

Louisiana Purchase

School Name _____

Student Name _____

Teacher Name _____

Date ____ / ____ /20 ____

Per. ____

Fill in the blanks with the following terms:

13 colonies

Columbia

west

1803

Pacific Ocean

White House

In 1801, when newly elected president Thomas Jefferson heard that France had secretly repurchased the Louisiana Territory from Spain, he was sure that the French under Napoleon Bonaparte would be very aggressive about control of the area. Jefferson therefore decided to try to buy part of the vast territory - West Florida and New Orleans, especially the seaport at the entrance to the Mississippi - which he considered crucial to the growing commercial interests of the United States.



Louisiana Purchase (1803) superimposed over current State boundaries.

In a surprising move, probably because of troubles in Europe, and for the extraordinarily low price of \$15 million, Napoleon offered the Americans not only New Orleans but the entire Louisiana territory, an area larger than France itself, larger than the original _____ - an area that in a single instant doubled the size of the United States. Although the price was \$12 million more than American Representatives Robert

Livingston and James Monroe were told to spend, this _____ agreement was one of the best land deals that the USA ever made.

Louisiana Purchase

Even before he authorized the Louisiana Purchase, Jefferson, knowing that the nation's future was in the _____, had already gotten money from Congress to explore what were still foreign lands. Jefferson then chose Meriwether Lewis (1774-1809), his private secretary, and William Clark (1770-1838), both Virginia army men, to lead the expedition into the vast, unmapped Louisiana Territory and to head west to the _____.

At the beginning of one the most important adventures in American history, Lewis and Clark and their group of about forty men came together in Saint Louis in the winter of 1803-4. they gathered supplies for the difficult trek and left in May, reaching what is now North Dakota about eight months later.



Lewis and Clark relied on Sacajawea to lead them through the mountains and to act as interpreter for speaking to various indigenous peoples.

Understanding the importance of public relations, Jefferson asked Lewis and Clark to send back animals and plants that had never been seen in the East. He also had them send items of traditional native American dress and invite Indian leaders to visit the _____. many tribal chiefs, especially the Osage and Pawnee, accepted the invitation to visit Washington and were a sensation. The arrival of these unusual items and people kept interest in the new territories at a high pitch and kept Jefferson and his land policies popular.

In the spring of 1805, the explorers pushed west into Oregon Territory. They crossed the Rocky Mountains with the help of a native American guide named Sacajawea and her French Canadian husband, traveled down the _____ River in canoes, and sighted the Pacific Ocean in November 1805. The following spring the group split into two parties and explored new overland routes for the return to Saint Louis. They joyously reunited there in September 1806.

Their notebooks, containing maps of their route and records of what they saw and with whom they traded, made the unknown known and were valuable to the United States in its great push westward.