

The Mexican American War- Guided Notes

The War Begins

- After the _____, it was only a matter of time before war between _____ and the United States would happen.
- The war began _____.
- President Polk _____ to Texas to protect the _____ with Mexico.

Border Dispute

The U.S. and Mexico had a different opinion on _____

War of Aggression

- President Polk sent General Taylor to the area that the U.S. considered its border.
- Predictably, Taylor's troops were _____.

Polk had what he wanted, _____.

Polk's message to Congress

"...after reiterated menaces, Mexico has passed the boundary of the United States, has invaded our territory and shed American blood upon the American soil. She has proclaimed that hostilities have commenced, and that the two nations are now at war...I invoke the prompt action of Congress to recognize the existence of the war, and to place it at the disposal of the Executive the means of prosecuting the war with vigor..."

What did the U.S. want from war with Mexico?

Land

- Remember manifest destiny?
- _____
- The U.S. wanted all the land _____.

Political Opposition to War

- Many members of _____ opposed the war with Mexico.
- Some felt that the president had forced the U.S. into the war, which was wrong _____.
- Others just thought it was wrong to take any _____ from Mexico.

U.S. has huge technological advantage

- Artillery - _____
- Better rifles and handguns, including the colt revolver
- Telegraph = better communications

U.S. has a huge population and economic advantage

U.S. - _____

Mexico - _____

U.S. - _____

Mexico - _____

U.S. Soldiers

- _____ made up at least half of the enlisted men in the army
- 1/4 of the enlisted soldiers were _____.
- The Mexicans made a strong appeal to these Catholics to switch sides arguing that they were _____.
- _____ U.S. soldiers deserted during the war; 8.3%

Deaths during the war

- _____ American soldiers died in less than two years of service
- Disease accounted for _____ of the deaths.
- Crowded, unsanitary conditions and impure water led to dysentery, lice, and other diseases that spread rapidly.
- _____ American soldiers died during the war.

U.S. army goes all the way to Mexico City

- As you saw on the preceding map, the U.S army went all the way to Mexico City. Once this happened, Mexico had no choice but to _____.

Treaty of _____ was signed ending the war.

The Mexican Cession

- Mexico had to give up a _____ at the conclusion of the war.
- This territory included all of the present-day states of _____

_____.

Gadsden Purchase

- 1853 agreement to buy a strip of land in what is now the _____ so that a railroad line could be built to the Gulf of California. It cost \$ _____.

Slavery

- One major problem faced the United States after the war with Mexico. _____
_____.
- This would be a question that would have to be answered. As you may imagine, there would be a great deal of conflict over this issue.

Mexican-American War – Answer the following questions in complete sentences

1. How did the war begin?
2. What dispute did Mexico and America have?
3. What was the end result of the war?
4. Why was this important to our country?