

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Texas

Located in the South Central United States, Texas is nicknamed the Lone Star State. It is the second most populous state. It is also the second largest state according to land area. Houston is the largest city in Texas, and the fourth largest city in the United States. While Houston is the largest city in Texas, the capitol of Texas is Austin.

Texas is frequently associated with the image of the cowboy. This is mainly due to the history Texas has of being the center of the American cattle industry. The state bird of Texas is the mockingbird. The state flower is the bluebonnet. The state tree is the pecan tree. In addition, the motto of Texas is friendship. The state abbreviation for Texas is TX.

Due to the large size of Texas and its prairie regions and wide open desert spaces, the phrase “everything is bigger in Texas” has been often associated with Texas. Also, the phrase “six flags over Texas” refers to the many countries that have claimed the territory of Texas throughout history.

El Paso was founded by the Spanish in 1659. Robert de La Salle founded Fort Saint Louis, a French colony, in 1685. This colony only lasted four years due to harsh conditions and hostile relations with the native people. As Spain established settlements in Texas, they called the area New Spain. Because of the remoteness of New Spain and the surrounding hostile tribes, many settlers were discouraged and New Spain had a low population.

The Apache tribe frequently raided the San Antonio area. This led Spain to sign a peace treaty with the Apache in 1749. This led to raids from the enemies of the Apache, like the Comanche tribe. The Comanche eventually signed a peace treaty with Spain in 1785.

A dispute about the border of Texas was caused by the Louisiana Purchase. It was resolved by the Adams-Onís Treaty, which recognized the Sabine River as the eastern border of Texas. The Adams-Onís Treaty was signed in 1819.

The Mexican War of Independence took place from 1810-1821. This war was between Mexico and the Spanish colonial authorities. It was resolved by the Treaty of Córdoba, which recognized the independence of Mexico.

Texas was admitted to the United States on December 29, 1845. It became the 28<sup>th</sup> state. After Texas became a state, Mexico ended diplomatic relations with the United States. This is because Mexico claimed that their border extended further into Texas. The United States disagreed with Mexico and claimed that Texas’ border stretched to the Rio Grande. Eventually, this dispute led President Polk to order General Zachary Taylor to the Rio Grande. Mexican and American forces fought for two years over the land until the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the war, and the United States was given undisputed control of Texas. Texas’ current boundaries were formed by the Compromise of 1850.

In the early 1900s, oil discoveries greatly boosted the economy in Texas. The first major oil well was called the Spindletop. It was discovered on January 10, 1901. More oil fields were later discovered in both eastern Texas and western Texas.

Texas is also where Lee Harvey Oswald assassinated President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963, in Dallas Texas.

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## Texas Questions

### **Multiple Choice:**

1. Texas is nicknamed the:
  - a. Cattle Ranch
  - b. State of Size
  - c. Little Mexico
  - d. Lone Star State
2. Texas was the \_\_\_\_\_ state admitted to the Union:
  - a. thirteenth
  - b. sixth
  - c. twenty-eighth
  - d. twenty-second
3. The motto of Texas is:
  - a. friendship
  - b. prosperity
  - c. peace
  - d. grace

### **Fill In:**

4. The Capitol of Texas is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The first major oil well in Texas was called the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Texas' state bird is the \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Texas' current boundaries were formed by the Compromise of \_\_\_\_\_.

### **True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_ 8. Texas was not one of the original 13 colonies.
- \_\_\_\_ 9. President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Austin, Texas.
- \_\_\_\_ 10. Oil is not a very common resource in Pennsylvania.

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## Texas Answers

### Multiple Choice:

1. Texas is nicknamed the:
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2. Texas was the \_\_\_\_\_ state admitted to the Union:
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### Fill In:

4. The Capitol of Texas is \_\_\_\_\_Austin\_\_\_\_\_.
5. The first major oil well in Texas was called the \_\_\_\_\_Spindletop\_\_\_\_\_.
6. Texas' state bird is the \_\_\_\_\_mockingbird\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Texas' current boundaries were formed by the Compromise of \_\_\_\_\_1850\_\_\_\_\_.

### True or False:

- \_\_\_T\_\_\_ 8. Texas was not one of the original 13 colonies.
- \_\_\_F\_\_\_ 9. President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Austin, Texas.
- \_\_\_F\_\_\_ 10. Oil is not a very common resource in Pennsylvania.