**Louisiana Purchase:**

**HOW AND WHY DID THE US ACQUIRE LOUISIANA TERRITORY FROM FRANCE 1803?**

TWO key things to remember about how this happened:

           1. The Constitution does NOT give any branch the power to buy land.

           2. The elastic clause is in the Constitution, but Jefferson disagrees with this power.

The Louisiana Purchase Treaty is President Jefferson's greatest accomplishment.  It started when he sent representatives to France to try to buy New Orleans and the Mississippi River. However, since Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte had no use for the land and he needed money for other things, he decided to offer to sell all of Louisiana.

**HOW DID JEFFERSON COMPLETE THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE IF THE CONSTITUTION DID NOT GIVE THE PRESIDENT THE SPECIFIC POWER TO PURCHASE LAND?**

Here were the options:

* Amend the Constitution to give Jefferson the power, but this might take too long, and France could change their mind.
* Have Congress use the "elastic clause" to make a law allowing it to happen
* Use the presidential power to negotiate treaties/agreement with foreign countries with the Senate's approval

Jefferson made the Louisiana Purchase Treaty and the Senate ratified it in 1803.  Total cost was $15,000,000 ( yes...15 million ) or less than 7 cents per acre.

**WHAT WERE THE RESULTS OF THIS DEAL?**

* The size of the US doubled immediately
* United States was closer to the Pacific coast and the Pacific Ocean
* The measurement of the wealth of the natural resources was enormous

**WHAT WAS THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION ABOUT?**

* President Jefferson organized an expedition of about 50 men to explore these new lands.
* Jefferson picked Meriwether Lewis to lead the expedition to be assisted by William Clark.
* It began in 1804 and concluded by 1806.  They traveled mostly by canoe on the great Missouri and Columbia Rivers.  They had to travel by land when they reached the Rocky Mountains.
* Along the way they were assisted by a young Indian girl named Sacagawea who served as a guide and translator.  See p. 284 People In History

**QUESTIONS ARE ON THE NEXT PAGE!**

**Directions**: Answer the following questions using your American Journey textbook. Use the map on page 283 to help you answer the questions below. You can print this page, write on it and submit it or type your answers in a Google Doc. Be sure to put your name at the top of the page and use complete sentences.

1). The green section on the map represents the Louisiana Territory.  What geographical features make its eastern and western boundaries?

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2).   What year did Lewis and Clark’s journey begin? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

        What year did Lewis and Clark’s journey end? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3). Where did Lewis & Clark’s journey begin? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4). What location did they reach on the West/Pacific coast?

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5). Which 2 major rivers were used by Lewis & Clark on their journey?

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