

# CHAPTER 26

# Texas Today

## Why It Matters

*New challenges faced Texas in the 1980s, 1990s, and the opening years of the twenty-first century. International trade and new information technologies created a demand for better schools. State, county, and city governments increased law enforcement, transportation, and public welfare. Texans assumed more leadership positions in the federal government.*

## The Impact Today

- Two Texans have been elected president of the United States during this time period.
- Increasing trade among the United States, Mexico, and Canada as a result of NAFTA has resulted in more goods being transported through Texas.

**1980**

★ Law prohibiting children of undocumented aliens from attending public schools ruled unconstitutional

**1982**

★ Kathy Whitmire elected mayor of Houston

**1981**

• Sandra Day O'Connor appointed to United States Supreme Court

**1988**

• George H.W. Bush elected president of the United States

**1989**

• Berlin Wall came down in Germany



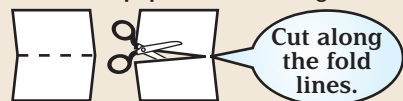


The Texas Capitol makes quite an impression during a laser light show, while Texas itself makes an increasingly large impact on the country and the world.

**Identifying Main Ideas Study Foldable**

Make and use this foldable to identify and describe different aspects of life in Texas today.

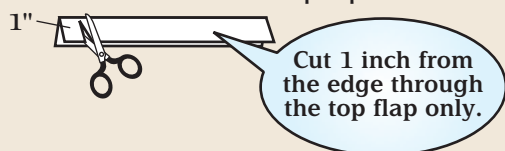
**Step 1** Fold two sheets of paper in half from top to bottom. Cut the papers in half along the folds.



**Step 2** Fold each of the four papers in half from top to bottom.



**Step 3** On each folded paper, make a cut 1 inch from the side on the top flap.



**Step 4** Place the folded papers one on top of the other. Staple the four sections together and label each of the tabs as you read the chapter.



**Reading and Writing** Label the sections of your foldable: Politics, Economics, Education, and Transportation. As you read, write key facts under each appropriate tab.

**1993**

★ Kay Bailey Hutchison elected to United States Senate

**1995**

★ George W. Bush became governor of Texas



**2000**

★ Rick Perry became 47th governor of Texas

1993

1995

1997

1999

2001

**1992**

• UN Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro

**1995**

• Use of Internet became more widespread



**1997**

• Pathfinder landed on Mars

**2001**

• September 11, terrorists attacked U.S. World Trade Center and Pentagon  
• U.S. launched effort to wipe out international terrorism

**TEXAS HISTORY**  
*Online*

**Chapter Overview**

Visit the [texans.glencoe.com](http://texans.glencoe.com) Web site and click on **Chapter 26—Chapter Overviews** to preview chapter information.



# Political Events

## Guide to Reading

### Main Idea

Women, African Americans, and Mexican Americans have influenced politics in Texas and the U.S.

### Key Terms

urban dweller  
cabinet  
third-party  
bill

### Reading Strategy

**Organizing Information** As you read this section, complete a table like the one shown here. Fill in the positions of these Texans.

Person	Position
George H.W. Bush	
George W. Bush	
Henry González	
Phil Gramm	

### Read to Learn

- about the two-party system in Texas.
- what accomplishments women, African Americans, and Mexican Americans made in Texas politics.

### Section Theme

**Individual Action** Many public officials have made important contributions to Texas and the U.S.

### Preview of Events

◆ 1988

George H.W. Bush elected 41st president of the U.S.

◆ 1990

Ann Richards elected governor of Texas

◆ 1993

Henry Cisneros appointed to President Clinton's cabinet

◆ 2000

George W. Bush elected 43rd president of the U.S.

## A Texas Story



Demetrio Rodríguez, a sheet metal worker living in San Antonio, was troubled. The buildings in which his children attended school had broken windows and inadequate restroom facilities. Just a few miles away, children went to school in modern, well-equipped buildings. Rodríguez believed that this was unfair. He took the school board to court.

"The kids who attend school in my district still have classrooms in portable buildings," he wrote. "Many Texas teachers are forced to buy crayons and other supplies out of their own pockets."

—Demetrio Rodríguez, quoted in "Education and Equality: The Battle for School Funding Reform"

*Neglected classroom*

## A Broader Political Base

The Texas political scene continues to undergo many changes. The events of the 1960s and 1970s so transformed Texas politics that, by the 1980s and 1990s, groups that had been excluded from political

power were now included. The political power of minorities, women, and **urban dwellers** (those who live in cities) grew significantly.

## Republicans

By the year 2000, the Republican Party held all major statewide elective offices. The “one-man, one-vote” rule of the U.S. Supreme Court made it difficult to draw districts that favored a particular party. People moving into Texas included many Northerners who often voted with the Republicans. The Republican Party became identified with oil producers, and the Democratic Party became associated with oil consumers and environmentalists. Supporters of the Republican Party favored less government regulation of businesses and industry. They also championed free enterprise.

For many years Senator John Tower was the most prominent Texas Republican. In 1978 Texas elected **William Clements** the first Republican governor of Texas since Reconstruction. Clements was a successful oil man but had never run for political office. Many voters, disillusioned with politicians after the Watergate scandal, found Clements’ lack of political experience appealing.

