

Mirabeau B. Lamar: Second President of Texas

Activity Book & Teacher's Guide

Developed by
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Press

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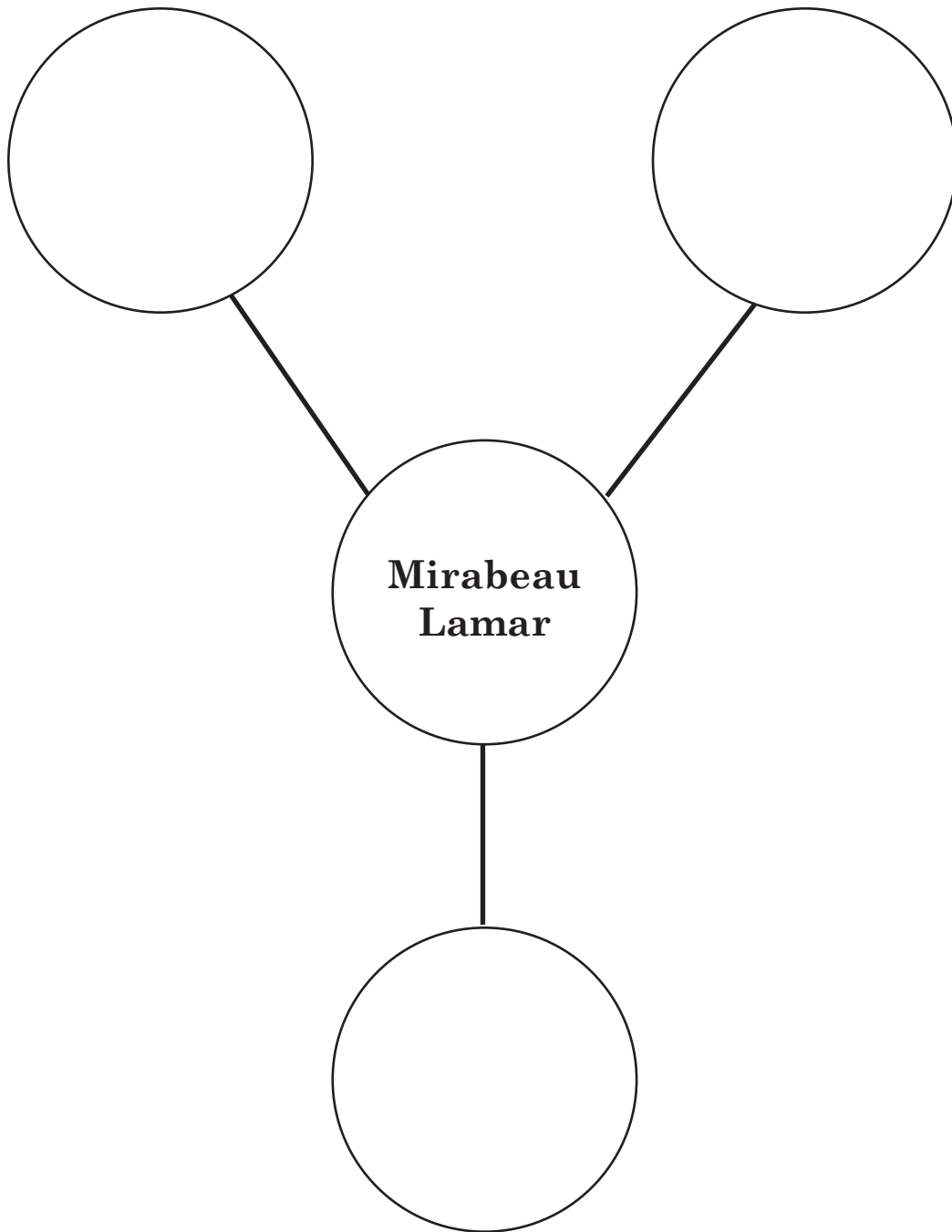
