

## Texas Tides Document Analysis Worksheet # 3 [Grade 4]

Teaching excerpt: a letter from J.A. Smith to Colonel W. W. Watts

Galveston, March 28, 1845

Dear Sir,

....Our laws will not be the worse than none for the collection of debts in case the United States are annexed to Texas! I am inclined to the belief, though, that a strong opposition will be organized in this great government against the measure of annexation. I take for granted every officer in the government is opposed to annexation, from the President down to the porters at the Custom House. General Houston, I am told, is also opposed, but I hope that a majority of the people will have sense enough to accept the proposition....

I am, Sir, Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
J.A. Smith

Colonel W. W. Watts  
Columbus, Missouri

**Answer the following questions, using this letter. Underline important sentences to help answer the questions.**

What is the date of the letter? \_\_\_\_\_

According to your timeline, what was the status of Texas annexation at this point?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who wrote it? \_\_\_\_\_ Was he from Texas? \_\_\_\_\_

To whom was it written? \_\_\_\_\_ Was he from Texas? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the author of this letter seem to think that Texas will be annexed to the United States? Explain your answer by using quotes from the letter as evidence.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

List two things that the author tells you in this letter about the annexation question in Texas.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

---

2) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Does the information in this letter agree with the information in the previous two letters?

---

---

---

Based on the information in your textbook, and the information in the other two letters, list two statements in this letter that are not true.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

---

2) \_\_\_\_\_

---