

Lesson Plan for Republic of Texas Presidential Debate
Writing for Understanding
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TEKS: 7.4A

Objective: Students will describe the presidencies of Sam Houston and Mirabeau Lamar and how each dealt with the issues facing the Republic of Texas.

Materials: Graphic Organizers, textbook, presidential debate handout

Overview of Activity: Students will participate in a “debate” between President Sam Houston and President Mirabeau Lamar concerning issues facing the Republic of Texas.

Preview: Analysis of primary source quotes from Presidents Houston and Lamar.

Activity:

1. Place students in face-to-face pairs.
2. Assign the roles of Houston and Lamar.
3. Conduct debate using presidential debate handout.
4. After each “round” of the debate, have volunteers briefly share their responses.

Processing: In this writing for understanding, students write a dialogue between President Houston and President Lamar. Teacher may determine the length of the dialogue.