

LESSON 10

TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

Annexation Debate to State

- *Annexation*
- *1845–1860*

INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

- 1. SIX-TAB BOOK:** Using the “Annexation” section of “A Brief Sketch of Texas History” in the Texas Almanac and the **Six-Tab Book** (see the Appendix), students will **create a book** about the annexation of Texas. On the tabs, students will write these names:

- **Sam Houston**
- **Andrew Jackson**
- **Anson Jones**
- **James K. Polk**
- **John Tyler**
- **Isaac Van Zandt**

Under each tab, they will describe **each person’s role** in the annexation. On the back of each tab, students will **illustrate the person or event** described. In the upper corner of the page, students will **rank the individuals** in their booklet from 1–5, (1 being the most important to annexation, 5 being the least).

On a separate sheet of paper, students will **explain why** they believe each individual deserves the ranking they were given.

- 2. NEWSPAPER LETTER:** Students will **write a letter to a newspaper editor** supporting or opposing the annexation of Texas, using the “Annexation” section of “A Brief Sketch of Texas History.” In their letter, they must select an occupation of someone who lived in Texas in 1845. (**Examples:** students might choose to be a farmer, a merchant, a government employee, a Texas Ranger, or a member of the clergy.) They will have to decide whether that person was “for” or “against” annexation and then try to persuade their fellow Texans to their side.
- 3. POLITICAL CARTOON:** Create a **political cartoon** from the point of view of a citizen of the United States during the Texas annexation debate. Students will show understanding of the reasons why some U.S. citizens were not eager to add Texas to the Union. Use Index key word: “Annexation.”
- 4. WORD PUZZLE:** Using the “Annexation” and “1845–1860” sections of “A Brief Sketch of Texas History,” students will complete the **Early Statehood Word Puzzle**.

SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 3, 21, 22, 23

7 - 4, 21, 22, 23

8 - 6, 29, 30

STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 1, 2, 3

8 - Social Studies - 1



During early statehood, land disputes and the public debt were issues that were settled by the Compromise of 1850. Under the compromise, Texas gave up claims to the territory shown in orange in exchange for \$10 million from the federal government. The money was used to pay off the debt of the Republic.

Early Statehood Word Puzzle

1. In 1845, the United States went to war with _____.
2. One of the first encounters of the War with Mexico took place at _____.
3. The _____ of 1850 settled Texas' public debt and land disputes.
4. _____ was president of the United States during the War with Mexico.
5. The first Europeans to push the frontier into west-central Texas were from _____.
6. General Winfield _____ led the capture of Mexico City in 1847.
7. The United States acquired the American _____ after the War with Mexico.
8. _____ was the leader of the German immigrants to Texas.
9. General _____ commanded the United States army troops in Texas in 1845.
10. The disputed area was south of the _____ River.
11. The Treaty of Guadalupe _____ ended the War with Mexico.
12. _____ was the largest money crop in Texas.
13. People such as _____ dominated elections during early statehood.
14. After the War with Mexico, the _____ became the boundary between the United States and Mexico.

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STUDENT ACTIVITY

Early Statehood Word Puzzle

1. ____ E ____ _

2. ____ A ____ _

3. ____ _ R ____ _

4. ____ _ L ____

5. ____ _ Y

6. S ____ _

7. ____ _ T ____ _

8. ____ _ A ____ _

9. T ____ _

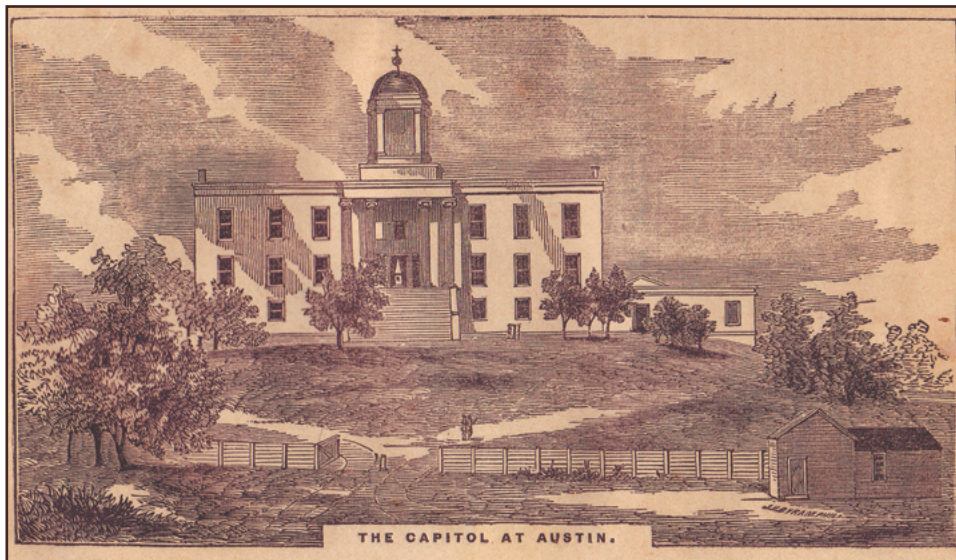
10. ____ _ E ____ _

11. H ____ _

12. ____ O ____ _

13. ____ O ____ _

14. ____ _ D ____ _



Texans voted to make Austin the state capital in the 1850 election. This woodcut from the Texas Almanac 1858 shows “The Capitol at Austin,” which was completed in 1853 and located at the head of Congress Avenue. From the Almanac Archive: <http://www.texasalmanac.com/archive>.

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TEXAS ALMANAC POSTER