## Women

Both parties welcomed women into greater political participation. Democrats nominated **Ann Richards** for state treasurer in 1982. She held the office until 1991, when she became governor for a term. Democratic women such as **Sheila Jackson Lee** and **Eddie Bernice Johnson** were African Americans

who represented Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives. Republican women also became more prominent in their party. **Kay Bailey Hutchison** was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1993 and reelected in 1994 and 2000. In 1996 **Kay Granger** became the first Republican woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas. She was reelected from her district in 1998, 2000, and 2002.

In the 2002 elections, voters elected 31 women to the state House of Representatives and 4 women to the state Senate. At the local level, too, women increasingly served in numerous capacities. **Kathy Whitmire** was the mayor of Houston from 1982 to 1992. **Annette Strauss** was elected to the same position in Dallas in 1987. **Suzie Azar** served as mayor of El Paso in the late 1980s. In fact, by the 1990s women had been elected mayor of more than 100 Texas towns. In 2001, there were 27 female county judges serving across the state. Women also became city council members and county commissioners. In the 1990s more than 50 percent of the school board members in the state were women.



### Exploring Government

Texans Mickey Leland (seated right), Ann Richards (center), and Kay Bailey Hutchison (left), have chosen to serve Texas and the U.S. as public officials. [Why do people choose to run for public office?](#)



# People of Texas

George W. Bush 1946-



George W. Bush grew up in Midland and Houston. He received a bachelor's degree from Yale and a master of business administration from Harvard. Before beginning his career in the oil and gas business, he was an F-102 pilot for the Texas Air National Guard. After

working on his father's successful presidential campaign in 1988, he invested in the Texas Rangers baseball franchise.

In 1994 Bush was elected the 46th governor of the state of Texas and was re-elected in 1998—the first Texas governor to be elect-

ed to consecutive four-year terms. George W. Bush was elected the 43rd president of the United States in 2000, becoming only the second son of a president to serve as president. He is married to Laura Welch Bush, a former school-teacher and librarian.

## Mexican Americans

The civil rights struggle of the 1960s involved Mexican American Texans in politics. However, *La Raza Unida*, formed in 1970 by those who had rejected the Democratic and Republican Parties, had disappeared by 1978. Mexican Americans now worked in the Democratic and Republican Parties. The educational gains of prior decades resulted in many well-educated Mexican American professionals becoming politically active. In 2001, Gus Garcia was elected the first Hispanic mayor of Austin, with nearly 60 percent of the vote. For the first time in the city's history, two Hispanics served on the city council at the same time. In the 77th session of the state legislature, 7 Mexican Americans served in the Senate, and 26 held seats in the House. In many Texas communities, Mexican Americans held local offices, including sheriff, judge, commissioner, and mayor. In the mid-1990s former San Antonio mayor **Henry Cisneros** served in President Clinton's **cabinet**, or group of top advisers, as secretary of housing and urban development.

 **Reading Check** **Describing** How did Mexican Americans become involved in Texas government?

## African Americans

African Americans also increased their political involvement throughout the 1980s and 1990s. After serving from 1973 to 1979 in the state Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives, **Barbara Jordan** retired to Austin to become a professor at the LBJ School of Public Affairs. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1994 and had an airport terminal in Austin named after her. Jordan's place in Congress was taken by **Mickey Leland**. During his six terms in Congress, Representative Leland worked diligently to fight world hunger. He died in an airplane crash while carrying food relief to starving people. A federal office building and an airport terminal in Houston are named in his honor.

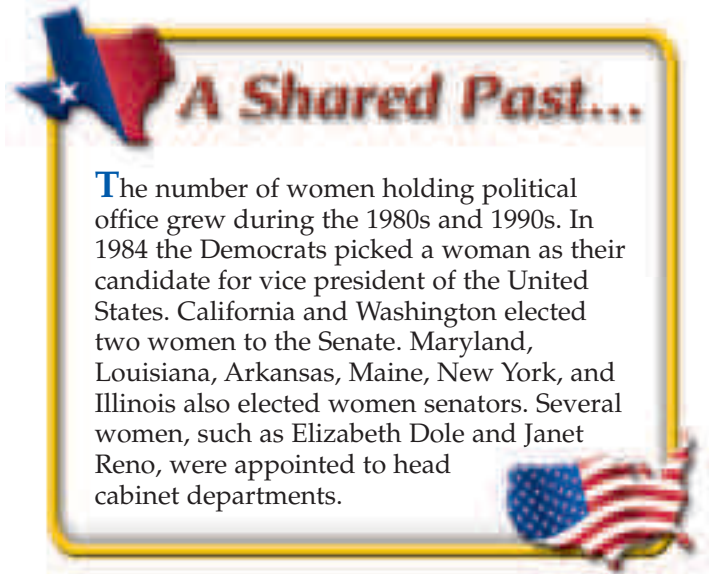
In 2002, Sheila Jackson Lee was reelected to her fifth term in the U.S. House of Representatives and Eddie Bernice Johnson was reelected to her sixth. African Americans also gave distinguished service in state and local government. In 1999, 14 African Americans served in the state House of Representatives, and 2 served in the state Senate. As the new century began, Dallas had an African American mayor. Voters elected African American mayors in other cities, and many held positions on city councils.