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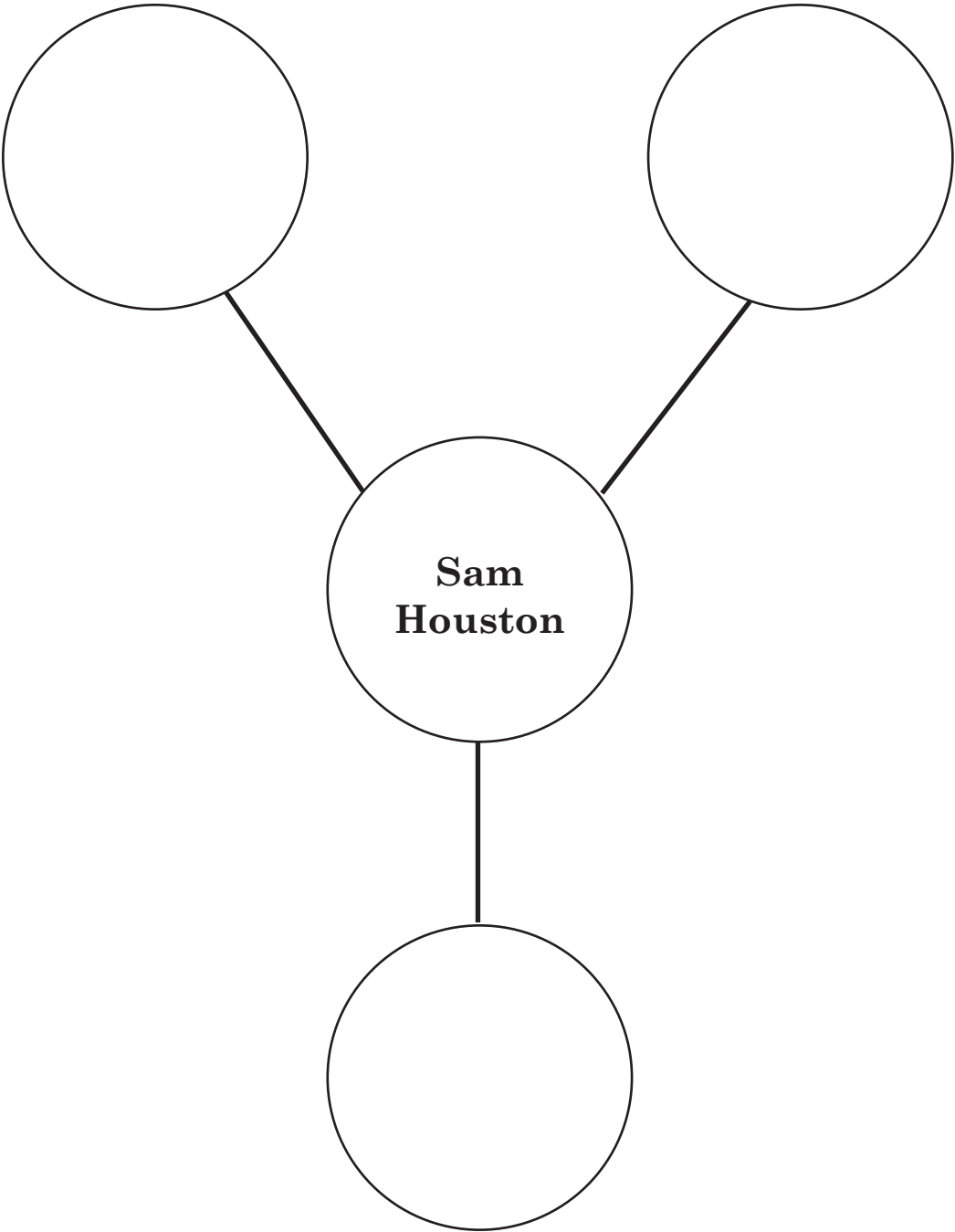
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Character web:
Mirabeau B. Lamar





