

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3rd Grade Social Studies Unit 4 Family Guide

#### How to use:

- For each item in bold, create your own test question. Write the answer, too.
- Describe the different groups of people and cultures that ended up in Louisiana and the ways the different cultures have influenced Louisiana.

#### **Explain the difference between imports and exports, and identify an example of each.**

Imports and exports refer to the goods that countries ship off to other places (imports) and goods that they need to have shipped in from other places (exports). This process, called trade, allows people all over the world to have all the things they might need (like food, clothes, cars, gas, and even video games) even if they don't have the resources or skills to make them.

**Imports, goods that a country or state brings in from other places**, are usually things that are not easy to find or even don't exist in that country or state. For instance, many of the cars you see on the road today like Toyotas, Nissans, and Hondas are all imported from other countries.

**Exports are goods that a country or state produces through farming, mining, or manufacturing and ships off to other countries** in exchange for money or other goods. For instance, Domino Sugar refines a lot of sugar in New Orleans and ships it out to other states and even other countries.

An easy way to remember these terms is to think that **IM**ports are coming **IN** to a country or state, and **EX**ports are **EX**iting a country or state.

Explain why acquiring the Port of Orleans was important for importing and exporting goods.



As shown by the two images above, **New Orleans' location makes it a great place to trade from.**

Most importantly, as shown by the image on the left, **New Orleans is located at the mouth of the Mississippi River.** This means that goods from all over Louisiana and other places can be shipped down the Mississippi River to New Orleans. Once goods reach New Orleans, merchants can ship them out to all kinds of other places as shown in the image on the right.

**Using the economic terms supply and demand, explain why it was beneficial for the U.S. to gain the port of Orleans through the Louisiana Purchase.**

**Supply-** The amount of a resource or product, like food or clothing, that is available for people to buy or use

**Demand-** The amount of a resource or product, like gasoline or playstations, that the population wants to buy

Supply and Demand affect prices of goods. The lower the supply, the harder it is to get something, the more expensive that product will be. The higher the demand of something, the more people want it, the more they're willing to pay for it. So, **high supply means low price and high demand means high price.**

In the early 1800's the United States was growing quickly. As the population grew, the **demand** for food greatly increased. If you have more people you need more food to feed them. Unfortunately, the cities with the most people like Philadelphia and New York had a small **supply** of food because they did not have many farms.

People started making farms in the Northwest but they were having issues getting their goods to the big cities of the U.S. like Philadelphia and New York. They had the **supply** of food, but they couldn't fill the **demand** of the East coast. The Appalachian Mountains made shipping goods by land really difficult, so they needed to be able to ship things down the Mississippi River and then around to the East coast by water.

In order to be able to do this safely and without having to pay another country taxes or tariffs for shipping

goods through their city, the President of the United States Thomas Jefferson wanted to purchase the city of New Orleans from the leader of France, Napoleon.

**Use the economic term opportunity cost to help explain why the U.S. purchased the Louisiana Territory from France.**

**Opportunity Cost**-- Whenever someone makes a decision, they decide to do one thing over another. The opportunity cost is the cost of not doing the thing they decided not to do. For instance, if you're at McDonald's and decide to get a Big Mac the opportunity cost of that decision was not getting chicken nuggets or a quarter pounder.

In 1803 **President Thomas Jefferson** sent **James Monroe** and **Robert Livingston** to France to try and buy the city of New Orleans from the French leader, **Napoleon**. When Monroe and Livingston got there they realized that **Napoleon wanted to sell the United States the whole Louisiana Territory for a relatively low price.**

Even though President Jefferson only approved them to buy the city, they realized that there was going to be a **big opportunity cost to not buying the whole territory from France.** Since Napoleon wanted the money for the territory to pay for a war, the United States became worried that **if they did not buy the land from him he would sell it to another country.** The United States did not want another country to own the land because **that country would then be really close to the U.S. and threaten to attack us.** Also if another country owned the land **then the United States might not have access to the Mississippi River** which they needed to ship goods.

So, the opportunity cost of not making the Louisiana Purchase included economic issues of not having access to trade routes down the Mississippi River as well as military issues of having another European country close to the U.S.

**Explain why the U.S. would want to own the Louisiana territory (control of the Mississippi River and the Port of New Orleans, allow for free transfer of goods from other territories to the gulf of Mexico, security of other American lands).**

The U.S. wanted to own and control the Louisiana territory for 3 main main reasons:

Geographic Benefits:

- The Louisiana Territory was a huge territory that would provide land for people to live on as the population grew.
- The Louisiana Territory included the Mississippi River, the most important physical feature of the area because it provided fresh water and access to trade routes by water.
- The U.S. also got control of the Gulf of Mexico, another large body of water.

