albert Sidney Johnston and John Bell Hood. Hood’s Texas Brigade, one of Robert E. Lee’s most prized fighting units, fought in many battles including in the Devil’s Den at Gettysburg in 1863. Many battles took place in Texas along the Gulf Coast, on the Sabine and Río Grande Rivers, around King Ranch, and in Galveston. General Henry H. Sibley led a Texan Army in an invasion of New Mexico that ended at Glorietta Pass, “The Gettysburg of West”, in March 1862. Another part of Sibley’s force captured Tucson, Arizona, for a time. Texas hosted the last battle of the Civil War on May 13, 1865, at Palmito Ranch near Brownsville.

As with the rest of the South, five unsuccessful years of war proved ruinous, with its best men away from their farms, business, trades, and homes. Texas suffered great economic hardships especially during the Congressional/ Military Reconstruction years of 1867 to 1870.

## INTO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY



[www.crwflags.com](http://www.crwflags.com)

The waning years of the 1800's saw the beginning of many new industries that would lead Texas into the forefront of economic life in the modern world. The cattle industry, interrupted by the Civil War, flourished. Railroads made

transportation across the great state and into neighboring states easier. At one time 18 separate railroads "met the sea" in Houston / Galveston. Soon superhighways would allow transportation across roads of concrete instead of steel rails. The famous state university system opened in 1876. The oil and gas industry developed following the Spindletop gusher in 1901.

Texas and Texans contribute valiant sons and daughters to every war and conflict fought by the United States of America. Local and national government benefit from Texan influence of our elected officials. Texas business leaders contribute locally and influence the nation. Texas history continues its path forward.

3b. Pick any year before 1980. Describe the important events that happened in Texas that year and discuss how they influenced the future of Texas.

Imagine a boy living in the year 2080 trying to understand the world in which you live. Which things would you tell him are the most important in your life and in the rest of the state today? Were there tornadoes or hurricanes? Was there a drought? Who were the recent candidates for governor and president? What happened in the NASA space program in Houston? Did the local sports teams have winning seasons?

In picking the year, you want to explore, think about some of the periods discussed in the historical sketch under Requirement 3a. Consider whether the time is one of peace or war, good or bad agricultural conditions, industrial boom or downturn. Who were the heroes and villains of the time?

To uncover the complete story of the year you have chosen, try to talk to people who lived then, if possible. See if your local library has newspapers or magazines from that time. Find books published that year or the year after (which may have been written in “your” year). These sources will provide lots of information about your chosen year. Discuss some the most important events, but do not limit yourself to the earth shattering ones. Include things important to everyday life, such as music, novels, sports, and popular notions about health and raising children. How have these things influenced the future of Texas?

“Like most passionate nations, Texas has its own private history based on, but not limited by, facts.” – John Steinbeck

3c. Choose a famous Texans. Tell why you chose that person. Read one or more biographies of this person and explain the person's importance to Texas.

Texas produces scores of admirable men and women in all kinds of professions and endeavors.

A mere fraction of these famous people appear below:

<u>Pioneers and Cowmen</u>	<u>Military Men</u>	<u>Statesmen/Stateswomen</u>
Moses Austin	James B. Bonham	George H. W. Bush
Stephen F. Austin	Jim Bowie	George W. Bush
Baron de Bastrop	David Crockett	Miriam A. Ferguson
Jesse Chisholm	James W. Fannin	John N. Garner
Charles Goodnight	John S. "Rip" Ford	John Hemphill
Jane Long	John Bell Hood	James S. Hogg
Samuel A. Maverick	Sam Houston	Edward M. House
Benjamin R. Milam	Albert Sidney Johnston	Kay Bailey Hutchinson
Lorenzo de Zavala	Ben McCulloch	Lyndon B. Johnson
<u>Business</u>	<u>Audie L. Murphy</u>	<u>Anson Jones</u>
George W. Brackenridge	Chester W. Nimitz	Mirabeau B. Lamar
George R. Brown	Erastus "Deaf" Smith	Rick Perry
Amon G. Carter	Juan N. Seguín	Sam Rayburn
James A. Elkins, Sr.	William B. Travis	John H. Reagan
Howard R. Hughes, Jr.	<u>Authors/Artists</u>	<u>Ann Richards</u>
Jesse H. Jones	Elisabet Ney	Thomas J. Rusk
Harry Landa	Julian Onderdonk	Ashbell Smith
Thomas F. McKinney	Pompeo Coppini	<u>Native Americans</u>
Ross H. Perot	Gene Roddenberry	Iron Jacket
T. Boone Pickens	Katherine Ann Porter	Quanah Parker
Richard King	Walter Prescott Webb	Satanta

3d-I. Identify a site or trail in Texas of historical significance. Relate its important to Texas history.