Character web:
Sam Houston



Character Differences

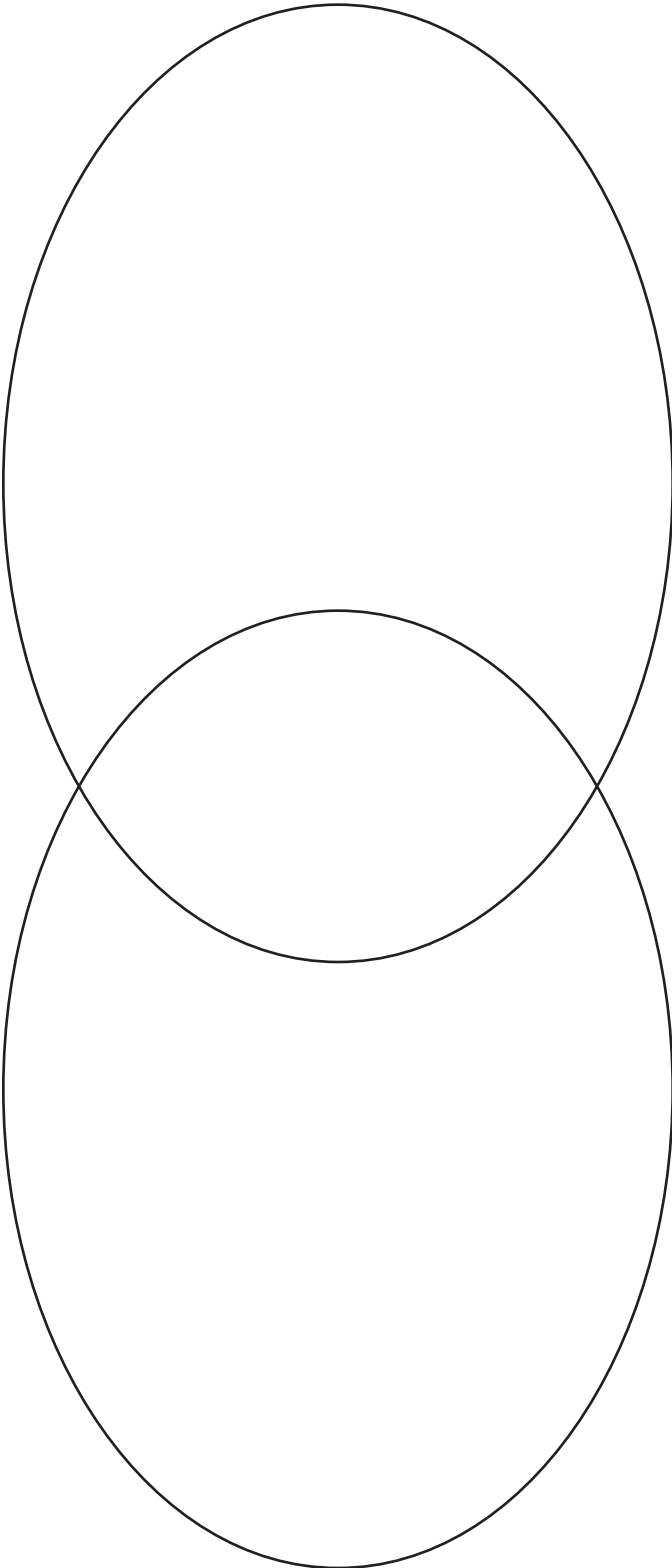
Mirabeau B. Lamar	Sam Houston

Characterization Table

Character	What are the character's physical attributes?	What actions does the character take in the story?	What does the character say in the text?	What are the character's thoughts?	What do other people in the book say about the character?
Mirabeau Lamar					
Sam Houston					

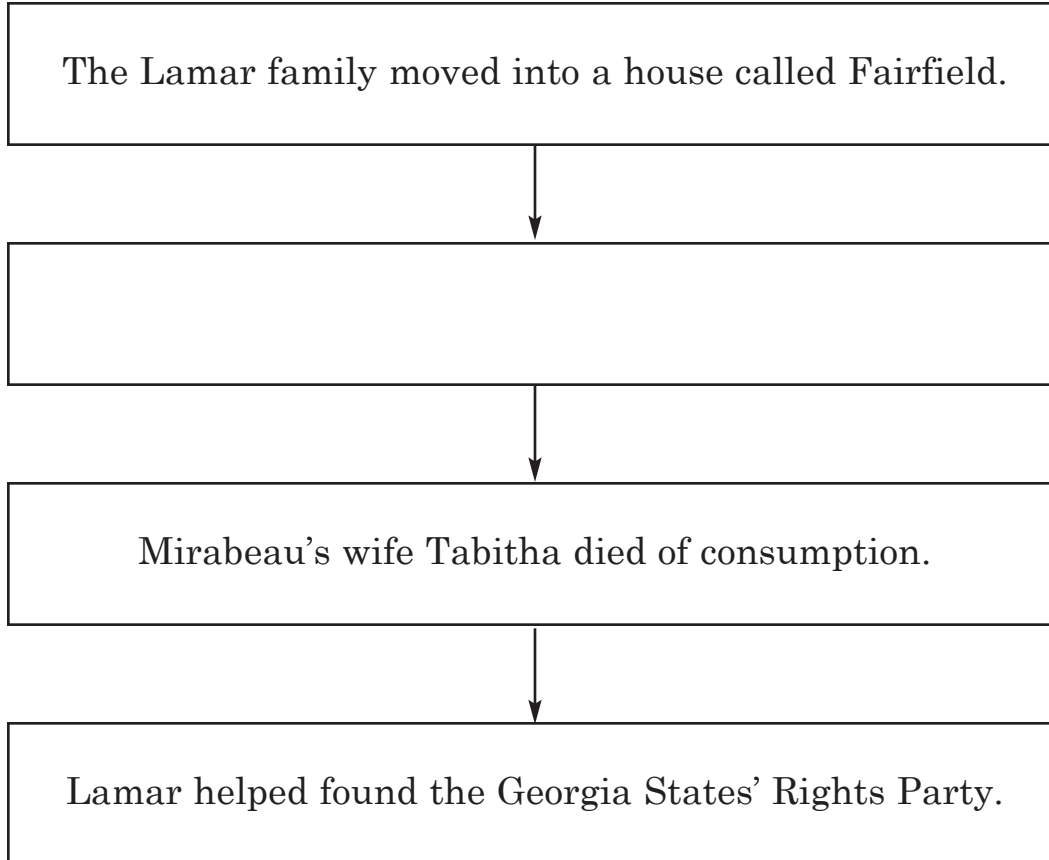


Compare Lamar and Houston using a Venn Diagram



Chapter 2

Read the chart below. Fill in the missing chronological event.