Economic Benefits:

- Purchasing the Louisiana Territory made sure that the U.S. could ship goods from the Ohio area and other territories to the gulf of Mexico. This allows the goods to either be shipped out to the East Coast of the United States or be sold to other countries.

Military Benefits:

- Purchasing the Louisiana Territory provided a barrier between the land where most people lived in the U.S. and places controlled by other countries. This would help keep Americans safe from attack by other countries like England and Spain.

**Explain the importance of the Louisiana Purchase to the United States (doubled the U.S. in size, control of the Mississippi River, gives the Port of Orleans to the U.S. which allows for more trade and money and easier transport of goods, provides pioneers more land to settle), and the importance of the leaders involved in making the event happen (Robert Livingston, Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, Napoleon).**

The **Louisiana Purchase (1803)** was incredibly important to the United States because it provided a variety of benefits.

1. The LA Purchase doubled the size of the U.S. in terms of land, giving pioneers more room to settle. Though settlers stealing land from Native Americans would lead to more conflict.
2. It gave the US control over the Mississippi River, probably the most important physical feature in North America
3. Gave the US control of the Port of New Orleans which was very important for trade and getting crops from the farms of the Ohio River Valley to the East coast by boat

There were several important people in the process of completing the **Louisiana Purchase (1803)**.

1. **Thomas Jefferson** was the President of the United States who sent diplomats to France to try and buy New Orleans from France. He wanted the port city to help with trade and to make sure that it didn't fall into the hands of another country who could tax American goods or even attack the US.
2. **Napoleon** was the leader of France in 1803. He was famous for fighting a lot of wars to expand France's territory. He wanted to sell the Louisiana Territory to another country because he needed the money to continue fighting one of those wars. Also, a successful slave revolution in Haiti meant that France had no way to make money through New Orleans.
3. **James Monroe and Robert Livingston** were the diplomats sent by President Jefferson to negotiate the purchase of New Orleans from France. When Napoleon offered to sell them the whole Louisiana Territory for \$15 million which was an incredibly low price for so much land but much more than they had approval from the President to spend in purchasing just New Orleans, they decided to go for it. Their decision to buy the whole territory instead of just New Orleans shaped the future of both Louisiana and the United States as a whole.

**Explain the importance of the Lewis and Clark expedition to Louisiana and the U.S. (first expedition to explore the Louisiana Purchase territory, promoted trade and settlement in the new region).**

After the **Louisiana Purchase (1803)** President Jefferson needed to know what was in all this land that he just purchased. So, he sent explorers **Merriwether Lewis and William Clark** to travel all over the land, draw maps, and describe the people, plants, and animals of the area.

Though Lewis and Clark nearly died on the journey, they made it through with the help of a Native American Woman named **Sacagawea**. Their trip was called a success for two main reasons:

1. Though not all Native American tribes were friendly about the white men moving in to take over their land, some Native American tribes agreed to trade with them and these **trade relationships would benefit the US**.
2. Though they probably exaggerated how easy it would be, their writings about the territory **convinced many settlers to move out into the new Louisiana Territory**.

**Explain how annexing the territory of Louisiana influenced new settlement by Germans and English-speaking settlers.**

#### **Germans**

Though many German immigrants moved to Louisiana to form the "**German Coast**" as early as the 1720's,

the Louisiana Purchase helped bring more Germans to the area. American purchase of the Louisiana territory helped bring Germans from other parts of North America like Ohio and Illinois down to the "German Coast" to pursue farming lives as well as to New Orleans to participate in the many industries the city offered.

English-speaking settlers

Before the Louisiana Purchase, French was the most commonly spoken Non-Native American language. Though this would remain true for some time, English speaking settlers began to flood the territory. These settlers especially came to New Orleans to participate in trade and other industries.

