

Historical Context:

In the early years of the republic, various controversial issues divided the American people. Three such issues were *ratification of the Constitution*, *purchase of the Louisiana Territory*, and *expansion of slavery into the territories*.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of United States history, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to

Choose **two** issues mentioned in the historical context and for **each**

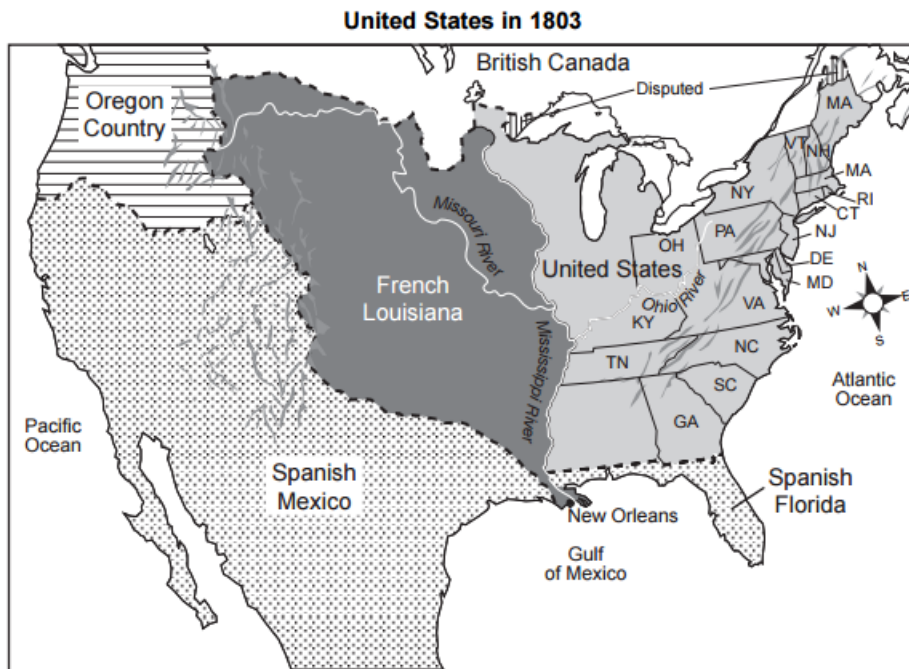
- Describe the historical circumstances surrounding the issue
- Discuss arguments of those *in favor of* **and** of those *opposed to* the issue. In your discussion, include *at least one* argument on **each** side of the issue.

Document 4a

... There is on the globe one single spot, the possessor of which is our natural and habitual enemy. It is New Orleans, through which the produce of three-eighths of our territory must pass to market, and from its fertility it will ere [before] long yield more than half of our whole produce and contain more than half our inhabitants. France, placing herself in that door, assumes to us the attitude of defiance....

Source: President Thomas Jefferson, Letter to Robert Livingston, 1802

Document 4b



Source: Emma J. Lapsansky-Werner et al., *United States History*, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008 (adapted)

4 Based on these documents, why was New Orleans important to the United States? [1]

Score

Document 5

... To acquire an empire of perhaps half the extent of the one we possessed, from the most powerful and warlike nation on earth, without bloodshed, without the oppression of a single individual, without in the least embarrassing the ordinary operations of your finances, and all this through the peaceful forms of negotiation, and in despite too of the opposition [despite the opposition] of a considerable portion of the community, is an achievement of which the archives of the predecessors, at least, of those now in office, cannot furnish a parallel....

Source: Senator John C. Breckenridge, November 3, 1803

- 5 According to Senator John C. Breckenridge, what is **one** reason he supports the purchase of the Louisiana Territory? [1]

Score

Document 6

... When news of the [Louisiana] purchase reached the United States, President [Thomas] Jefferson was surprised. He had authorized the expenditure of \$10 million for a port city, and instead received treaties committing the government to spend \$15 million on a land package which would double the size of the country. Jefferson's political opponents in the Federalist Party argued that the Louisiana purchase was a worthless desert, and that the Constitution did not provide for the acquisition of new land or negotiating treaties without the consent of the Senate. What really worried the opposition was the new states which would inevitably be carved from the Louisiana territory, strengthening Western and Southern interests in Congress, and further reducing the influence of New England Federalists in national affairs. President Jefferson was an enthusiastic supporter of westward expansion, and held firm in his support for the treaty. Despite Federalist objections, the U.S. Senate ratified the Louisiana treaty in the autumn of 1803....

Source: National Park Service

- 6 Based on this document, state **two** reasons the Federalist Party opposed the purchase of the Louisiana Territory. [2]

(1) _____

Score

(2) _____

Score