## Influential Texans in Washington, D.C.

Texans had held great power in Washington, D.C., when Democrats dominated the state. When Texas became a two-party state, Texas politicians remained powerful. Republican **George H.W. Bush** served as vice president of the United States for eight years and as president from 1989 to 1993. Some observers believed that another Texan on the ballot, H. Ross Perot, who ran as a **third-party** (neither Republican nor Democrat) candidate, may have contributed to Bush's defeat in 1992. Bush's son, **George W. Bush**, also a Republican, was elected president in 2000.

When Democrats were in the majority in Congress, they were led by **Jim Wright** of Fort Worth who was speaker of the House of Representatives. Henry B. González of San Antonio and **Eligio de la Garza** of Mission were chairmen of powerful committees in the House of Representatives. When Republicans replaced Democrats as the majority party in the House in 1995, Richard Armey of Irving, Tom DeLay of Sugar Land, and Bill Archer of Houston became leaders in Congress.

Men from Texas were very influential in setting the nation's finance policy in the 1980s and 1990s. As a Democratic member of the U.S. House of Representatives, **Phil Gramm** co-authored



**A Shared Past...**

The number of women holding political office grew during the 1980s and 1990s. In 1984 the Democrats picked a woman as their candidate for vice president of the United States. California and Washington elected two women to the Senate. Maryland, Louisiana, Arkansas, Maine, New York, and Illinois also elected women senators. Several women, such as Elizabeth Dole and Janet Reno, were appointed to head cabinet departments.

President Reagan's economic program, prompting the Democratic leadership to remove Gramm from his seat on the House Budget Committee. Gramm resigned from the House, but ran again in a special election as a Republican and won. Later, Gramm was elected to the U.S. Senate, where he continued to write important **bills**, or proposed laws, dealing with taxation, spending, and banking. In the early 1990s, former U.S. **Senator Lloyd Bentsen** served as secretary of the Treasury Department.

**Reading Check Identifying** Which Texan ran for president of the U.S. on a third-party ballot in 1992?

## SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT

### Checking for Understanding

- Using Key Terms** Define **urban dweller**, **cabinet**, **third-party**, and **bill**, and use each term in a sentence.
- Reviewing Facts** What office did Henry Cisneros hold in Texas? What national position did he hold?

### Reviewing Themes

- Individual Action** What is named in honor of Representative Mickey Leland?

### Organizing to Learn

- Creating Charts** Create a chart like the one shown here and identify the office each woman held.

Person	Office Held
Ann Richards	
Eddie Bernice Johnson	
Kay Bailey Hutchison	
Kathy Whitmire	
Suzie Azar	

### Critical Thinking

- Explaining** How have politics in Texas changed from the 1960s and 1970s to the present?
- Evaluating** Who are Phil Gramm and Lloyd Bentsen? How did these two Texans become so influential in national finances?



**TAKS Practice**

**Analyzing** Why did voters support William Clements in the election of 1978?

# Critical Thinking TAKS Skillbuilder



## Predicting Consequences

### Why Learn This Skill?

Every decision or action produces logical results, or consequences. We can try to predict consequences by identifying each possible outcome and analyzing each outcome to see how likely it is to occur.

After the Galveston hurricane of 1900, the citizens of Galveston built a huge seawall to prevent flooding in the case of another large hurricane. Because of the seawall, future hurricanes did not impact Galveston nearly as much. Thus, predicting consequences accurately served Galveston well.

How can we make accurate predictions? Try to find information about past events and the present situation. Making accurate predictions helps us to prepare for the future.

### Learning the Skill

Follow the steps listed in the next column to help you accurately predict consequences.

*Present-day Galveston seawall*



- Gather information about the decision or action.
- Use your knowledge of history and human behavior to identify possible consequences.
- Analyze each consequence by asking: How likely is it that this will occur?

### Practicing the Skill

Pages 578 through 581 discuss the impact of a broadened political base on Texas politics. Use this information to answer the questions below.

- 1 What trend does the section show?
- 2 Do you think this trend is likely to continue?
- 3 On what do you base this prediction?
- 4 What are three possible consequences of this trend?
- 5 What are possible consequences of this trend for politicians?
- 6 What are possible consequences of this trend for young people who want to enter the Texas political process?



## TAKS PRACTICE

**Predicting Consequences** Perhaps there is one class in particular in which you would like to earn a higher letter grade. How can you do this? You will need to make a plan. Start by identifying your current letter grade. Make a list of actions that you can take in order to achieve your goal. Identify the possible consequences of your actions depending on whether you do or do not follow your plan.



Glencoe's **Skillbuilder Interactive Workbook**, Level 1, provides instruction and practice in key social studies skills.

# International Events

## Guide to Reading

### Main Idea

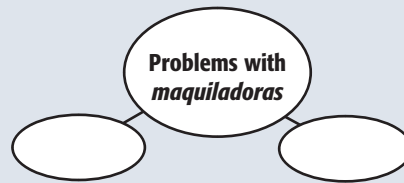
Texans adapt to a changing economy and a stronger role in world trade.

### Key Terms

deactivation  
appropriate  
mortgage  
National Guard

### Reading Strategy

**Classifying Information** As you read this section, complete a web like the one shown here identifying the problems with *maquiladoras*.



