


UNIT
2
**European Exploration
and Settlement**
**European Exploration and
Settlement: Vocabulary**

Experience	Word	Definition
European Exploration	3Gs	the three main reasons historians give for European exploration—gold, God, and glory
The Founding of San Antonio	acequia	an irrigation ditch that carried water to fields and helped missions grow crops
European Exploration	Age of Exploration	the time beginning in the late 1400s when European countries sent sailors across oceans to explore, trade, and claim land
Life in a Mission	aqueduct	a structure or ditch system that carried water from a river to the mission and its fields
Spanish Exploration in Texas	Cabeza de Vaca	a Spanish explorer whose writings gave important early information about the land, animals, and Native peoples of Texas
The Founding of San Antonio	civil government	the system of leaders and rules used to govern a town or community
The Founding of San Antonio	civilian settlement	a town where regular people and families lived, not just soldiers or church leaders
European Exploration	claim	to say that land belongs to a country and take control of it
French Exploration in Texas	colony	a settlement started by a country in a new land that the country wants to control
French Exploration in Texas	competition	a struggle between countries for land, power, trade, or resources
Life in a Mission	compound	the enclosed area of a mission, with walls, gates, and buildings inside
Spanish Exploration in Texas	conquistador	a Spanish explorer and soldier who tried to claim land for Spain
European	continental United States	the 48 connected states of the United States, not


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Exploration		including Alaska or Hawaii
End of the Missions	culture	the language, customs, beliefs, and traditions shared by a group of people
European Exploration	economic opportunity	the chance to make money or gain wealth, such as finding gold, silver, or valuable goods to trade
European Exploration	empire	a group of lands and peoples ruled by one country or king
Spanish Exploration in Texas	expedition	a planned journey with a goal, such as exploring land or searching for riches
French Exploration in Texas	Fort St. Louis	the small French settlement La Salle's group built near Matagorda Bay on the Texas coast
Spanish Exploration in Texas	Francisco Coronado	a Spanish explorer who traveled through parts of the Texas Panhandle while searching for the Seven Cities of Gold
Early Settlement in Texas	friar	a Catholic religious leader sent by Spain to lead missions and teach Christianity
Life in a Mission	indigenous people	the first people who lived in Texas before Europeans arrived
Life in a Mission	irrigation	bringing water to farmland so crops can grow
French Exploration in Texas	Karankawa	an Indigenous people who lived near the Texas Gulf Coast where Fort St. Louis was built
Early Settlement in Texas	mission	a religious settlement where Catholic friars tried to spread Christianity and teach Native peoples farming, cattle raising, and the Spanish language
European Exploration	navigation tools	tools such as maps, compasses, and astrolabes that helped explorers find their way at sea
Early Settlement in Texas	presidio	a Spanish military fort built to protect missions, settlements, and Spanish territory



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Spanish Exploration in Texas	primary source	a record from the time being studied, such as Cabeza de Vaca's book <i>La Relación</i>
End of the Missions	secularized	no longer run by the church and used for other purposes, such as a town or military use
Life in a Mission	self-sufficient	able to make or grow what is needed to live without depending much on outside help
Spanish Exploration in Texas	Seven Cities of Gold	a story, or myth, about cities filled with great riches that encouraged Spanish explorers to travel north
French Exploration in Texas	settlement	a place where people move to live and build homes or forts
End of the Missions	Spanish culture	the language, customs, and traditions brought by the Spanish that still shape Texas today
Early Settlement in Texas	timeline	a visual tool that shows events in the order they happened