Fitzgerald

DBQ Answer Practice



Discuss the important event that occurred during Thomas Jefferson’s presidency that is pictured in the image above.

Graphic organizer for preparing answer:

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| Topic Sentence – Use wording of Prompt. State your main idea.  The map shows the land purchased by Jefferson from France in 1803, the Louisiana Purchase, which was important because it gave the United States control of both banks of the Mississippi River and the port of New Orleans and doubled the size of the United States. |
| Specific reference to Document/Quote  The map pictures the United States prior to the purchase. |
| Interpretation as it applies to my topic  In 1803, the United States consisted of 13 states that had been the 13 colonies prior to the Revolution, along the Atlantic Coast, three new states, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Ohio, and two new territories, Indiana and Mississippi. |
| Historical Knowledge from our studies  Over 1 million people were living in these new states and territories west of the Appalachian Mountains, and the vast majority were farmers who needed to sell their crops to consumers in the eastern cities on the other side of the Appalachian Mountains. |
| Specific reference to Document/Quote  The map shows the Mississippi River. |
| Interpretation as it applies to my topic  The Mississippi River begins in the north of the United States, just south of the border with British Canada. It is joined by numerous other rivers, such as the Ohio River and the Tennessee River. |
| Context  This river system flowed through areas heavily settled by farmers in the new states and territories west of the Appalachians, which ran from western New York to northern Georgia. Because transportation over the mountains was so difficult due to the elevation, few roads had been built. In order to get their goods to the East, the farmers shipped the crops by river barge downstream and then by sea around the Florida peninsula and up the Atlantic Coast, travelling on the prevailing current that flowed north along the coast. |
| Specific reference to Document/Quote  The map shows the port of New Orleans. |
| Interpretation of this as it applies to my topic  New Orleans is at the mouth of the Mississippi River where it meets the Gulf of Mexico, which is off the Atlantic Ocean. |
| Historical Knowledge from our studies  Goods were shipped on rivers on river barges, long flat ships that were designed to carry goods but not go deeply into the water, so as not to hit river bottoms. Ocean-going ships were designed differently, as a long, flat ship would break on the wave crests on the ocean. Ocean ships were shorter, to fit between wave crests, descended deeper into the water, so as not to tip and to accommodate cargo that could not fit on the smaller deck, and had a pointed front to “cut” through the waves. |
| Context  The farmers needed the right to use the port of New Orleans to transfer goods from the river barges to the ocean-going ships. But the port was under control of the Spanish and then the French, after the French took over Spain during the war raging in Europe following the French Revolution. The United states had a treaty with Spain, the Pinckney Treaty, that allowed the U.S. to use the port of New Orleans, but the United States wanted to buy it. Ambassadors who went to Spain to offer to buy the port, they found that Spain had been taken over by France, and thus France now controlled the port. They had to then approach France instead. France was in debt due to the Revolution and the long war with the surrounding countries of Europe, and it had recently lost the colony of Haiti to a revolution they could not fight due to the lack of money and troops to spare. So Napoleon offered to sell not only New Orleans but also the whole region of Louisiana, in order to get more money and get rid of the burden of having to defend the region. The cost was only $15 million, 4.2 cents per acre. And incredible bargain. The ambassadors accepted right away. Jefferson was faced with a dilemma as he did not have the Constitutional power to buy land from another country and he had always said that the Constitutional should be interpreted strictly, in fact fighting with Federalists on this point, as they said the necessary and proper clause allowed a loose interpretation. |
| Specific reference to Document/Quote |
| Interpretation of this as it applies to my topic |

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| What I know about this topic from our studies |

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| What I know about the context surrounding this topic in history |

Homework – Use the ideas on your graphic organizer to write up a DBQ Answer, remembering the grading goals.

Fitzgerald Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Qualities Sought - DBQ Answer Qualities Sought - Writing

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| * **Clearly responds to the prompt** - Hint - using the prompt’s wording in the topic sentence helps focus the answer on the prompt. * **Directly quotes specific ideas** in a document **or refers to specific details** in an image necessary to the support the answer: Can quote a key word, or phrase, or clause, or sentence, or passage, depending on what is necessary * **States key ideas in own words before or after directly quoting the document**; don't assume the meaning is obvious. * **Reflects knowledge from our studies** necessary to interpreting the document and answering the question. **Show off!** * **Reflects an understanding of the context of the document**: events that led to the document; events surrounding the document, who the author is, the author's role in events, the author's purpose, the intended audience, etc. | * **Topic sentence** - states main idea and uses words of prompt. * **Supporting ideas** are given - state the supporting idea first and then develop it with details and explanation * Put the ideas in a **logical order** * State ideas **clearly**. * Use basic writing **conventions**: **Indent** paragraphs; write in **full sentences**; spell correctly; use capital letter correctly; **write in the third person** – no  ~~I, me, we, you, no “ I think . . .~~”; **don’t use unclear pronouns**. (They? - Who?, It? – What?); use **past tense when writing about the past; write neatly**. |

Final Answer

Discuss the important event that occurred during Thomas Jefferson’s presidency that is pictured in the image above.