

## Texas Tides Document Analysis Worksheet # 2 [Grade 7]

Teaching excerpt: a letter from Jas. B. Tartt to Elijah Price

Mobile, AL.  
April 5th 1844

E. Price Esquire  
Dear Sir,

....I received your favor of the 17th of February a few weeks past and was happy to learn from it you are better satisfied with your country than you had been at first. I hope you and your adopted country will both prosper. Much is now being said in the United States about annexing Texas to the Union, and so far as President Tyler and his cabinet, and President Houston and his cabinet are concerned, the treaty is already agreed on. Much confidence is expressed by many of the leading journals in the South (both Whig and Democrat) that the treaty will be confirmed by the Senate, but I am firmly convinced that it will not at this time, if it ever does. I wish to caution you against making any purchase of property based on any such calculation, for men are ready to go to Texas for the purpose of speculating in real estate, on the prospect of its being annexed to the U.S. John C. Calhoun is now Secretary of State under Mr. Tyler and is a warm friend for annexation, but ...this question is likely to disturb political parties. On this account it will be laid over by the Senate until after the Presidential election, for both parties are afraid of it. It is now believed that Mr. Clay's election is as certain as any future event to be determined by men; if he should succeed, his influence I have no doubt would be in favor of Texas....

Yours, etc.  
Jas B. Tartt

**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? \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

---

The author included a lot of political information about the United States in this letter. List three things that the author wrote that you think are important:

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

---

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

---

3) \_\_\_\_\_

---

The author includes a mixture of facts and opinion in his letter. List two facts and two opinions.

Fact \_\_\_\_\_

Fact \_\_\_\_\_

Opinion \_\_\_\_\_

Opinion \_\_\_\_\_

Does the author of this letter seem to think that Texas will be annexed to the United States? Use quotes from the document as evidence.

---

---

---

---

In addition to the political information, the author included a warning to the addressee, who appears to have been a relative. What was the warning?

---

---

---