Annexation - the incorporating of a country or territory into another country or territory; one area joining another
What benefits would Texas get by joining the U.S. rather than staying an independent Republic?

- U.S. was much smaller in 1844 (27 states)
- (Colored) Territory belonged to the U.S.
- (White) Land and that belonged to Mexico
 Benefits of Texas being annexed into the U.S.

1. Protection of U.S. armed forces. The U.S. Army & Navy would be responsible for defending Texas against hostile Indians & Mexico.
2. Become part of the U.S. postal system

Mid-1840’s, the Postal System began charging rates essentially based on weight and whether a letter was going more than or fewer than 300 miles. In 1855, the rate structure was 3 cents for a letter weighing a half-ounce and traveling up to 3,000 miles, which included most of the United States and its territories. Letters going farther than 3,000 miles were charged postage of ten cents per sheet.
Benefits of Texas being annexed into the U.S.

3. Become part of the U.S. money system.

Examples U.S. Money mid-1800s

Texas ‘Redbacks’
• By 1842, the Redbacks had become virtually worthless and had lost the power of legal tender. Once again Texans used bank notes from other American states instead of the Texas money.

• A new series of currency, was issued in 1842. These were similar once again to treasury bills and little use was made of them by the general public.

• The Republic of Texas had little in the way of silver and gold and never minted any coins.

What benefit would Texans receive by using American money rather than Texas money?
During the Republic of Texas years, the population grew at the rate of about 7,000 people a year. Immigrants were the main source of this growth, most were from the U.S.
Texas wants Annexation to the U.S.

- In September 1836, the people of Texas voted overwhelmingly to join the U.S.
- U.S. President Martin Van Buren did not want Texas annexed. There were 2 concerns.
Concerns over Texas Annexation

1. Mexico didn’t recognize Texas as an independent country and threatened to declare war on the U.S. if they annexed Texas.
2. Texas would be a slave state, upsetting the balance & potentially giving greater support in Congress to slave states.
Treaty of Annexation

- **April 1844**

- **Under this proposed Treaty**
  - Texas would join the U.S. as a territory
  - The U.S. would pay off all of Texas’s debt (12 million)
  - Texas would have to give all public land to the U.S.

Most Texans were unhappy with these terms but still wanted to join with the U.S.

1. Argued that Texas should keep its public lands because land sales were an important source of revenue.
2. Not happy about entering the U.S. as a territory & not a state.

**U.S. Senate rejects Treaty of Texas Annexation 35 to 16**
Presidential Election of 1844

Democrat

James K. Polk

Political Ideas:
Wanted to annex Texas. Most Democrats were interested in Manifest Destiny.

Whig

Henry Clay

Political Ideas: Didn't want to annex Texas. He feared that annexation would cause the country to split over slavery.
• How many states did Polk win? How many did Clay win?
• How many more electoral votes did James K. Polk get than Henry Clay?
• How much more of the popular vote did Polk get over Clay?
Texans & U.S. Annexation

- October 13, 1845, Texans approve annexation by 4,254 to 267.
- Voters approved the Texas State Constitution of 1845 4,174 to 312.
U.S. President James K. Polk approved

The Admission Act: December 29, 1845 set the terms for Texas annexation

- Texas would become the 28th state of the U.S.
- Texas would keep all its public land.
- The U.S. wouldn’t pay any of Texas’ debt.
• Texas had to write a new state Constitution to replace the Republic of Texas Constitution
Texas Constitution of 1845

These provisions were unusual for the time

• Exempted family homesteads (property) from forced sales to pay off debts.
• Required married men to get their wives’ consent before selling or trading homestead (property).
• Recognized married women’s right to separate ownership of all property they had before marriage or obtained afterward.
• Stressed education; legislature is to provide support & maintenance of public schools.
State of Texas

• No longer a need for a President (needed for a Republic)
• A state requires a Governor at the head of the Executive Branch of Government.
• Texans elect their first Governor – James Pinckney Henderson

James Pinckney Henderson
1st Governor of Texas
Served 1846-1847

Texas Governors Mansion- It was built in 1854 in Austin, designed by prominent architect Abner Cook, and has been the home of every governor since 1856.
In 1846, How many Free States (slavery illegal) were there? How many Slave States were there? What direction is slavery spreading?
Manifest Destiny— the belief popular in the U.S. in the 1800s that the country must expand its boundaries to the Pacific Ocean.
Manifest Destiny

• What impact will Anglo-American settlers moving westward have on Native Americans that previously inhabited those lands?

• Do you think the U.S. Government will have a peaceful solution for Native Americans?
Questions to Think About
1. What was the effect of westward expansion on the American Indians?
   - Many American Indians joined the U.S. army.
   - American Indian cities were built across the state.
   - The government tried to move them onto reservations.
   - The U.S. forced them to move into Mexico.
2. Westward expansion resulted in Texas Indians experiencing—
   - An increase in population.
   - A loss of land along the frontier.
   - A decline in religious activities.
   - An improved standard of living.
3. In the quote above, the President of the Republic of Texas is referring to the-end of slavery in the South.
- Declaration of Independence from Mexico.
- Secession of Texas from the United States.
- Annexation of Texas to the United States.
KEEP CALM AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS
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“The final act in this great drama is now performed. The Republic of Texas is no more.”

- Anson Jones
Get out a sheet of Notebook Paper

Moving West
Scenario

• Your parents have to get out of town really quick! They allow you to choose anywhere in the U.S. to live (West of Texas). There, you will live in a house with your family. It is secluded & has all the basic modern features of a normal house. (Electricity, air-conditioning, water, etc.) The nearest town is over 50 miles away. You & your family are on your own and will have to live this way for at least a year, until it is safe to move into town.
Where would you move? Why?

1. Allowed 1 standard sized suitcase. (10 items)
2. What would you choose to bring? Why?
3. What would be the most exciting aspect of moving? What would be the most challenging?

(5-8 Complete Sentences)