3d-II. With one or more companions, hike for at least two miles near your chosen site OR camp overnight at or near your chosen site.

Though time marches on, we can often identify the spot where historical events took place. Throughout the world locations exist where we can place specific events as having occurred hundreds even thousands of years ago. In Texas, we can go back several thousand years to the resting places of ancient men; however, these discoveries relate to pre-historic man. Our knowledge of places with historical facts concerning a specific location only reach about 300 to 350 years ago to the early missions near Goliad, Nacogdoches, and San Antonio.

Historical sites offer great opportunities for service projects in repairing or improving the site or staging a historical pageant. Imagine the scene related to the raising of the first church in the country or the signing of a peace treaty with the Indians or the last campfire along a stretch of a long-deserted cattle trail. With your unit, you may recreate the scene in a pageant at the historical site as part of your camp or hike there.



**3e. Assist a volunteer organization that preserves or perpetuates Texas history or culture by performing a service project (approved by your counselor) for at least 3 hours.**

Volunteer organizations largely undertake the work of preserving the heritage of Texas history and culture.

The state's oldest historical group, the Texas State Historical Association, sponsors many scholarly activities, including meetings and a quarterly journal, as well as the Junior Historians of Texas – an organization of junior high school, middle school, and high school students interested in Texas history.

Descendants of the Texan pioneers comprise The Daughters of The Republic of Texas, best known for their work in preserving certain historical sites, including the Alamo, and The Sons of The Republic of Texas.

The Texas Army seek to perpetuate Texas military history by appearing in buckskin, homespun, and 1840's style uniforms during their colorful and interesting shows.

County and city historical associations often maintain libraries, parks, historical sites, museums and exhibits as well as sponsor put on events highlighting local history.

**"Texas is a state of mind. Texas is an obsession. Above all, Texas is a nation in every sense of the word." – John Steinbeck**

#### 4a. Identify an Indian tribe that, at any time, lived, camped or hunted near your community. Report on its culture.

Long before Europeans came to Texas, Indians lived throughout the state. These Indians pursued a wide variety of lifestyles. The early Coahuiltecan scratched out a bare nomadic existence farming and hunting buffalo, deer, and smaller game. The fierce Karankawa lived along the Gulf Coast, moved along the coast by canoe, and enjoyed the bounty of the sea and the shore. Those encountering the Karankawa described them as large (over 6 feet tall) and terrible to see when decorated for battle with their faces painted half red, half black. The Tonkawa of the central part of the state and the Comanche, Kiowa, and Kiowa Apache of the plains were nomadic buffalo hunters whose lots changed with the introduction of the horse into Texas. The Tonkawa, caught between two aggressive forces in Texas development, the ever expanding settlement brought by Mexican and Anglo settlers and the fierce marauding of the Comanches, eventually disappeared somewhere between these groups. The other plains tribes often waged war with the settlers until the conclusion of the Texas Indian wars in the 1860's.

As early as the Texas Republic (1836-1845), Texas Indians (whether by peaceful or forceful means) experienced relocation within Texas and to outside reservations. Forced relocation of Indians from the East to Texas resulted in Seminoles, Alabama, Coushatta, Delaware, Cherokee, and other tribes transplanted to Texas for a time. Some continue to live here today.

The Indians of Texas represent a large, diverse group. One should not simply lump them all together and imagine that each tribe looked and lived just like the others. For example, many Texan tribes did not appear as the "Indian" which most of the public imagines in feathers, leggings, war shirt and paint, riding a spotted pony chasing buffalo. A number of the tribes wore very little clothing—only enough for protection, rather than for ornament or status. Overall, most tribes often welcomed as friends the settlers and the missionaries who helped the tribes improve their farming techniques.

Studying the traditions and habits of the Indians who lived in your neighborhood may give you valuable insights into how the land on which you live sustained those who came before you. Learning about your local Indians could teach you survival and camping techniques on how to prepare shelters, clothing and food from native materials.

**4b-II. Participate in and describe at least one special observance, feast, or holiday your chosen group celebrates, and explain its origin.**

**4b-III. Prepare one traditional food of your chosen group to serve four people.**

The American melting pot of civilizations from all over the world greatly impacts Texas culture. Texans come from a wide variety of races, religions, cultures, and nationalities. Each of these groups possesses its own customs and observances. You may participate in some of these festivals such as the Mexican “Fiesta” in San Antonio in the spring or the German “Wurstfest” in New Braunfels in the fall. Think of all the special days that these cultural groups celebrate, including, but not limited to: the Jewish and Chinese New Year, Saint Patrick’s Day, Saint George’s Day, Cinco de Mayo, and Martin Luther King’s Birthday. How lucky to be able to join in someone else’s fun!

