

Texas Politics, Chapter One

Student Practice Test

1. Texas gained its independence from Mexico in what year?
 - a. 1815
 - b. 1828
 - c. 1836
 - d. 1845
2. How much time elapsed between the fall of the Alamo and the Mexican surrender at San Jacinto?
 - a. 6 weeks
 - b. 6 months
 - c. 9 months
 - d. 2 years
3. Which of the following states is characterized principally by the moralistic political culture?
 - a. Massachusetts
 - b. Illinois
 - c. Texas
 - d. Nevada
4. What region of Texas is most identified with German settlers?
 - a. the valley
 - b. the hill country
 - c. the panhandle
 - d. the metroplex
5. The great Permian Basin oil field is near what Texas city?
 - a. Houston
 - b. Midland
 - c. Ranger
 - d. Kilgore
6. In 2020, the Hispanic share of the Texas population was about?
 - a. 60%
 - b. 50%
 - c. 40%
 - d. 28%
7. What percent of the Texas population lives in the triangle connecting Houston, DFW, and San Antonio?
 - a. 85%
 - b. 70%

- c. 60%
 - d. 45%
8. The 2010 census reported Texas to be what percent urban?
- a. 65 percent
 - b. 75 percent
 - c. 85 percent
 - d. 95 percent
9. Before Sam Houston came to Texas, he was governor of what state?
- a. Florida
 - b. Virginia
 - c. Tennessee
 - d. Missouri
10. Texas is the second largest state in the union, behind only?
- a. Alaska
 - b. New York
 - c. California
 - d. Montana

Practice test answer key: (1) C, (2) A, (3) A, (4) B, (5) B, (6) C, (7) C, (8) C, (9) C, (10) A.

Instructor Test Bank

1. In what century did the Spanish explorers Cabeza de Vaca and Coronado explore what is now the American Southwest?
- a. 15th
 - b. 16th
 - c. 17th
 - d. 18th
2. Texas joined the United States in what year?
- a. 1776
 - b. 1815
 - c. 1836
 - d. 1845
3. How long was Texas an independent republic?
- a. 4 years
 - b. 10 years
 - c. 20 years
 - d. 30 years

4. Who was Governor of Texas when Texas voted to secede from the Union?
 - a. Andrew Jackson
 - b. Stephen F. Austin
 - c. Edmund J. Davis
 - d. Sam Houston
5. Which of the following states is characterized principally by the traditionalistic political culture?
 - a. Massachusetts
 - b. Illinois
 - c. Texas
 - d. Oregon
6. Which is the largest city in Texas?
 - a. San Antonio
 - b. Austin
 - c. Houston
 - d. Dallas
7. Which river forms much of the northern border of Texas?
 - a. Rio Grande
 - b. Guadalupe
 - c. Colorado
 - d. Red
8. The first big oil strike in Texas took place at Spindletop near Beaumont in?
 - a. 1901
 - b. 1917
 - c. 1930
 - d. 1941
9. In 2020, the Anglo share of the Texas population was about?
 - a. 75%
 - b. 60%
 - c. 40%
 - d. 25%
10. In 2020, the black share of the Texas population was about?
 - a. 40%
 - b. 30%
 - c. 22%
 - d. 12%
11. The Texas population in 2020 was about?
 - a. 30 million

- b. 21 million
 - c. 18 million
 - d. 15 million
12. What types of jobs are expected to grow most rapidly over the next decade?
- a. First responders
 - b. Construction laborers
 - c. Financial advisers
 - d. Manufacturing
13. Texas median household income in 2019 ranked where among the 50 states?
- a. 45th
 - b. 35th
 - c. 23rd
 - d. 15th
14. Where does Texas rank among the 50 states in proportion of adults who have graduated from high school or earned a G.E.D.?
- a. 1st (best)
 - b. 20th
 - c. 40th
 - d. 50th
15. Which American president fought a war with Mexico to secure Texas and win the rest of the Southwest?
- a. Andrew Jackson
 - b. Henry Clay
 - c. James K. Polk
 - d. James Buchanan

Instructor Test Bank Answer Key: (1) B, (2) D, (3) B, (4) D, (5) C, (6) C, (7) D, (8) A, (9) C, (10) D, (11) A, (12) B, (13) C, (14) D, (15) C

Essay Questions

1. Describe the socio-demographic changes that have occurred in Texas since 1820 and how those changes are expected to develop over the next several decades.
2. Has the diversity of the Texas population advanced or inhibited the state's cultural and economic development and can we expect the same forces to act in the same ways going forward?
3. What key factors are likely to advance and/or inhibit economic growth and development over the next several decades?

Short Answer Essay Questions