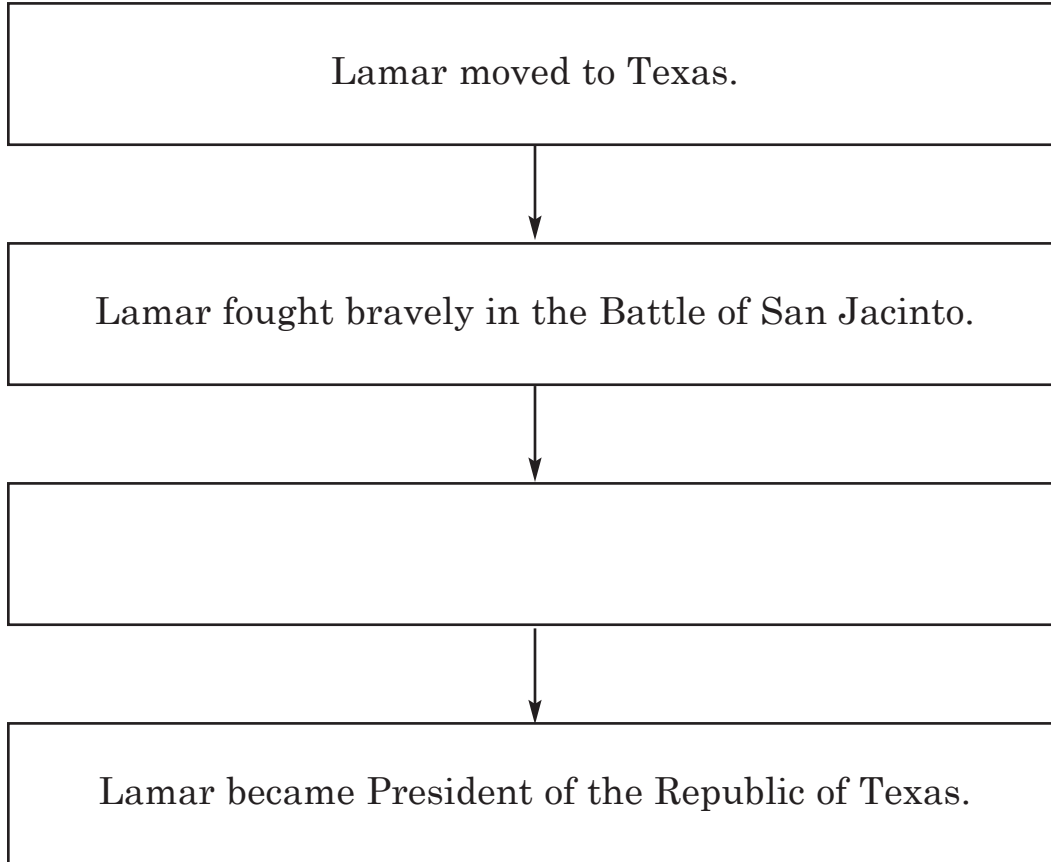
Which of the events listed below belongs in the empty box?

- A. Lamar's daughter dies.
- B. Lamar moved to Texas.
- C. Lamar became co-publisher of the *Cahawba Press*.
- D. Lamar decided to travel to ease his grief.



Chapters 3-4

Read the chart below. Fill in the missing chronological event.