**4c. Read at least one book (fiction or non-fiction) by a Texas author on a Texas subject (in addition to the biography or Requirement 3c OR Read at least three short stories by one or more Texas authors on Texas subjects OR Read at least three poems by one or more Texas poets on Texas subjects.**

Many famous authors, some of whom appearing in Requirement 3c, made Texas their home. A number of these authors found our state the most interesting topic about which they could choose to write. Many books, short stories, and poems about Texas to read and enjoy exist.

**4d. Describe the work of five volunteer groups that in some way support the cultural activities in Texas.**

Local groups of citizens interested in the arts and letters often band together in groups to support their common interest. Each city in Texas and many towns and counties have organizations dedicated to learning through libraries, symphonies, operas, historical studies, literary publications, art museums, nature and history museums, and more. What groups in your community support these activities? Have you participated in any of these activities or visited any of these locations? How do these organizations raise money, and where does the money go? Would you like to join one of these groups?

## Acknowledgements

The Texas Award has been developed through the efforts of a number of dedicated Texans and Scouters whose contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

C. Travis Traylor, Jr., president of the (former) South Central Region, B.S.A., has encouraged the founding of the Award and guided its beginning.

Jerry Harben, long-time Scout and Scouter, amateur Texas historian and professional editor, reviewed the pamphlet manuscript and made valuable suggestions.

Dr. Randolph B. Campbell, author and professor of Texas history at North Texas State University, checked the text of the pamphlet at several stages for historical accuracy (though the final responsibility for content lies with the editor).

William Hillcourt, the popular “Green Bar Bill” of Boy’s Life and Scouting’s most outstanding leader, gave his thoughtful and experienced counsel to the development of the Award requirements.

The Professional Staff of the (former) South Central Region provided assistance in distributing the program throughout the region.

The Sam Houston Area Council Professional Staff, under the leadership of Scout Executive Roger Ohmstede, cheerfully contributed its administrative and printing facilities.

Nelson R. Block, who has hiked, camped and explored all over Texas with Scout friends for a generation, organized the development of the Award and wrote, edited, and illustrated the original pamphlet.

Nicholas F. Urbanski, amateur Texas historian, undertook the revitalization of the Award as part his Doctorate of Commissioner Science thesis/project between 2010 and 2011. He did not desire to rewrite or replace the work already accomplished, but rather to enhance and to re-energize the Award in hopes that more Scouts would achieve it and learn to appreciate and honor their home, his home, our home, Texas Our Texas!

## Resources and References

When working on this Award, try your school librarian and history teachers as resources. They will be glad to assist you in finding the kinds of materials you need to complete the Award requirements.

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Famous Texans: [famoustexans.com](http://famoustexans.com)

Fannin Battleground State Historic Site: [fanninbattleground.com/index.aspx?page=6](http://fanninbattleground.com/index.aspx?page=6)

Goliad State Park: [tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/goliad\\_and\\_mission\\_espiritu\\_santo](http://tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/goliad_and_mission_espiritu_santo)

Gonzales: [gonzalestexas.com](http://gonzalestexas.com)

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San Antonio Missions National Historic Park: [nps.gov/saan](http://nps.gov/saan)

San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site: [sanfelipedeAustin.com/index.aspx?page=17](http://sanfelipedeAustin.com/index.aspx?page=17)

San Jacinto Monument: [sanjacinto-museum.org](http://sanjacinto-museum.org)

Texas Independence Trail: [texasindependencetrail.com](http://texasindependencetrail.com)

Texas, Our Texas: [texasourtexas.info](http://texasourtexas.info)

Texas State Historical Association: [tshaonline.org](http://tshaonline.org)

The Handbook of Texas Online: [tshaonline.org/handbook](http://tshaonline.org/handbook)

Washington-on-the-Brazos: [birthplaceoftexas.com](http://birthplaceoftexas.com)

## Appendix

### Comparing the U.S. and Texan Declarations of Independence:

There are two common elements between the documents:

1. Individual rights are inherent in men.
2. Government derives from the governed.

There are five common grievances between the documents:

1. Deprivation of trial by jury.
2. Suppression of civil power to military power.
3. Suppression of legislatures.
4. Military invasion and armed action.
5. Repeated petitions have been ignored.

Six grievances within the Texas Declaration of Independence were unique to Texan-Mexican conflict:

1. Central military despotism.
2. Lack of separate state government.
3. Lack of system of public education.
4. Unlawful and piratical confiscation of property.
5. Lack of freedom of religion.
6. Confiscation of arms.

