

## Manifest Destiny

### Lesson 2 Statehood for Florida and Texas

#### ESSENTIAL QUESTION

*Why does conflict develop?*

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. *How did Florida become a state?*
2. *How did Texas become a state?*

#### Terms to Know

**Tejano** a Texan of Hispanic, and often Mexican, descent

**decree** official order

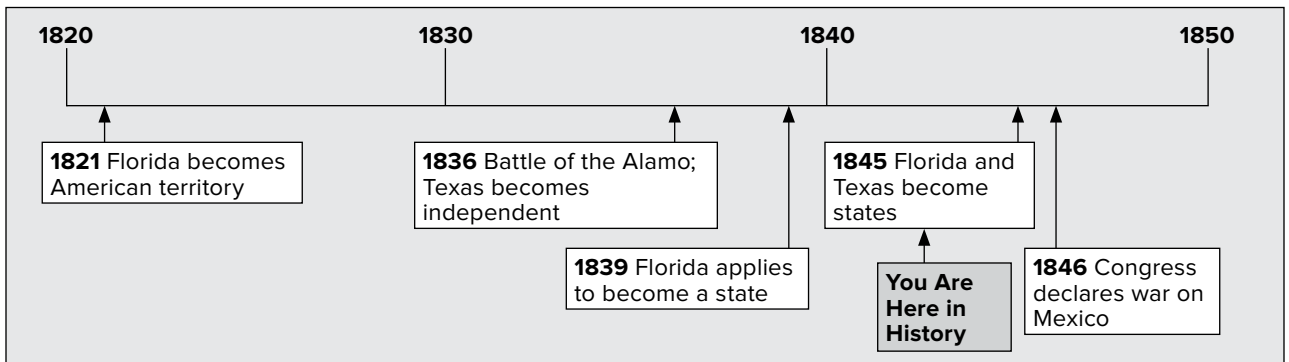
**barricade** block off

**annex** take control of

#### Where in the world?



#### When did it happen?



**Manifest Destiny**

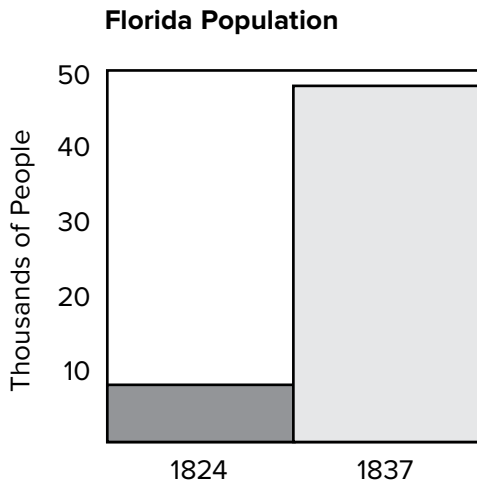
**Lesson 2** Statehood for Florida and Texas, *Continued*

**Florida**

Florida belonged to Spain until 1821. In that year, Spain transferred Florida to the United States. Tallahassee was made the capital of the territory in 1824. It was located between two major cities, St. Augustine and Pensacola.

Thousands of new settlers came to Florida from the United States. Many came because of the fertile soil. Among these were planters from Virginia, Georgia, and the Carolinas. The soil in those states had been overused. It did not grow crops well. The planters settled mostly in western and northwestern Florida. They set up cotton and tobacco plantations. Small farms and cattle ranches were started in central Florida.

The population began to grow quickly. By 1837, the population was 48,000. Enslaved people made up about half of the population.



Voters in Florida voted that they wanted to become a state. They chose 56 people to write a constitution.