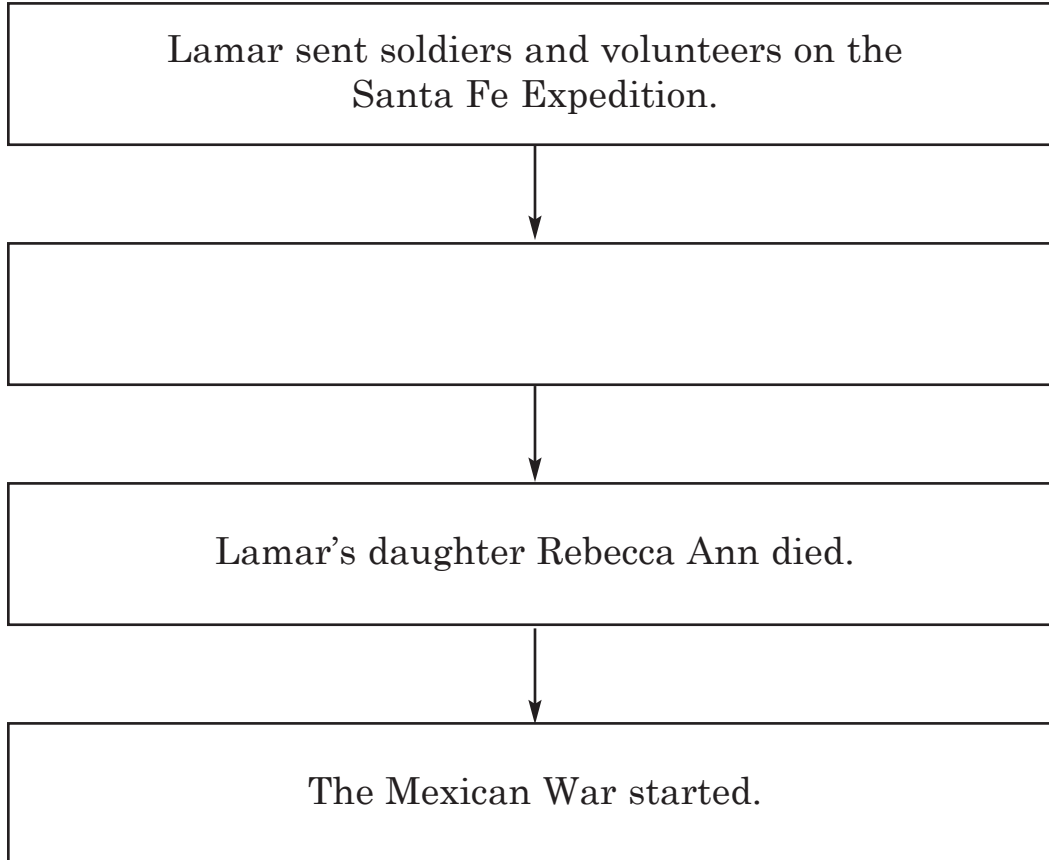


Which of the events listed below belongs in the empty box?

- A. Lamar became Vice President of the Republic of Texas.
- B. Lamar enlisted as a private in the Army of Texas.
- C. Lamar's son John died.
- D. Lamar decided to write a history of Texas.

Chapters 5-6

Read the chart below. Fill in the missing chronological event.



Which of the events listed below belongs in the empty box?

- A. Texas became a state of the United States of America.
- B. Lamar enlisted in the U.S. Army.
- C. Lamar moved the state capital to Austin.
- D. Lamar became a representative of Nueces and San Patricio counties.



