|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Focus Question:*  *What made Spanish Texas so desirable?*  *What changed for Moses Austin when Mexico gained its independence?*  *What caused American-Tejano disagreeements?*  *What caused the angry revolt towards Mexico?*  *Who led the fight for the Alamo; what was the outcome?*  *How did the Texans strike back at Mexico and Santa Anna?*  *What was Texas’s next course of action, with regards to its statehood?*  *What major events and causes led up to the Texas Revolution?* | **What major events and causes led up to the Texas Revolution?**  Spanish Texas   * The Spanish land, Tejas, bordered the territory of Louisiana. * It had few Spanish settlers, but had plenty of great land and trade ports. * In 1819, Spanish drove Americans off their land, claiming it as the U.S.’s. * Only about 4,000 Tejanos lived in Tejas in 1821. * A colony was given to Moses Austin due to Spain’s inability to colonize Texas.   Mexican Independence Changes Texas   * Mexico gained its independence from Spain in 1821. * Austin’s land grant was now worthless, took a year to get back. * Austin attracted 297 families to his settlement. * Austin had high standards for his colony, and its success attracted more speculators to it.   Rising Tensions in Texas   * Tejanos didn’t like living with Americans – tensions between continued to rise and cause disagreements. * Americans seemed unwilling to listen to Mexican law and few converted to Catholicism. * Mexico closed the state of Texas to further American immigration, sent more troops to it.   Texans Revolt Against Mexico   * This caused angry protests – Texas demanded to be a self-governed area of Mexico, supported by both the Americans and the Tejanos. * Austin met the Mexican president, Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna; he was jailed. * Texans drove Mexican troops out of the Alamo, Santa Anna responded with 6,000 more troops.   The Fight for the Alamo   * Sam Houston, the only man w/ military experience at the Texas meeting on what to do about Santa Anna’s troops, was placed in command of the Texas army. * The small forces the Texans had refused to surrender and still hung in by late February. * The Texans lost the Alamo on the 13th day, and all but five were dead – the Texans had run out of ammunition.   Victory at San Jacinto   * Texans fled eastward with this news, Santa Anna caught up with Houston near the San Jacinto River. * The Texans angrily retaliated at Santa Anna, and within half an hour, had slaughtered half of the Mexican army. * Texas was now independent.   Lone Star Republic   * Sam Houston was elected president by a landslide, and Texas gained a one-star flag. “The Lone Star Republic.” * In 1836, the Texas government asked Congress to annex Texas to the Union. * Congress voted against annexation because of slave-free state balance, and Texas remained a free state for nearly 10 years.   Summary  In summary, a long chain of events led up to the eventual independence of Texas. First, Spain attempted to colonize Texas, but failed. Austin’s colonization succeeded, but Americans and the existing Tejanos did not get along. After military aid was sent to Texas by Mexico, the Texans called for independence. Though initially suffering defeat, the Texas army eventually defeated Santa Anna and won its independence. It applied to be part of the United States, but the Missouri Compromise impeded this goal. In the future, this issue over annexation would prove rocky for America, Texas, and Mexico. |
|  |  |