

Territorial Expansion Thematic

Events/ Developments	Historical Circumstances	Evaluate Importance of Event
Louisiana Purchase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Territory was owned by France -Originally wanted to purchase New Orleans only (\$10 million), Napoleon offered a deal (\$15 million) to purchase the entire territory -Jefferson had to use loose interpretation of Constitution to justify purchase because Congress only approved \$10 million -Location: Great Plains (currently center of continental US) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Doubled the size of the nation (more land, more power, more resources) -Gave us full access to the Mississippi River (transportation, trade) -Luis and Clark Expedition- learned the resources and geography of the area -Manifest Destiny- belief that America should expand to the Pacific Ocean -Expansion of Slavery- Missouri Compromise (36° 30' line)- sectionalism
War with Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Annexation of Texas, later border dispute with Mexico (Rio Grande) -Desire to fulfill manifest destiny -President Polk promised to expand US territory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Gained Mexican Cession (California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona and others)—fulfilled manifest destiny -California- Gold Rush 1849, access to ports, trade, western population boom -Compromise of 1850- fugitive slave act, popular sovereignty, more sectional conflict
Transcontinental Railroad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Government assisted its building with Pacific Railway Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Homestead Act- encouraging settlement along the railroads, settled the frontier

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Louisiana Purchase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Originally owned by France -Jefferson originally wanted to purchase the port of New Orleans for \$10 million but Napoleon offered \$15 million for the entire territory -Had to use loose interpretation of the Constitution to purchase the land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Doubled the size of our nation- more land, resources, power, farming -Full access to the Mississippi River- transportation, irrigation, trade -Luis and Clark explored territory- learned about geography and resources -Increased sectional tensions about slavery- Missouri Compromise (36 30' line)
War with Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Recently had annexed Texas, Texas had a border dispute with Mexico (Rio Grande) -Desire to achieve Manifest Destiny -President Polk promised to expand American territory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Gained the Mexican Cession (California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and others)- achieved Manifest Destiny -California- Gold Rush 1849, access to the Pacific Ocean for trade -Sectional conflict over slavery- Compromise of 1850- Fugitive Slave Act, Popular Sovereignty