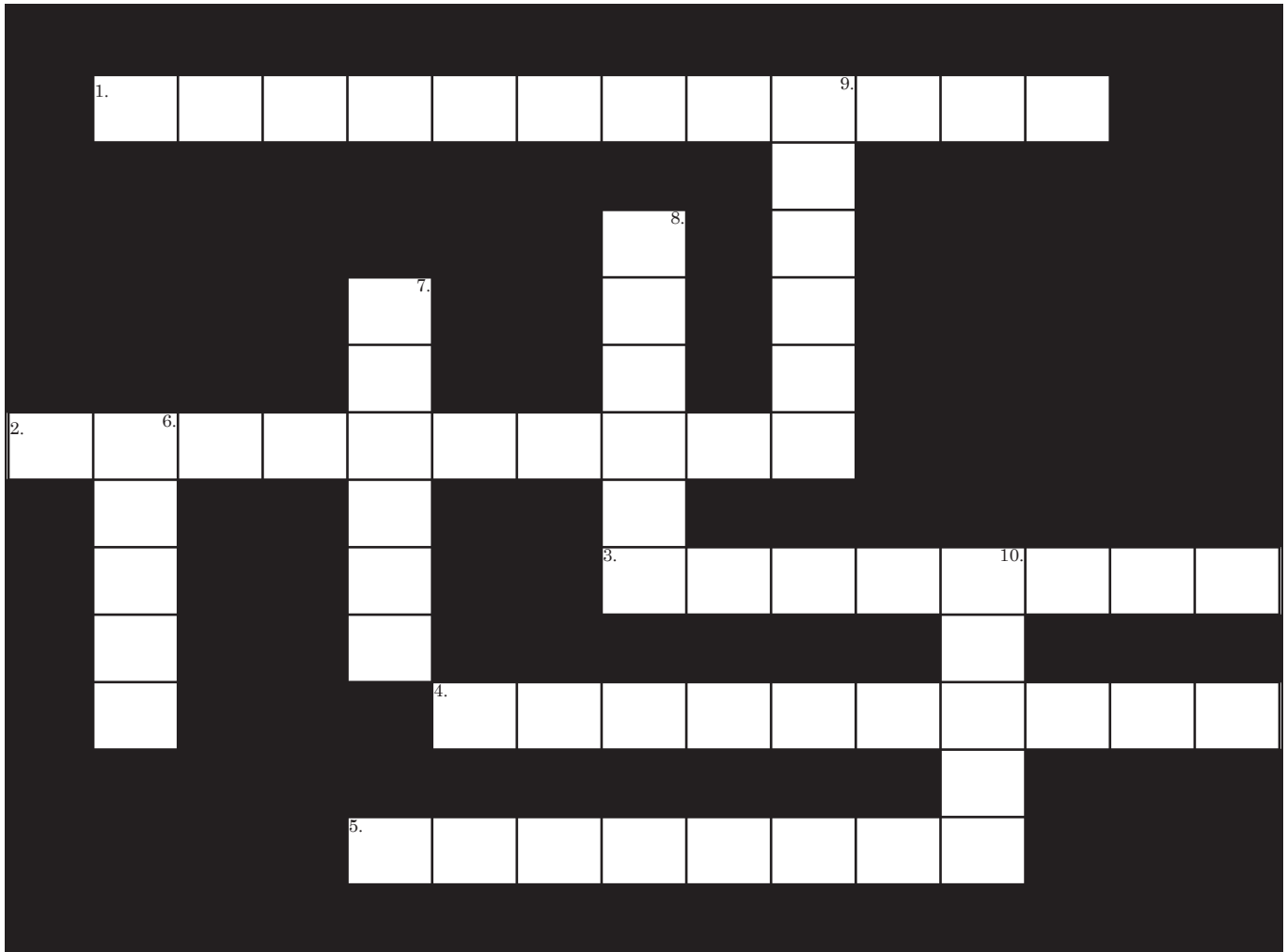
Inference Organizer

From the text
(quotes, details, or events)

What I Already Know
(through my experiences)

What I Conclude
(what conclusions can I draw
from what is in the text and
what I already know)

Crossword



Across

1. the act of confirming and making legal a document or agreement
2. a condition of greater and longer lasting sadness and gloom than should be caused by events in a person's life
3. a person who assumes total control over a country and its government
4. a settler given the right by the Mexican government to establish a colony and invite other settlers to Texas
5. a Spanish military post

Down

6. a sad poem mourning the dead
7. an afternoon nap, most usually taken in Spanish countries
8. the town where Gen. James W. Fannin's men were executed by the Mexican army at the La Bahía mission
9. an Anglo resident of Texas; this term was used until about 1850
10. the Franciscan mission in San Antonio that was overrun by the Mexican Army on March 6, 1836



Word Find

Z U N I T E D S T A T E S B Q U
 A K M O I N A U G U R A T I O N
 S X E M R P R E S I D E N T P Y
 A G X T B T E X I A N S S L W F
 N O I R G O P N I C A R A G U A
 T V C S J I U K N Y E R M Q U I
 A E A W J Y B C V X P U H T E N
 N R N N W Q L S J R U X O P T D
 N N W T G M I R A B E A U O N I
 A M A E D U C A T I O N S L Y A
 M E R X I C O N S U M P T I O N
 T N L A M A R M Y B N O O T G S
 Z T V S Y H K H R V T E N I D C
 A P O S A N J A C I N T O C N T
 X R A M B A S S A D O R Y S G F
 D A V I D B U R N E T Y J O X V

Lamar
 Mirabeau
 consumption
 poetry
 Sam Houston
 Republic
 president

Texas
 United States
 politics
 government
 education
 San Jacinto
 Indians
 Nicaragua

ambassador
 Mexican War
 inauguration
 David Burnet
 Texans
 Santa Anna
 Army

Writing Prompts

1. Describe some of the differences of opinion between Sam Houston and Mirabeau Lamar.
2. Houston and Lamar thought very differently about the Indians. How did some other states treat their Indian population?
3. There was some discussion about the rights of the state government versus that of the federal government. What are some current issues that are the responsibility of the state? What are some current issues that are the responsibility of the federal government?
4. Lamar was known as the “Poet President of Texas.” Write a poem for a “Classroom Collection of Poetry.”
5. Lamar considered writing biographies about two men, Stephen F. Austin and Santa Anna. Who would you write a biography about and why?
6. If the Santa Fe Expedition had succeeded, how do you think that would have changed the future of Texas?
7. Santa Anna was a dictator. Describe what a dictator is and name other historical figures who are also considered dictators.
8. Lamar was the United States Ambassador to Nicaragua. If you could choose to be an ambassador to a foreign country, which country would you choose and why?
9. Lamar was very active in politics and had to write many campaign speeches. Write a campaign speech about a topic you feel strongly about.
10. Lamar published several newspapers during his lifetime. Pretend you are a newspaper reporter and write an article about one school event. Then, put them together with your classmates and publish a classroom newspaper.



