

SOCIAL STUDIES

Focus 2021-22



Texas UIL

Grades 7 & 8
Based on the Annual UIL Topic

World, United States, and Texas History



UIL Social Studies Focus Topic

2021-2022

for

7th & 8th Grades

Texas During the Civil War and Reconstruction

Written by

Shannon Barker and Keisha Bedwell

Edited by

Nancy Barnard and Keisha Bedwell

Copyright © 2021 by Hexco Academic. All rights reserved. Reproduction or translation of any part of this work beyond that permitted by Section 107 or 108 of the 1976 *United States Copyright Act* without the permission of the copyright owner is unlawful. Exception/permission for photocopies granted by Hexco Academic is only applicable for *Practice Packets* and *Invitational Tests* as these products are expressly written for group or classroom testing. *Invitational Tests* may not be shared with other schools or districts before testing due to the confidential nature of the represented competitions.

We are a small company that listens! If you have any questions or if there is an area that you would like fully explored, let us hear from you. We hope you enjoy this product and stay in contact with us throughout your academic journey.

– Linda Tarrant, President Hexco Inc.

HEXCO ACADEMIC

www.hexco.com

P.O. Box 199 • Hunt, Texas 78024

Phone: 830.367.3825 • Fax: 830.367.3824

Email: hexco@hexco.com

IF YOU LIKE THIS PRODUCT, WE ALSO RECOMMEND

Social Studies Core Concepts for 7th & 8th

Social Studies Practice Packet of Tests for 7th & 8th

Social Studies Practice Packet of Tests in eMentor Format for 7th & 8th

Table of Contents

Texas	2
Civil War and Reconstruction	2
Factors Leading to Secession	2
Effects of the Civil War on Texas	4
Key Events and Individuals	4
Important Individuals	6
Texas Reconstruction	7
Primary and Supplemental Sources	8
Texas Ordinance of Secession	8
Presidential Proclamation Declaring a State of Peace Between Texas and the United States	10
Battle of Palmito Ranch	11
Concepts in Geography	13
Concepts in Government	15
United States	16
Concepts in History	16
Differences between the North and the South	16
Primary Reasons for Secession	16
Significant Events	17
Key Individuals	19
Concepts in Economics	19
Concepts in Government	21
World	22
Concepts in Geography	22
Concepts in Economics	22
Concepts in Culture	23
Glossary	24
Index	40

2021-2022 Social Studies Focus for Grades 7 and 8

The Civil War

Texas

I. Civil War and Reconstruction

A. Factors Leading to Secession

1. There were numerous factors leading to the secession of the southern states that occurred on a national level and several more documented specifically by Texans in their Declaration of Causes.
2. The **Kansas-Nebraska Act** changed the rules of the **Missouri Compromise**, which stated that new states created from the territory would be slave-free. Slavery was already in the territory, and southerners wanted slavery allowed. The Kansas-Nebraska Act declared that each state should be allowed to choose for itself whether to allow slavery. Northerners wanted the Missouri Compromise upheld.
 - 1) Sam Houston was a U.S. senator at this time, and he voted against the Kansas-Nebraska Act because he felt it would further divide the nation.
 - 2) This angered many Texans.
3. The issue of **states' rights** concerns how much a state is allowed to govern itself and how much power the federal government has over the state. Most southerners were strong advocates for states' rights. They felt that each state should be responsible for its own people and government, including the right to decide whether to allow slavery. Northerners wanted a stronger federal presence in the states to create uniformity and ensure that an unjust majority could not overrun a minority. They felt that a strong federal government could protect individual liberty better than a strong state government.
4. **Dred Scott v. Sanford** was a Supreme Court case that outraged abolitionists. Scott, a slave who had moved to a "free" state, sued for his freedom. The court declared that, as someone of African ancestry, Scott was not a citizen and, therefore, had no rights. Congress could not outlaw slavery because civil rights only applied to citizens. By this same reasoning, the Missouri Compromise was illegal because Congress had no authority over slavery.
5. While Houston lost the 1857 election because of his vote on the Kansas-Nebraska Act, he retook his seat in 1859. He would support the union with the United States and work to secure better things for Texas. Houston had been involved in Texas government for a long time, and while the situation within the Union was not as good as people had hoped it would be, he also recognized that it was better than when Texas was an independent nation. Many younger politicians did not remember the days of independence and were beginning to speak of secession.
6. Hostilities were increasing across the nation, and Texas was no exception. Texas began to see angry words become angry actions by 1860. In that year, several fires were started in the Texas cities of Dallas, Denton, and Pilot Point. Vigilantes blamed abolitionists and slaves and decided to punish those they thought were responsible. Between 30 and 100 people, many of whom were slaves, were hung, even though there was no evidence against the vast majority of the accused.
7. The **Declaration of Causes: February 2, 1861**, a declaration of the causes which impel the State of Texas to secede from the Federal Union, is a lengthy document citing specific grievances and the reasons the Secession Convention created an Ordinance of Secession to be voted on, by the people of the state, on February 23, 1861.