### Pledge of Allegiance to the State Flag:

Honor the Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

## State Symbols:

Air Force:	Commemorative Air Force (Confederate Air Force pre-2002)
Amphibian:	Texas Toad
Bird:	Mockingbird
Bread:	Pan de Campo (Cowboy Bread)
Cooking Implement:	Cast Iron Dutch Oven
Dinosaur:	Brachiosaur Sauropod
Dish:	Chili
Dog Breed:	Blue Lacy
Fiber/Fabric:	Cotton
Fish:	Guadalupe Bass
Flower:	Bluebonnet
Flying Mammal:	Mexican Free-Tailed Bat
Folk Dance:	Square Dance
Footwear:	Cowboy Boot
Fruit:	Texas Red Grapefruit
Gemstone:	Texas Blue Topaz
Gemstone Cut:	Texas Cut
Grass:	Sideoats Grama
Insect:	Monarch Butterfly
Large Mammal:	Longhorn
Musical Instrument:	Guitar
Native Pepper:	Chiltepin
Native Shrub:	Texas Purple Sage
Nut:	Pecan
Pepper:	Jalapeño
Plant:	Prickly Pear Cactus
Precious Metal:	Silver
Railroad:	Texas State Railroad

Reptile:	Horned Lizard
Shell:	Lightning Whelk
Ship:	U.S.S. Texas
Shrub:	Crape Myrtle
Small Mammal:	Nine-Banded Armadillo
Snack:	Tortilla Chips and Salsa
Sport:	Rodeo
Stone:	Petrified Palmwood
Tall Ship:	Elissa
Tartan:	Texas Bluebonnet
Tie:	Bolo Tree:
	Pecan
Vegetable:	Sweet Onion
Vehicle:	Chuckwagon

**Sample Contract for Settlement of Austin's Colony:**  
(as provided by San Felipe de Austin State Historical Site)

By Stephen F. Austin,

Civil Commandant of the Colony forming the Colorado and Brassos Rivers, in the  
Province of Texas:

Permission is hereby granted to

to emigrate and settle in the Colony forming by me, under the authority and protection  
of the government of New Spain, at the points stated.

Said

required to comply with the general regulations hereunto annexed:

General Regulations relative to the Colony:

1. No person will be admitted as a settler, who does not produce satisfactory evidence of having supported the character of a moral, sober, and industrious citizen.
2. Each settler must, when called on by the Governor of said Province, take the oath of allegiance to the government exercising the sovereignty of the country.
3. One sitio and labor (4,428 acres) of land will be granted to the head of each family. Land will be laid off in two equal tracts, one on the river in an oblong, the other is to be located so as not to interfere with the river lands; one of said tracts must be actually inhabited and cultivated by the person and family who has permission to settle it, within one year from the first of January 1822. --- Twelve cents and half per acre, must be paid me for said land, one half on receipt of title, the other half in one year after; which will be in full for surveying fees and all other charges—each settler will choose his own tracts of land within the limits designated by said Austin.
4. Mechanics and men of capital will receive additional privileges in proportion to their capacity to be useful.
5. Each settler is required to report himself to me, or the officer who has charge of the Colony, immediately on his arrival, and to furnish a list of the number of his family, giving the names of his children and their ages, designating those under twelve years of age, those over twelve and under twenty-one, those over twenty-one, and whether male or female; and if any of the family are mechanics to state what kind.

## Texas Independence Quiz:

(from Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historical Site)

1. Mexico gained its independence from Spain in the year \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ was elected President of Mexico in 1833.
3. Andrew Robinson operated a ferry crossing on the \_\_\_\_\_ River in Washington, Texas.
4. The 1836 Convention was held in Washington, Texas, because:
  - a. It was centrally located
  - b. It was far from the Mexican raids
  - c. It would be easier to escape across the river
  - d. Independence Hall was "rent free"
  - e. All of the above
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is credited with writing the Texas Declaration of Independence.
6. How many delegates came to the Convention? \_\_\_\_\_ How many were women? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Two of the delegates were native Texans. Who were they? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Who was chosen by the Convention as the temporary President of the new Republic of Texas?:
  - a. Sam Houston
  - b. Stephen F. Austin
  - c. David Burnet
  - d. George Childress
9. After the fall of the Alamo, most the residents of Washington left the town because they were afraid Santa Ana and his army were coming this way. This became known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Texas was a republic for almost 10 years and had 4 elected Presidents. Who was NOT one of them?:
  - a. Anson Jones
  - b. M. Lamar
  - c. Stephen F. Austin
  - d. Sam Houston
11. The President of the United States was the first to honor the old town of Washington by erecting a monument in 1899. TRUE or FALSE.
12. What does "GTT" stand for? \_\_\_\_\_
13. It was said that in order to become a Texas Ranger a man had to "ride like a \_\_\_\_\_, track like a \_\_\_\_\_, shoot like a \_\_\_\_\_, and fight like the \_\_\_\_\_."
14. 1821, Santa Ana, Brazos, E, George Campbell Childress, 59, 0, Francisco Ruiz, Antonio Navarro, C, Runaway Scrape, C, False, Gone to Texas, Mexican, Comanche, Kentuckian, Devil

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