### Read to Learn

- how the end of the Cold War affected Texas.
- why the border trade between Mexico and Texas is so important.
- how Texas was affected by NAFTA.

### Section Theme

**Global Connections** Texas has influenced world economic and political developments.

### Preview of Events



U.S. Supreme Court

## A Texas Story

After losing his lawsuit for equal schooling in San Antonio in state court, Demetrio Rodríguez took his case to the U.S. Supreme Court. He lost in a 5–4 decision. Rodríguez, however, kept fighting. His lawyer said, “No matter whether the lawyers come and go . . . Demetrio just stays right where he was. He doesn’t care who’s in office . . . He doesn’t care whether they’ve helped some or none at all, unless they’re for absolute equality he doesn’t like ‘em.”

—*The Merrow Report*, copyright PBS, 1995

### The End of the Cold War Affects Texas

After World War II, U.S. foreign policy focused on limiting Soviet expansion, but the Soviet threat virtually disappeared while George H.W. Bush was president. The tearing down of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 1989, signaled the end of the Cold War.





## Barriers to Trade

Barrier	Definition	Effect
Tariff	Tax on imported goods	Price of foreign goods increases
Embargo	Prohibits goods from another country	Causes a political or economic consequence
Standards	Qualifications placed on goods	Prevents goods from entering country for health or safety reasons



**Analyzing** Trade barriers are imposed for different reasons. Why would the U.S. impose a high tariff on another country's goods?

Foreign policy changed, and the changes affected Texas. A series of treaties reduced the number of missiles owned by the Soviet Union and the United States. **Karnack**, in Harrison County, became world famous as the site where Pershing missiles that had been built during the Cold War were destroyed. In 1992 the **Pantex Plant** near Amarillo, where many U.S. nuclear weapons were constructed, began the process of weapon **deactivation**. Here the nuclear material was removed. Texas was home to numerous bases that no longer were needed. Many were closed, but several were converted to civilian use. For example, **Bergstrom Air Force Base** in Austin became a badly needed city airport.

The collapse of the Communist-controlled Soviet economy meant new opportunities in the petroleum industry. In the former Soviet Union there were vast reserves of oil, natural gas, and minerals. Development of these reserves created a demand for geologists, geophysicists, and petroleum engineers. Many companies that could fill that demand for services were based in Texas.

 **Reading Check** **Examining** What important event happened in Karnack, Texas, and why did it occur?

## The Expansion of Trade

Texas and Mexico share a long, common border. Because Texas is halfway between the two coasts of the United States, it is perfectly located to serve as Mexico's gateway to U.S. markets. Texas–Mexico border trade always has been important. Mexican citizens cross the border into Texas in large numbers. Many stores along the

border depend upon shoppers from Mexico for most of their business. Some establishments on the Texas side accept Mexican *pesos*, and many on the Mexican side accept U.S. dollars.

A recent development in trade with Mexico was the establishment of *maquiladoras*, factories near the border that use Mexican labor and U.S. materials. Goods made at these plants are shipped to and sold in the U.S. Many companies, attracted by low labor costs and tax breaks from both nations, have set up such factories. Thousands of plants with hundreds of thousands of employees now are located along the border. El Paso is the Texas city most closely linked with this industry. As many as 100,000 jobs in El Paso and its sister city, Ciudad Juárez, depend on *maquiladoras*.

There are, however, serious problems associated with *maquiladoras*. By U.S. standards, wages are low and working conditions are poor. Many workers are young women who make little more than \$1 per hour. *Colonias* (neighborhoods) on both sides of the border where workers often live were built without proper streets, water, or sewage facilities. The Texas legislature has recognized the problems of the *colonias* in Texas. It **appropriated**, or officially set aside, money to help provide basic services to these neighborhoods. Cities in both Mexico and Texas also suffer from polluted air and water caused by factories and cars on both sides of the border. Pollution is a regional problem, and solutions will come only after cooperative efforts by both nations.

Many Americans were encouraged by the successes of the European Union, a cooperative agreement among the major nations of Europe. Political leaders in Mexico, Canada, and the

United States realized that increased cooperation among their countries also could produce benefits. The result was the **North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)**, which became effective January 1, 1994. NAFTA removed many barriers to the shipment of goods between the three nations of North America.

Because of its location, Texas was affected by NAFTA more than any other state. Companies that wished to increase trade with Mexico set up offices in Dallas, San Antonio, and Houston. The trucking and warehouse industries of Texas boomed. Laredo and El Paso received most of the traffic. It became necessary to build new international bridges, such as the one in Hidalgo County. When Houston leaders pointed out that one good route between Mexico and Canada would be Highway 59 through their city, plans to widen the highway and connect it to the Port of Houston were proposed immediately.

 **Reading Check** **Evaluating** Why was the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) created?

## Boom and Bust Oil Cycle

Texans had seen oil prices go up and down. The **Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)** and the oil shortages of the 1970s had driven up the price of oil, raising it as high as \$40 per barrel. High oil prices meant that the petroleum industry boomed. Drilling companies, pipe manufacturers, and oil well service companies all shared in the resulting prosperity. Government tax revenues increased as well. Banks issued **mortgages** (loans to purchase property) for the construction of office buildings, shopping centers, and housing. People moved to Texas in large numbers to find employment. Lending them money to buy houses and to start businesses seemed like good business practice during such boom times.