V. Concepts in Geography

Geographical Regions of Texas		
Regions, Areas, & Cities	Landscape & Landmarks	Resources & Industry
<u>Coastal Plains</u> South Texas Plains Gulf Coast Plain Piney Woods Post Oak Belt Blackland Prairie <u>Cities</u> Waco Austin Houston Galveston Corpus Christi Brownsville Laredo	<u>Major Landscape Features</u> Balcones Escarpment Rio Grande River Red River <u>Natural Landmarks</u> Padre Island National Seashore Texas Barrier Islands Big Thicket National Preserve Natural Bridge Caverns King Ranch	Piney Woods- lumber Gulf Coast- oil processing, rice farming Post Oak- oil, gas, and lignite South Texas Plains- citrus and vegetable farming Blackland Prairie- limestone and gravel; ranching; farming including cotton, corn, and sorghum <u>Major Employers</u> Johnson Space Center Houston Ship Channel Baytown Refinery M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Port of Galveston
<u>North Central Plains</u> East and West Cross Timbers Grand Prairie Rolling Plains <u>Cities</u> Wichita Falls Abilene Dallas Fort Worth Denton	<u>Major Landscape Features</u> Red River Colorado River Grand Prairie - level grassy plains; Cross Timbers - once heavily forested; much has been cleared for farming Rolling Plain – rolling, rocky terrain, slightly drier than the other areas <u>Natural Landmarks</u> Cross Timbers Dinosaur Valley State Park	Grand Prairie - livestock, cotton and corn, limestone and gravel Cross Timbers- hay, peaches, peanuts, wheat, sorghum, cattle, sheep, goats, oil, gas, stone and gravel Rolling Plains- oil and gas fields are very important; some farming, wheat, cotton, and sorghum, cattle, meat packing; aircraft building <u>Major Employers</u> American Airlines Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Bell Helicopter Fort Worth Stockyards Sheppard Air Force Base Dyess Air Force Base

VI. Concepts in Government

A. Texas is a republic where citizens elect representatives to create the laws.

1. Texas has had eight constitutions: 1824 (Republic of Mexico), 1827 (as a Mexican state Coahuila y Tejas), 1836 (Republic of Texas), 1845 (Texas joins the Union), 1861 (Texas secession), 1866 (first post-Civil War constitution), 1869 (reflects stricter Reconstruction policies), and 1876 (current constitution).
 - a. There are 17 articles in the current Texas Constitution.
 - b. Amendment instructions are provided in Article 17.
2. The government of Texas is patterned after the U.S. national government.
3. The Texas government has separation of powers and is controlled by three branches.
 - a. The executive branch carries out the decisions of the legislative branch through the governor.
 - b. The legislative branch creates legislation and laws. It includes the House of Representatives and the Senate.
 - c. The judicial branch ensures that laws are legal according to the Texas Constitution and punishes lawbreakers.

B. Who is in office today?

1. Governor – Greg Abbott
2. Lieutenant Governor – Dan Patrick
3. Attorney General – Ken Paxton
4. State Comptroller – Glenn Hegar
5. Texas Secretary of State – Ruth R. Hughes
6. Commissioner of Education – Mike Morath

C. Revenue Sources for Texas

1. State Revenues

- a. **Taxes** make up almost half of the revenues the state of Texas receives. Money received from the federal government accounts for about 25 percent of the state's income, followed by licenses and fees.
- b. The least amount of income is derived from three sources, listed in descending order: other revenue, land income, and the sales of goods and services.

2. City Revenues

- a. **Sales Tax** is the primary source of revenue for the state and cities. The base rate is 6.25 percent, but counties and cities may add on up to 2 percent for a maximum rate of 8.25 percent.
- b. **Property taxes** are one of the most important revenue sources.
- c. **Franchise taxes** are taxes on certain businesses that operate in the city. These are also a significant source of income.
- d. **Fees and permits** bring in less income, but these funds directly support the activity or local facilities for which they are associated. For example, a city park fee supports the city parks.