**Explain the steps Louisiana took to become a state (determining delegates by population, writing and ratifying a state constitution, determining state borders)**

The steps for becoming a state in the US are pretty straightforward:

1. The territory has to have 60,000 people
2. Delegates elected by people in the territory have to agree that they want to become a state
3. The delegates write a constitution and submit it to the US government for approval
4. The US Senate and House of Representatives approve everything

However, the situation for Louisiana was a little bit more complicated for a few reasons:

1. Louisiana was the first state outside the territory of the original United States
2. Since every state gets representation in the US Government, making Louisiana a state would make other states less powerful
3. Since it was recently a French colony it followed a different style of laws. US laws are usually based on British Common Law and Louisiana had something called the Napoleonic Code.
4. Louisianans practices a different religion, they were Catholic, and spoke different languages, mostly French and Spanish.
5. Louisiana, especially New Orleans, had many cultural differences from the US--most notably Louisiana was home to many wealthy people of color.
6. Finally, because the territory of Louisiana was so massive, the country had to determine exactly where the state would be. That's why the state of Louisiana is so much smaller than the land bought in the Louisiana Purchase

After long battles in the US Senate and House of Representatives, Louisiana's statehood was ratified, or agreed to, on April 6th, 1812. Though because the date was so close to the date that the Louisiana Purchase was signed, April 30, the official date was pushed back. So the official date of Louisiana's admission as a State of the US is April 30, 1812.

**Discuss how becoming a state altered the language and religion of Louisiana (more English speaking, protestant pioneers moved to Louisiana when it became part of the U.S.).**

At the time of the Louisiana Purchase, Louisiana was mostly inhabited by **Spanish and French speaking Catholics**. This is because the territory had been ruled by either France or Spain since the beginning of European Colonization of North America.

Once Louisiana became a part of the US, many US settlers began moving to the territory. **Most of the settlers who moved to the area mainly spoke English** like most of the rest of the US. Additionally, **most of the settlers moving here were Protestant**, which in the context of the time mostly means any Christian who isn't Catholic. This makes sense since many of the early English and other European settlers of what would eventually be the US were leaving Europe to find somewhere to practice their Protestant religion.

**Compare and contrast primary cultural influences in Louisiana prior to becoming a state (French, Spanish, Cajun, Native American, African) and after becoming a state (Germans, Irish, and more English Speaking settlers).**

What makes Louisiana such a unique place are the many different groups of people that have lived here over the last few hundred years. The cultural influence of those groups has shaped the Louisiana we know today. The Louisiana Purchase and the addition of Louisiana as a state shifted the influence from one group of cultures to another.

Major cultural influences before Louisiana became a state:

- **Native American:** Before Europeans took control of the land, Louisiana was home to many Native American tribes such as the **Houma, Natchez, and Choctaw**. Native American influence can still be seen in the names of various cities, physical features, and roads in Louisiana.
- **African:** Much of Louisiana, especially the region around New Orleans, has major influence from African Culture. **This can be seen in food, music, and many other areas.** European slave owners brought Africans to Louisiana against their will, but many **freed Africans would go on to grow very rich in Louisiana** unlike in the US where enslaved people were rarely freed and even then they were held back by racist laws.
- **French:** Louisiana's first European colonizers were the French. The name Louisiana comes from the King of France at the time that the French arrived, **King Louis the 14th**. Before the Louisiana Purchase, **French Catholics** were among the largest groups of people in the territory. Their influence can still be seen all over Louisiana, including food and the names of various places throughout the state.
- **Spanish:** After the French and Indian War, the Spanish were awarded the Louisiana Territory. **Spanish architecture and food--like jambalaya--**can still be found throughout the state. The Spanish speaking inhabitants of the territory were **Catholics** like the French, but had their own culture.
- **Cajun:** Relatives of the French, this group moved to the Louisiana Territory from Canada after the French and Indian War when the British took over that area. The Cajuns speak a type of French with Native American influences. They also eat different **food like Boudin and listen to different types of music like Zydeco**. Cajun influence is still found all over the state, especially in the **Lafayette** area. The Cajun way of life before the Louisiana Purchase largely revolved around **hunting and trapping wild animals**.

Major cultural influences after Louisiana became a state:

- **Germans:** Though many German immigrants moved to Louisiana to form the "**German Coast**" as early as the 1720's, the Louisiana Purchase helped bring more Germans to the area. Most German settlers were **Protestants and they spoke German**. Unlike Cajuns who largely hunted and trapped for their food, **most German settlers were farmers--especially livestock or animals like pigs**
- **Irish:** In the early 1800s a lot of Irish immigrants moved to Louisiana, especially to New Orleans. Irish cultural influence can be seen all over the city, especially in the **Irish Channel in Uptown New Orleans**. Early Irish immigrants to Louisiana were mostly laborers who worked on things like digging canals. Unlike other newcomers to the state, the **Irish were Catholic like the Spanish and French**.
- **English Speaking Settlers:** Once Louisiana became a part of the US, many US settlers began moving to the territory. **Most of the settlers who moved to the area mainly spoke English** like most of the rest of the US. Additionally, **most of the settlers moving here were Protestant**, which in the context of the time mostly means any Christian who isn't Catholic.