As often happens, “bust” followed “boom.” Economic prosperity gave way to hard times. The weakening of the OPEC cartel and overproduction lowered the price of oil to \$10 a barrel. The effect on Texas was swift and dramatic. Companies cut back on drilling and

fired employees. Drilling rigs were put in storage. When borrowers could not repay loans, mortgage companies, banks, and other lending institutions found themselves with millions of dollars worth of bad loans. In 1986 and 1987 Texas’s lending institutions lost \$3.7 billion. Many banks and savings and loan institutions closed or were acquired by banks with headquarters in other states.

## The Persian Gulf War

In August 1990 Iraq invaded its oil-rich neighbor, Kuwait. Iraq seemed to desire not only Kuwait’s oil, but also that of nearby Saudi Arabia. By January 1991 President George H.W. Bush had assembled a coalition of nations to drive Iraq out of Kuwait and protect the oil resources of the region. The coalition did so in a military operation called **Desert Storm** by the military and the Gulf War by the media.

Many Texans were involved in Desert Storm. **Fort Hood** in central Texas was a major staging area where troops and equipment were assembled for transport to Saudi Arabia. The military used a higher percentage of troops from the **National Guard** (a reserve military force available in times of crisis) in Desert Storm than in previous wars. Many of those National Guard troops were Texans who had skills necessary for fighting a war in the desert. For example, one Texas unit specialized in laying pipelines to supply water to troops. The **Gulf War** lasted slightly over a month, but it reemphasized how Texas was connected to the rest of the world.



*Texas soldiers served in the Gulf War.*

## Texans Respond to Terrorism

The disastrous events of September 11, 2001, showed that threats to world peace continue to exist. On that day, terrorists hijacked four U.S. airplanes. Two of them were crashed into the World Trade Center in New York City. The third was flown into the Pentagon across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. The fourth plane crashed in a field in rural Pennsylvania. In all, several thousand people were killed.

Texans, like other Americans, responded to the events with anger and grief, but also with an outpouring of cash and relief supplies. So many Texans wanted to donate blood that people were turned away. Houses of worship hosted prayer vigils and memorial services. Texans united in their desire to bring the terrorists to justice. They rallied behind fellow Texan President George W. Bush as he led the country in the time of crisis. Terrorists had committed acts of war against the United States, the president explained. In response, the U.S. government began a campaign against terrorism and vowed to fight to victory.

In the following weeks, anonymous letters containing deadly anthrax bacteria arrived at some government and media offices. Several people died as a result. Security was increased at airports and along the Texas coast. At El Paso, Brownsville, Laredo, and other entry points from Mexico, Customs and Immigration and Naturalization agents looked for possible threats.

In October, 2001, the United States launched air attacks against Afghanistan. The Taliban government in that country had refused to surrender accused terrorist Osama bin Laden for trial. By year's end, the Taliban was forced to abandon power. The United States and its allies had won their first victory in the campaign against terrorism. Meanwhile, U.S. and foreign military forces acted to stop terrorism elsewhere.

While continuing the fight against terrorist groups, the Bush administration turned its attention to a familiar foe: Saddam Hussein, the leader of Iraq. In September 2002, President Bush asked the UN to pass a new resolution against Iraq. If Saddam Hussein wanted peace, he had to give up Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, readmit the UN weapons inspectors he had expelled in 1998, stop supporting terrorism, and stop oppressing his people. In mid-October, Congress voted to authorize the use of force against Iraq. On November 8, the UN Security Council unanimously approved a resolution imposing tough new arms inspections on Iraq. The resolution pledged Iraq would face "serious consequences" if it did not cooperate. The United States also ordered more troops, aircraft, and ships to the Persian Gulf region for a possible war against Iraq early in 2003.

 **Reading Check** **Examining** How did Texans respond to the terrorist attacks?

## SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT

### Checking for Understanding

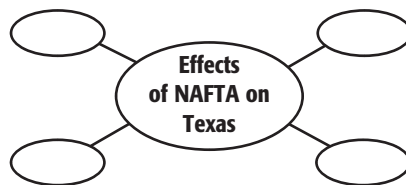
- Using Key Terms** Use each of these key terms in a sentence: *appropriate, mortgage, National Guard.*
- Reviewing Facts** How did Karnack become famous?

### Reviewing Themes

- Global Connections** Why were many National Guard troops from Texas used in Desert Storm?

### Organizing to Learn

- Categorizing** Create a web like the one shown here, showing the various ways that NAFTA affects Texas.



### Critical Thinking

- Evaluating** Is the Texas economy likely to experience another oil boom in the near future? Explain the reasons for your answer.



**Drawing Inferences** How was the Texas economy helped by the fall of the Soviet Union?

# Texas LITERATURE

## About the Author Sandy Sheehy



Sandy Sheehy has lived in Texas since 1967. She considers herself a “naturalized” Texan.

She now lives in Houston and has contributed as an editor for *Town and Country* and *Ultra*. She has also written for *Working Woman*, *Forbes*, and *House Beautiful*.