Chapter Questions

Chapter 2

- In what year was Mirabeau Lamar born?
 - 1765
 - 1798
 - 1805
 - 1812
- What nationality was Lamar's family?
 - German
 - English
 - French
 - African
- As a child, Lamar liked
 - outdoor activities like fencing, boating, and horseback riding
 - indoor activities like reading and writing
 - drawing and painting
 - all of the above
- What was the first state capital of the state of Alabama?
 - Cahawba
 - Birmingham
 - Tuscaloosa
 - Mobile
- Lamar developed an interest in politics while he lived in Alabama.
 - True
 - False
- By 1834, Lamar had been involved in the production of how many newspapers?
 - 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
- Lamar believed that the federal government should not interfere in state matters.
 - True
 - False
- What was the first elected political position Lamar won?
 - governor
 - president
 - senator
 - attorney general
- What did Lamar's wife die from?
 - consumption
 - a fall from a horse
 - childbirth
 - fever
- How did people get information about world events during Lamar's lifetime?
 - telephone
 - television
 - internet
 - newspapers

Chapter 3

1. What year did Mirabeau Lamar move to Texas?
 - a) 1820
 - b) 1848
 - c) 1812
 - d) 1835
2. Lamar was imprisoned by Mexican officials.
 - a) True
 - b) False
3. Lamar fought in what battle during the Texas Revolution?
 - a) Goliad
 - b) Alamo
 - c) San Jacinto
 - d) Lamar did not fight
4. Lamar was in favor of executing Santa Anna after the Battle of San Jacinto.
 - a) True
 - b) False

Chapter 4

1. When Thomas Rusk became commander-in-chief of the Texas Army after the Battle of San Jacinto, Mirabeau Lamar accepted what political position?
 - a) Vice President
 - b) Secretary of War
 - c) Senator
 - d) Congressman
2. Texas was an independent nation from:
 - a) 1836 to 1845
 - b) 1846 to 1848
 - c) 1812 to 1815
 - d) 1861 to 1865
3. Lamar and Sam Houston got along well.
 - a) True
 - b) False
4. From the description of Lamar's Indian policies, do you think he believed that the Indians could live peacefully with the Anglo settlers?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
5. What two men did Lamar consider writing biographies about?
 - a) Santa Anna and Sam Houston
 - b) Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin
 - c) Stephen F. Austin and Santa Anna
 - d) Lamar did not have plans to write a biography
6. The President of the Republic of Texas could not be elected to consecutive terms.
 - a) True
 - b) False
7. Lamar won his first election as President of the Republic of Texas by a close margin.
 - a) True
 - b) False
8. Who was the Vice President of the Republic of Texas when Lamar was president?
 - a) Sam Houston
 - b) Thomas Rusk
 - c) Santa Anna
 - d) David G. Burnet

**Chapter 5**

1. What two titles was Mirabeau Lamar given?
 - a) Poet President of Texas
 - b) Father of Texas Education
 - c) both a) and b)
 - d) neither a) nor b)
2. Why did Lamar keep looking for ways to bring income to Texas?
 - a) he wanted to show that Texas did not need to rely on the United States
 - b) he believed that if Texas succeeded financially, then more foreign countries would recognize Texas as an independent nation
 - c) Texas was in debt and needed the money
 - d) all of the above
3. Lamar sent an expedition of troops to what town?
 - a) Santa Fe
 - b) Cuba
 - c) Albuquerque
 - d) Mexico City
4. The state flag that Texas still uses today was approved by which President?
 - a) Sam Houston
 - b) Mirabeau Lamar
 - c) David G. Burnet
 - d) Thomas Rusk
5. When did Lamar sign the bill that created the Texas public schools?
 - a) January 26, 1839
 - b) July 4, 1832
 - c) March 2, 1836
 - d) April 10, 1845

Chapter 6

1. Lamar was an abolitionist.
 - a) True
 - b) False
2. What year did Texas become a state in the United States of America?
 - a) 1836
 - b) 1861
 - c) 1845
 - d) 1848
3. The Mexican War lasted from:
 - a) 1832 to 1836
 - b) 1846 to 1848
 - c) 1861 to 1865
 - d) 1812 to 1815
4. After his presidency, Lamar was not active in politics.
 - a) True
 - b) False
5. Lamar was an ambassador to what country?
 - a) Mexico
 - b) Spain
 - c) France
 - d) Nicaragua
6. Would Lamar most likely have supported Texas's decision to secede from the United States?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No

Match-up Memory Game

Each glossary term is matched up on the right with its definition. Cut each square out on the dotted line, shuffle the squares, then lay them out in rows and columns. Divide the children up into groups and let them play at trying to match up the glossary term with its definition.