**Identify and give examples of rules and laws, and explain the difference between the two.**

Rules and laws are similar in that they **both tell people what they are supposed to do or what they should not do**. Both rules and laws are usually put in place by an authority figure of some kind and generally apply to everyone in a specific place.

The main difference is that **laws are created by a government** of some kind and **rules are made by someone else like a teacher, a parent, or a boss**.

For instance, **speed limits are laws because the government decides** how fast people should be able to drive on a road in order to keep everyone safe. **Another example of a law would be that children under a certain age are required to go to school**. This is a law because it is required by the government--even though your parents may also tell you to go to school.

An example of a **rule could be that in class you don't talk while the teacher is talking**. This is a **rule because the teacher is an authority figure but they are not the government**. Another example of a rule could be that your **boss requires you to get to work by 9AM everyday**. This is something you have to do and there will be consequences if you don't, you could even get fired, but the **rule is not made by the government**.

**Identify the three branches of government and briefly explain what each branch of government does and who does the work in each branch, on the state and local level.**

**Explain the basic responsibilities of local and state officials, and the branch of government for which each entity works (local: mayor, judges, sheriff, city council, police jury. state: governor, senator, representative, judges).**

The Three Branches of Government are the **Legislative Branch, the Executive Branch, and the Judicial Branch**

#### **Legislative Branch:**

- The Legislative Branch is made up of people who were elected into office to **create and vote on laws for the people they represent**.
- On the state level, **Louisiana's Legislative Branch** consists of a **State House of Representatives and a State Senate**
  - There are 105 representatives and 39 senators, all are elected by citizens of Louisiana to represent the people who live in their area. **They should try and create and pass laws that would help their area, which is called a district.**
- On the **Local Level, New Orleans' Legislative Branch is the City Council**.
  - There are 7 City Council Members voted in from the districts they live in and their job is to pass city ordinances--laws that apply only to the city.

#### **Executive Branch**

- The **Executive Branch's main job is to enforce the laws** passed by the Legislative Branch.
- On the State level, **Louisiana's Executive Branch is led by the Governor** who right now is **John Bel Edwards**.
  - The governor is elected by people across the entire state. **Their job is to sign new laws into effect once they are passed, and to oversee state-wide programs like the state police and state highways.**
- On the local level, **New Orleans' Executive Branch is headed by the Mayor** who right now is **Latoya Cantrell**.
  - The **Mayor's main job is to enforce the laws of the city, largely by overseeing the city police**. They also help set the agenda for the city government as a whole.

### Judicial Branch:

- The **Judicial Branch's main job is to interpret the laws** and decide whether or not someone has actually broken those laws.
- On the State level, **Louisiana's Judicial Branch** is a series of courts with the most important being the **Louisiana Supreme Court**.
  - The Louisiana Supreme Court hears cases from all over the state, often people arguing that a new law goes against the Louisiana State Constitution
- On the local level **New Orleans has many judges who oversee courts** for people who are accused of **breaking the law in New Orleans**.

### Explain how dividing the responsibilities between the three branches helps government and people.

The United States Federal Government, Louisiana's State Government, and most local governments are all divided into the **3 branches: Legislative, Judicial, and Executive**. Each of these three branches has the power to do some of the work that governments need to do to function and provide their people what they need.

Why split up the power between 3 branches?

The people who started this country used to live in a government called a monarchy where one person, a king or a queen, had all the power. In these Monarchies, many of these kings and queens did harmful things to their people, made bad decisions, and nobody could stop them because they had all the power. In order to stop any one person, or any one branch of the government to get too powerful **our governments are now split into 3 branches with equal power. This way if someone in one of the branches starts to do something bad, the other branches can stop them.**

### Give examples of the responsibilities of state vs local governments (example for safety: state governments set driving rules, local governments manage first responders).

**Describe the ways that state and local government keep society safe (emergency services), provide basic health needs and services (hospitals, clean water, waste disposal), and provide infrastructure (road maintenance, power lines) and promote community (schools, libraries, parks).**

#### State Governments:

State governments generally oversee things that affect the entire state. They take care of **state parks**. They help handle state-wide emergencies. They make **traffic laws** for the state and **maintain state highways**. They have a state police force. They set **state tax rates**. They usually make **education standards** for the state.