## Reading to Discover

As you read this selection on Jack Grimm’s adventurous searches, imagine how you would spend your money if you had an unlimited amount.

## Reader’s Dictionary

**quixotic:** caught up in the legend of noble deeds and striving to achieve impossible goals

**elusive:** difficult to capture

**recoup:** to make up for

**wildcatting:** the act of mining or drilling in an area that is not known to have oil

## Texas Big Rich

by SANDY SHEEHY

*Chapter 17 deals with Jack Grimm’s perpetual interest in hunting for treasure and the near impossibility of finding any.*

Jack Grimm liked finding things. When he wasn’t digging for oil or prospecting for precious metals, he was mounting a number of **quixotic** expeditions: one to capture Bigfoot, the **elusive** manape of British Columbia; another to photograph the legendary Loch Ness Monster; another to locate evidence that Noah’s Ark had landed on the rocky summit of Turkey’s Mount Ararat; yet another to mine for emeralds . . . in Colombia, where [he] had to defend his treasure from bandits. In 1980 he made the first of his three attempts to find the *Titanic* . . . and in 1983 he came up with the cash to allow three wheelchair-bound paraplegic Vietnam vets to climb the highest mountain in Texas—8,751-foot Guadalupe Peak. In 1984 Grimm set out on yet another quest, one to locate and salvage a paddle wheeler that sank off Charleston in 1850 with at least five million dollars in gold coins . . .

To **recoup** some of the costs, Grimm turned [his expeditions] into real-life cinematic adventures.

. . . Grimm didn’t foot the bills for his enterprises alone. He had a knack for getting others to



Jack Grimm

invest in his adventures even though all the most glamorous ones lost money . . . As with the oil **wildcatting**, only part of the appeal was in the enormous potential for profit. Grimm’s investors were mostly fellow Cowboy Capitalists who preferred to make or lose money in things they could brag about.

## ANALYZING LITERATURE

**Evaluate and Connect** Jack Grimm was interested in intriguing, historical events. Which exploration do you find the most interesting and why?

## Interdisciplinary Activity

**Writing** If you were to explore something you are interested in, what would it be? Write a short autobiography of yourself in the future, after your “expedition” has been successful.

# Reforms Come to Texas Schools

## Guide to Reading

### Main Idea

Many education reforms occurred as Texans and their leaders came to recognize the need for a better educated workforce.

### Key Terms

extracurricular  
bilingual education

### Reading Strategy

**Classifying Information** As you read, create a web like the one shown here, outlining the recommendations of the commission to study schools.



### Read to Learn

- why the Texas economy moved away from manufacturing.
- what changes were made in the educational system.

### Section Theme

**Continuity and Change** Texans reform the system of education and provide educational opportunities for all students.

### Preview of Events

1973

Bilingual education becomes state law

1984

Texas makes reforms in public school system



Children eating lunch in a school cafeteria

## A Texas Story

Demetrio Rodríguez's campaign to achieve equality in public schools through the court system failed, but he could not accept that poor neighborhoods should be content with poor schools. The struggle he had begun for his children in 1968 finally bore fruit for his grandchildren. In the 1980s, the state devised a plan to help poor school districts build better classrooms.

—*The Merrow Report*, copyright PBS, 1995

### The Reforms of 1984

Even before the oil, banking, and real estate crises of the late 1980s, forward-thinking Texans predicted that the Texas economy no longer could depend upon agriculture and oil as it had through the twentieth century. More and more products were manufactured overseas. Workers in poorer

CLICK HERE

TEXAS  
HISTORY  
Online

**Student Web Activity** Visit the [texans.glencoe.com](http://texans.glencoe.com) Web site and click on **Chapter 26—Student Web Activity** to learn more about school reform.

countries accepted much lower wages than did U.S. laborers. The nation moved away from an economy based on manufacturing. Providing services and information increasingly became important. This “new economy” was driven by many advancements in technology. Personal computers demonstrated their usefulness in practically every profession. Advances in medical technology, fiber optic communications, cellular telephones, and satellite communications were only a few of the new developments.

Clearly, Texas needed more highly skilled, better educated people to work in the emerging industries. Even the traditional industries, such as ranching, farming, saw mills, and oil well drilling, required workers with new skills. For example, farmers and ranchers began using computers, lasers, and satellite photographs for many tasks.

Mark White, the governor of Texas from 1983 to 1987, appointed a commission headed by a successful businessman, **H. Ross Perot**, to study the schools of Texas. In June 1984, Governor White submitted the commission’s recommendations to the legislature, which enacted many of them. The legislature increased the amount of money the state gave to poorer school districts. It increased teacher salaries, provided for merit pay, and reduced class sizes. It also created free summer classes for young children whose English skills were limited.

There were two very controversial parts of the new education laws. The first required teachers to

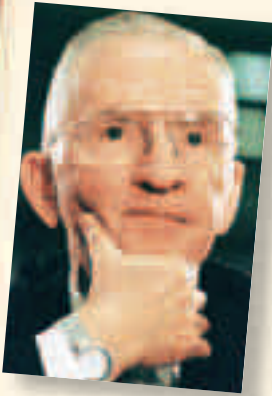


# TWO VIEWPOINTS

## No Pass, No Play

Reforms to improve education in Texas were approved by the legislature in the 1980s. Included was a measure requiring high school athletes to pass all their courses in order to play sports. Read the two views below and then answer the questions.