The Alamo

The Franciscan mission
in San Antonio.

Consumption

A disease of the lungs;
today it is known as
tuberculosis.



Depression

A condition of greater and longer lasting sadness and gloom than should be caused by events in a person's life.

Dictator

A person who assumes total control over a country and its government.

Elegy

A sad poem mourning the dead.

Empresario

A settler given the right by the Mexican government to establish a colony and invite other settlers to Texas.

Goliad

The town where Gen. James W. Fannin's men were executed by the Mexican army at the La Bahía mission.

Hostage

Someone held as security until a certain act is performed or money paid.



Interim
government

A temporary
government.

Presidio

A Spanish military post.

Ratification

The act of confirming and
making legal a document
or agreement.

Siesta

An afternoon nap,
most usually taken in
Spanish countries.

States rights

The rights belonging to
the state, in contrast to
those given to the federal
government by the
United States
Constitution.

Texian

The term for an Anglo
resident of Texas which
was used until
about 1850.



Lesson Plan

Elections in Texas, Then and Now

Instructional Suggestions:

1. Use number 9 of the “Writing Prompts” section of the workbook and have the students write a campaign speech.
2. Let each student present his/her speech to the class.
3. Have a class debate over some of the topics covered in the campaign speeches.
4. Students will design and produce campaign posters highlighting the issue/issues talked about in their campaign speeches.
5. Have a mock election where students go to the polls and vote for different classroom positions (room leader, supply organizer, bathroom monitor, birthday and announcement commentator, etc.). After the election, let the students tally the results and present their findings.
6. Have a classroom discussion about the differences between elections during Mirabeau Lamar’s life and today. Talk about who was able to vote back then, how long it took to get the final count from all of the Texas counties, and how the results were reported. Then, talk about who can vote today, how quickly election results are tallied, and how television has played an important role in providing election results to the general public.

Answer Key

Page 8: c (found on page 22)

Page 9: a (found on page 36)

Page 10: c (found on page 53)

Page 12:

1. ratification
2. depression
3. dictator
4. empresario
5. presidio
6. elegy
7. siesta
8. Goliad
9. Texian
10. Alamo

Page 13:

Z U N I T E D S T A T E S B Q U
 A K M O I N A U G U R A T I O N
 S X E M R P R E S I D E N T P Y
 A G X T B T E X I A N S S L W F
 N O I R G O P N I C A R A G U A
 T V C S J I U K N Y E R M Q U I
 A E A W J Y B C V X P U H T E N
 N R N N W Q L S J R U X O P T D
 N N W T G M I R A B E A U O N I
 A M A E D U C A T I O N S L Y A
 M E R X I C O N S U M P T I O N
 T N L A M A R M Y B N O O T G S
 Z T V S Y H K H R V T E N I D C
 A P O S A N J A C I N T O C N T
 X R A M B A S S A D O R Y S G F
 D A V I D B U R N E T Y J O X V

Page 14: Answers will vary

Page 15:

1. b (found on page 15)
2. c (found on page 15)
3. d (found on pages 15-16)
4. a (found on page 16)

5. a (found on page 18)

6. b (found on pages 18 & 21)

7. a (found on page 21)

8. c (found on page 21)

9. a (found on page 22)

10. d

Page 16, Chapter 3:

1. d (found on page 25)

2. b (found on page 26)

3. c (found on page 28)

4. a (found on page 31)

Page 16, Chapter 4:

1. b (found on page 33)

2. a (found on page 34)

3. b (found on page 36)

4. b (found on page 37)

5. c (found on page 38)

6. a (found on page 39)

7. b (found on page 41)

8. d (found on page 41)

Page 17, Chapter 5:

1. c (found on page 44)

2. d (found on page 49)

3. a (found on page 49)

4. b (found on page 52)

5. d (found on page 53)

6. a (found on pages 50 & 53)

Page 17, Chapter 6:

1. b (found on page 55)

2. c (found on page 55)

3. b

4. b (found on page 57)

5. d (found on page 59)

6. a (found on page 61)