

Table of Contents

UNIT NARRATIVE	2
CONTENT STANDARDS	2
UNDERSTANDINGS AND QUESTIONS	3



UNIT NARRATIVE

Conflicts during the Texas Revolution Period brought tremendous chaos and upheaval to nearly everyone within Texas.



Public opinion throughout Texas during the Revolution was deeply divided. Some Anglo-American settlers feared the destruction that a war could bring to the region, while others (often newer arrivals) sought to break the region from Mexico. Most Tejanos saw the conflict as part of a larger civil war within Mexico that pitted Santa Anna's centralists against the federalists who wanted to restore the Constitution of 1824. For some enslaved African Americans, the war offered a chance to gain their freedom by running to the lines of the Mexican Army. Women in Texas often had to fend for themselves and their children when men left to fight on the frontlines.

When fighting broke out in October 1835, most Texans could not yet agree on whether they were fighting to restore the Constitution of 1824 or for independence. When Santa Anna marched his army into Texas in February 1836 and laid siege to the Alamo, a delegation of Texans responded by declaring independence on March 2, 1836. The war itself brought widespread destruction to the region, with the fall of the Alamo, the massacre at Goliad, the panic of the Runaway Scrape, and the burning of towns and homes by both armies. When Sam Houston's ragtag army won an improbable victory at San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, the results of the Texas Revolution reverberated across all of North America.

CONTENT STANDARDS

Below are the standards taught and assessed in this unit.

7.3 History. The student understands how individuals, events, and issues related to the Texas Revolution shaped the history of Texas.

Readiness Standards	Supporting Standards
<p>7.1(A)^ identify the major eras in Texas history, describe their defining characteristics, and explain the purpose of dividing the past into eras, including ... Revolution and Republic ...</p> <p>7.3(C) explain the issues surrounding significant events of the Texas Revolution, including the Battle of Gonzales; the siege of the Alamo, William B. Travis's letter "To the People of Texas and All Americans in the World," and the heroism of the diverse defenders who gave their lives there; the Constitutional Convention of 1836; Fannin's surrender at Goliad; and the Battle of San Jacinto</p> <p>7.8(C)*^ analyze the effects of physical and human factors such as climate, weather, landforms, irrigation, transportation, and communication on major events in Texas</p> <p>7.16(A)*^ identify different points of view of political parties and interest groups on important Texas issues, past and present</p>	<p>7.1(B)^ explain the significance of the following dates: ... 1836, Texas independence; ...</p> <p>7.3(A) describe the chain of events that led to the Texas Revolution, including the Fredonian Rebellion, the Mier y Terán Report, the Law of April 6, 1830, the Turtle Bayou Resolutions, and the arrest of Stephen F. Austin</p> <p>7.3(B) explain the roles played by significant individuals during the Texas Revolution, including George Childress, Lorenzo de Zavala, James Fannin, Sam Houston, Antonio López de Santa Anna, Juan N. Seguín, and William B. Travis</p> <p>7.8(A)^ locate and compare the Mountains and Basins, Great Plains, North Central Plains, and Coastal Plains regions</p>

UNDERSTANDINGS AND QUESTIONS

Key Understandings

- 1. Political conflict between Texas and Mexico grew from differences in governance, culture, and goals for the region.** Changes in Mexican leadership, policies such as the Law of April 6, 1830, and disputes over federalism and centralism fueled distrust and unrest.
- 2. The Texas Revolution was shaped by multiple perspectives and motivations.** Texans, Tejanos, and Mexican leaders often disagreed about the purpose and desired outcomes of the conflict, ranging from restoring the Constitution of 1824 to achieving full independence.
- 3. Key events of the Texas Revolution influenced both morale and strategy.** Battles such as Gonzales, the Alamo, and San Jacinto—along with moments like the Goliad Massacre—shifted public opinion, strengthened calls for independence, and impacted the course of the war.
- 4. Foundational documents revealed the political vision of the revolutionaries.** Writings such as the Texas Declaration of Independence outlined grievances, justified the break from Mexico, and defined the new Republic's principles.
- 5. The Texas Revolution had lasting impacts on Texas identity and governance.** The conflict not only resulted in the creation of the Republic of Texas but also influenced its political structure, cultural identity, and relationships with neighboring nations.

Key Questions

- What political, cultural, and economic tensions led to the Texas Revolution?
- How did different groups—Texans, Tejanos, and Mexican officials—view the conflict, and how did their goals differ?
- In what ways did the outcomes of key battles and events shape the progress and outcome of the Texas Revolution?
- What do the founding documents of the Republic reveal about the values and priorities of the revolutionaries?
- How did the Texas Revolution influence the future identity and governance of Texas?