### A Business and Political Leader Supports the Requirement



Any time someone has a problem, they can come up with an alibi or an excuse. That's all it is. If a student doesn't have a learning disability, passing all his classes in school is not that difficult. There's a solution to all this: study. All we want is to keep a balance and set the proper priorities.

—Ross Perot, quoted in *Dallas Morning News*, November 10, 1985

### A Coaches' Organization Worries About Effects on Small-School Athletics

Small schools are certainly affected more. The percentage of failures is not higher, but they have fewer players. Some of the smaller schools are having enrollment problems, too, so it's kind of a double whammy of them. I can see in three or four years, if schools keep losing a few players every grading period, the [football programs] could be in jeopardy.

—Eddie Joseph, executive director, Texas High School Coaches Association, quoted in *Dallas Morning News*, November 10, 1985



### Learning From History

1. Describe the two opinions given here and explain which view you support and why.
2. Suggest a reform that might help improve education in your school.

pass a test to remain employed. Many veteran teachers resented this. Some expressed their dissatisfaction by voting against Governor White's reelection. The other controversial provision was called "no pass, no play." It raised the minimum passing score for students to 70 and disqualified students with even one failing grade from participating in **extracurricular** activities, such as sports or band. Athletic coaches argued that extracurricular activities were one of the best ways to prevent students from dropping out. Courts upheld legal challenges to the law, and schools adapted to the new rules. Later changes reduced the penalty for loss of eligibility.

**✓ Reading Check Summarizing** What were some of the new education laws in Texas?

## Immigrant Schoolchildren

As far back as the 1940s, **Jovita González de Mireles** and her husband **E.E. Mireles** wrote bilingual textbooks and promoted them in the Corpus Christi schools.

**Bilingual education**, a program that serves students who speak a native language other than English, began in Texas schools in the 1960s and became state law in 1973. Immigration from Mexico, Central America, India, and Southeast Asia in later years meant that more schools had more students who did not speak English. Because there was a severe shortage of teachers qualified to teach bilingual education, some school districts offered bonuses to teachers who would train for bilingual education.

The emphasis on bilingual education caused many parents to believe that the traditional U.S. curricula were threatened. Some Texans joined an "English only" political movement, trying to put an end to bilingual education. A law was passed that prohibited the

children of undocumented aliens from attending public schools in Texas. In 1980, however, **Judge Woodrow Seals** of Houston ruled that the law was unconstitutional. In his decision, which the U.S. Supreme Court later supported, Seals said, "Children are the basic resource of our society."

## Educational Testing

More educational reforms occurred as Texans and their leaders recognized the need for a better educated workforce. Students had to take more tests, including the **Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS)** and end-of-course exams. (Today these tests are known as the **Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, or TAKS.**) High schools were encouraged to offer more Advanced Placement courses so students could receive college credit. Programs such as Gifted and Talented Education and School-to-Work instruction received more state funding. Students were encouraged to take more college preparatory classes and fewer lower level courses.

The Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP) is an important step for many students interested in higher education. The program, established in 1989, requires that all students entering public colleges and universities must take tests to identify any weaknesses in their basic academic skills. There was a dramatic increase in the number of students attending community colleges. Those



**A Shared Past...**

The increased need for bilingual education teachers was not confined to Texas. Spanish-speaking immigrants moved to places such as Iowa, North Carolina, and Arkansas to work in food processing plants. Arabic speaking immigrants moved to Michigan. The breakup of the Soviet Union allowed Russians more freedom to emigrate. Many of them moved to New York and New Jersey. Southern Florida was a favorite destination for Caribbean people, many of whom spoke Spanish or French. All of these states are addressing the issues of how to best educate the children of immigrants.

institutions provided a good transition between high school and college and offered training in technical skills. Graduates of community colleges often found employment in fields such as medical technology, communications, and electronics. The state legislature passed a law ensuring that high school students who graduated in the top 10 percent of their class could gain admission to state universities.

**✓ Reading Check Identifying** What ruling concerning schools did Judge Seals make in 1980?

## SECTION 3 ASSESSMENT

### Checking for Understanding

- Using Key Terms** List some **extracurricular** activities in your school.
- Reviewing Facts** Which high school students are guaranteed admission to state universities?

### Reviewing Themes

- Continuity and Change** What were the two controversial parts to the new education laws passed in Texas in the mid-1980s?

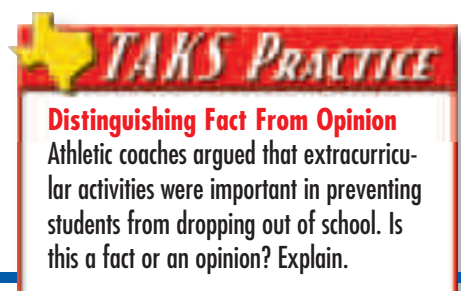
### Organizing to Learn

- Evaluating** Create a chart like the one shown here and use the text and your own reasoning to identify three or four advantages and disadvantages of bilingual education.

Advantages	Disadvantages

### Critical Thinking

- Analyzing Information** Is equal funding for school districts important in providing equal educational opportunity? Why or why not?



