

1. ... The President [Thomas Jefferson] was playing for large stakes. Louisiana [Territory] stretched from the Mississippi westward to the Hocky Mountains, and from Canada's Lake of the Woods southward to the Gulf of Mexico. If annexed, these 825,000 square miles would give the new nation access to one of the world's potentially richest trading areas. The Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and Red rivers and their tributaries could act as giant funnels carrying goods into the Mississippi and then down to New Orleans. Even in the 1790s, with access to the Mississippi only from the east, the hundreds of thousands of Americans settled along the river depended on it and on the port of New Orleans for access to both world markets and imported staples for everyday living. "The Mississippi is to them everything," Secretary of State James Madison observed privately in November 1802. "It is the Hudson, the Delaware, the Potomac, and all the navigable rivers of the Atlantic formed into one stream." ...

Source: Walter LaFeber, "An Expansionist's Dilemma," Constitution, Fall 1993

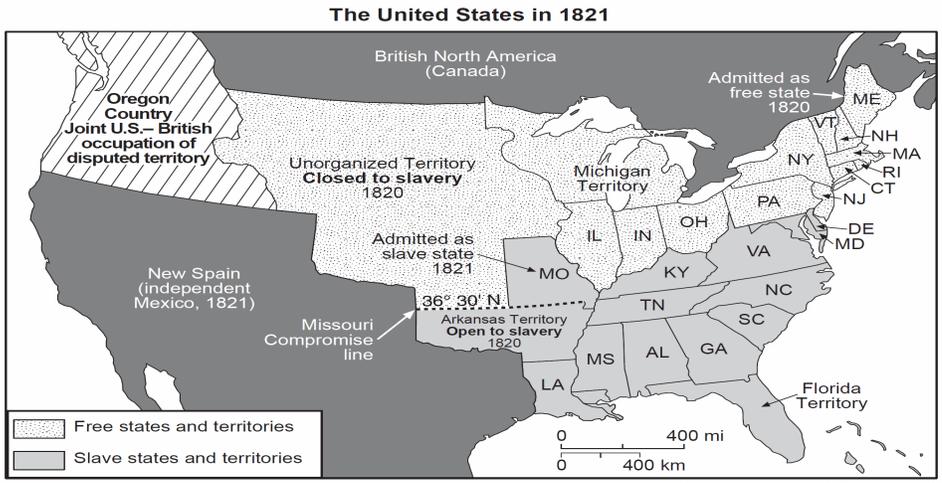
According to Walter LaFeber, what were *two* benefits to the United States from acquiring the Louisiana Territory?

2. It is with pleasure that I announce to you the safe arrival of myself and party...In obedience to your orders we have penetrated the continent of North America to the Pacific Ocean...We view this passage across the continent as affording immense advantages to the fur trade...If the government will only aid, even in a very limited manner the enterprise of her citizens, I am fully convinced that we shall shortly derive the benefits of a most lucrative trade...we are anxious to proceed.

—Meriwether Lewis, excerpt from *Initial Report to the President*, 1806

Discuss the benefits that Lewis cites in harnessing the Louisiana Territory.

3. Base your answer to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.



4. That the further introduction of slavery or involuntary servitude be prohibited, except for the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall be duly convicted; and that all children of slaves, born within the said state, after the admission thereof into the Union, shall be free but may be held to service until the age of twenty-five years...

That, in all that territory ceded by France to the United States, under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes north latitude, excepting only such part thereof as is included within the limits of the state contemplated by this act, slavery and involuntary servitude, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall be and is hereby forever prohibited...

– The Missouri Compromise (1819-1821)

- a) Based on documents 1 and 2, how did the Missouri Compromise attempt to resolve the bitter slavery issue of the nineteenth century?

5. *An act to provide for an exchange of lands with the Indians residing in any of the states or territories, and for their removal west of the river Mississippi.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That it shall and may be lawful for the President of the United States to cause so much of any territory belonging to the United States, west of the river Mississippi, not included in any state or organized territory, and to which the Indian title has been extinguished [revoked], as he [the president] may judge necessary, to be divided into a suitable number of districts, for the reception of such tribes or nations of Indians as may choose to exchange the lands where they now reside, and remove there; and to cause each of said districts to be so described by natural or artificial marks, as to be easily distinguished from every other. . . .

— Indian Removal Act of 1830

Based on this document, state *one* way that the Indian Removal Act of 1830 would affect many Native American Indians.

6. **Summary Assignment:** Write at least one full paragraph explaining the connection between each of these documents. What theme do all of these documents have in common? How does each document connect to the others?