**Florida's First Constitution**

- Governor elected for four years
- An elected General Assembly, or legislature
- Public schools to be set up
- Slavery allowed

In 1839, the constitution was submitted to the U.S. Congress for approval. The question of allowing slavery created a problem. Congress wanted to keep the number of slave states and the



**Explaining**

1. Why did planters move to Florida from Virginia, Georgia, and the Carolinas?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Visualizing**

2. Based on the graph, about how much did the population of Florida increase between 1824 and 1837?

\_\_\_\_\_



**Determining Cause and Effect**

3. Why didn't Florida become a state as soon as it had written a constitution?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Reading Check**

4. What caused the population of Florida to grow?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Manifest Destiny**

**Lesson 2** Statehood for Florida and Texas, *Continued*

**FOLDABLES®**

- 5. Place a two-tab Foldable along the line under the heading *Texas*. Write the title *Texas* on the anchor tab. Label the two tabs *country* and *state*. On both sides of the tabs, describe Texas as a country and then a state.



**Mark the Text**

- 6. Circle the definition of *decree*. Then underline what the Mexicans decreed.



**Identifying**

- 7. Who was Santa Anna?

\_\_\_\_\_



**Analyzing**

- 8. What happened to Texas after the battle of San Jacinto?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

number of free states equal. Admitting Florida as a slave state would make the number uneven. Six years later, in 1845, Iowa joined the Union as a free state and Florida joined as a slave state.

**Texas**

//////////////////// Glue Foldable here //////////////////////

In 1821, Mexico won its freedom from Spain. Mexico owned Texas. Mexican citizens who lived there were called **Tejanos** (teh • HAH • nohs). Mexico wanted more people to settle in Texas. They encouraged Americans to come and live there. Stephen F. Austin brought 300 American families to Texas and became their leader.

Americans did not want to follow the rules that Mexico made for those living in Texas. The rules included learning Spanish and becoming Catholic. Mexico made a **decree**, or official order, that no more Americans could come to Texas. American leaders Stephen Austin and Sam Houston tried to reach an agreement with Mexico, but could not. They decided to break away from Mexico so that they could form their own government.

In 1835, Mexican general Santa Anna led an army into Texas to stop the Americans. The Mexicans had many more soldiers. Still, the Texans captured the city of San Antonio.

Santa Anna did not give up. In 1835, his army marched to San Antonio. It found a group of American soldiers **barricaded**, or blocked off, in a mission building called the Alamo. Santa Anna attacked. The defenders of the Alamo fought long and hard for 13 days. In the end Santa Anna killed all the American soldiers. The general was sure the Texans were beaten. The bravery of the defenders inspired other Texans. "Remember the Alamo!" Texans would cry.

In 1836 while fighting was going on at the Alamo, Texan leaders met. They announced that they were independent of Mexico. Sam Houston gathered an army and supplies. The Texan army made a surprise attack near San Jacinto (san hah • SIHN • toh). They beat the Mexican army and captured General Santa Anna. Santa Anna signed a treaty agreeing that Texas was independent of Mexico.

Texas was now a country. It was named the Lone Star Republic. In September 1836, voters elected Sam Houston president. He asked the United States to annex, or take control of, Texas. Again the problem of balancing slave and free states came up. Adding Texas as a slave state would upset the balance in Congress.

**Manifest Destiny**

**Lesson 2** Statehood for Florida and Texas, *Continued*

Southerners wanted to annex Texas. Northerners were against adding another slave state. By 1844, the mood of the country had changed. Manifest Destiny had become a very popular idea. James K. Polk was elected president. He strongly supported expanding the country in Oregon and in Texas. In 1845 Texas entered the Union.

//////////////////// Glue Foldable here //////////////////////

**Check for Understanding**

**Where in Florida did each of the following develop?**

cattle ranches \_\_\_\_\_

cotton plantations \_\_\_\_\_

tobacco plantations \_\_\_\_\_

small farms \_\_\_\_\_

**Write one thing each of the following men did in Texas:**

Sam Houston \_\_\_\_\_

Santa Anna \_\_\_\_\_

Stephen Austin \_\_\_\_\_

 **Reading Check**

**9.** Why did it take a long time for the United States to annex Texas?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**10.** Place a two-tab Foldable along the dotted line to cover Check for Understanding. Write the title *New States* on the anchor tab. Label the two tabs *Texas* and *Florida*. List two things you recall about each. Use the Foldable to help answer Check for Understanding.