#### Local Governments:

Local governments oversee things that are more specific to their town. They manage the **hiring of teachers**. They hire **local firemen**. They might have **local taxes** that you pay only when you're in that city. They plan **local events** like Mardi Gras.



# POWERS OF GOVERNMENT



|         | LEGISLATIVE       | EXECUTIVE | JUDICIAL                              |
|---------|-------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| FEDERAL | U.S. Congress     | President | U.S. Supreme Court and Federal Courts |
| STATE   | State Legislature | Governor  | State Courts                          |
| LOCAL   | City Council      | Mayor     | Local Courts                          |

**Explain what a tax is and how state and local governments use taxes to help meet the basic needs of society.**

Taxes are money that citizens pay to the government. Taxes can be added to the price of stuff you buy at the store (**sales tax**), they can be taken right out of your paycheck (**income tax**), or they can apply to particular purchases or services like **stamps** or **property tax**.

State and local governments use taxes to do the various things the state or city needs to be safe and productive. Taxes are used to **pay police and firemen** to keep communities safe. Taxes are used to **maintain roads and sidewalks**. Taxes **pay the salaries of teachers** and other people who work in schools. Taxes pay for water treatment facilities that **clean our drinking water**, and they **pay to pick up trash and recycle**. Taxes also help provide **social services** like giving **healthcare** to people who can't afford it, or **food stamps** to help people feed their families, or **subsidies** given to farmers to make sure that enough people are farming to grow the food society needs.

**Discuss the right of voting, and the role citizens play in voting.**

The United States is a democracy which means that people vote on a variety of things and basically say what does and does not happen in their government. **Voting is when citizens are given some options and choose**

**which they think is best for them and their community.** In the United States, citizens gain the right to vote at the age of 18.

**Voting for Representatives:**

In the US citizens run for office, like Senator or Governor, if they think they're the best person to make decisions for their community. **The government holds elections where citizens get together and vote for whoever they think will do what's best for them.** Whichever candidate (person running for office) gets the most votes, gets the job. **Voting is the most important thing a citizen can do for their community.**

**Direct Voting:**

Sometimes, most often in local elections, citizens get the chance to **vote on an actual law.** This means that citizens get to vote whether they want a certain law to go into effect or not. **If the majority of citizens vote yes, the law goes into effect.**

**Describe what good citizens in a community do for each other to make the community a better place. Identify the responsibilities of citizens that make a community a better place (identifying and solving local issues, environmental stewardship, volunteering, jury duty, paying taxes).**

While governments provide many services that help communities, **it's the citizens that really make the community the best it can be.** Being a good citizen means doing your best to make the community better for everyone in it. There are many ways for people to be good citizens:

- **First and foremost, good citizens go out and vote for candidates and issues they believe in. Participating in elections is the best way for citizens to get things done.**
- **Volunteering** is another great way to show good citizenship. Many people volunteer for all kinds of things such as working at local libraries, working in homeless shelters, or having community clean up days.
- Good citizens generally **take care of the environment** in their area. This means not littering, making sure to recycle, and conserving power.
- Citizens in the US have the right to trial by jury which protects us from judges making harsh decisions against people they don't like. **Serving on a jury** is a great way to show citizenship.
- **Good citizens look out for their communities by pointing out problems in society and looking for ways to fix them. This often means contacting their elected officials, like the mayor, when they find problems in the community.**

## Some Ways to Be a Good Citizen



Using the leaders of the Louisiana Purchase as an example (Robert Livingston, Thomas Jefferson, Napoleon) describe the qualities of a good leader and citizen as honest, kind, smart, brave, hard-working, working for the betterment of the community, and a self-starter.

The Louisiana Purchase was one of the most important events in American history and it could not have happened without the leadership of those involved.

**Thomas Jefferson was the President of the US** at the time and he saw a need in his country and he sought to address it. Jefferson knew that the US population was growing and that farms in the Northwest could meet the demand of that growing population if only they could ship those goods down the Mississippi, through New Orleans, and around to the East Coast. Knowing this, he sent representatives out to France to buy the port city of New Orleans and ensure that his country could thrive into the future.

**Robert Livingston and James Monroe were sent by President Jefferson to purchase New Orleans from the French.** However, when they got there they saw an opportunity to purchase the entire Louisiana Territory for a low price. These two brave men decided to go ahead without presidential approval to purchase the entire territory. The Louisiana Purchase would protect US trade, expand the country's territory for future settlers, and put a barrier between the US and their potential enemies. Livingston and Monroe showed leadership by taking the risk to better their country.