**TAKS PRACTICE**

**Distinguishing Fact From Opinion**  
Athletic coaches argued that extracurricular activities were important in preventing students from dropping out of school. Is this a fact or an opinion? Explain.



## Chapter Summary

## Texas Today

1973

- ★ Bilingual education becomes state law.

1978

- William Clements is elected the first Republican Texas governor since Reconstruction.

1984

- Texas makes school reforms to improve education.

1986

- Many Texas banks close as a result of the “oil bust.”

1988

- ★ George H.W. Bush is elected president of the United States.

1990

- ★ Many Texans participate in the Persian Gulf War to defend Kuwait from Iraq.

1991

- ★ Ann Richards becomes the second woman governor of Texas.

1992

- The Pantex Plant begins to disassemble nuclear weapons from the Cold War.

1993

- Kay Bailey Hutchison becomes a U.S. senator for Texas.

1994

- NAFTA goes into effect.
- Many U.S. companies build maquiladoras in Mexico at the Texas border.

2001

- ★ Texans donate to relief efforts after terrorists attack.
- The U.S. fights back against terrorism.

## Reviewing Key Terms

Number your paper from 1 to 7. Next to each number, write the letter of the term that goes with the phrase provided.

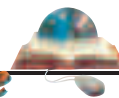
- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. neither Republican nor Democrat       | a. mortgage        |
| 2. set aside money                       | b. third-party     |
| 3. group of advisers                     | c. National Guard  |
| 4. sports, clubs, cheerleading           | d. extracurricular |
| 5. a loan to pay for a house or building | e. cabinet         |
| 6. proposed law                          | f. appropriate     |
| 7. part-time military force              | g. bill            |

## Reviewing Key Facts

- What political party identifies more strongly with reducing government regulation of businesses?
- Who was the first Republican governor of Texas since Reconstruction?
- Which third-party presidential candidate from Texas ran in the 1992 election?
- Explain how making goods in *maquiladoras* helps keep costs of buying many products down.
- How has the Texas legislature helped the *colonias* in Texas?
- How did Texans respond to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001?
- Describe the purpose of bilingual education.
- How do school districts deal with the shortage of bilingual education teachers?
- What types of technology do some farmers and ranchers now use?

## Critical Thinking

- Predicting Consequences** How would an increase in factories along the Texas–Mexico border affect the environment?
- Drawing Conclusions** Should only students with passing grades be allowed to take part in extracurricular activities? Explain.
- Evaluating** Does a two-party system benefit citizens more than a system in which one party dominates? Explain the reasons for your answer.
- Drawing Inferences** How have technological advancements of the “new economy” changed the lives of Texans?



**Self-Check Quiz**

Visit the [texans.glencoe.com](http://texans.glencoe.com) Web site and click on **Chapter 26—Self-Check Quizzes** to prepare for the chapter test.



**CLICK HERE**



**Geography and History Activity**

After the Berlin Wall came down in 1989, the Cold War ended. As a result, the United States closed many military bases such as the Bergstrom Air Force Base in Austin, Texas.

21. What did Bergstrom Air Force Base become after it was closed?
22. What are some other ways to convert military bases into civilian uses?

**Cooperative Learning Activity**

23. **Making Predictions** Organize into small groups in order to research possible future changes in technology. Research one of the following topics: career, family, or education. Discuss your findings with your group, and agree on three important technology changes that might occur. Share your findings with other groups.

**Practicing Skills**

24. **Predicting Consequences** Imagine that you are a member of the Texas state legislature. You must vote on many bills to decide whether they will become laws. To make these decisions, you have to predict the consequences of each bill. Read the description of the bill below. Then write the following:

Bill to lengthen the school year by 30 days:

*This bill would add 30 days to the current school schedule. Its purpose is to improve the quality of education and reduce the amount of time spent in review at the beginning of each school year.*

- a. three consequences of the bill
- b. the consequence that is most likely and least likely to occur
- c. two ways in which the bill could affect different groups of people



**Portfolio/TAKS Writing Activity**

25. **Defending a Position** Judge Woodrow Seals of Houston ruled that prohibiting children of undocumented aliens from attending public schools was unconstitutional. He said, "Children are the basic resource of our society." Take the position that you agree with Judge Seal. Write a paragraph defending Judge Seals's positions. Save your work for your portfolio.



**Building Technology Skills**

26. **Using a Spreadsheet** Place this information about NAFTA on a spreadsheet program such as Excel. Create appropriate formulas to answer the questions below.

Year	U.S.–Mexico Trade (\$ million)	Increase in Trade
1994	100,000	
1995	110,000	
1996	130,000	
1997	160,000	
1998	170,000	

- a. Determine the increase in U.S.–Mexico trade for each year between 1994 and 1998.
- b. Create your own question based on this information.
- c. Draw a line or bar graph based on the chart.



**Use your knowledge of the information in this chapter to answer the following question.**

The end of the Cold War offered new opportunities for Texas because

- F the United States closed many military bases.
- G many Texas companies could perform work in countries free from the control of the former Soviet Union.
- H no new wars would occur.
- J more nuclear weapons would be built.

**Test-Taking Tip:**

Always delete any answers that you know are incorrect.