

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____



Louisiana: Our History, Our Home

Chapter 6: French Louisiana - Section 1: Exploration and Early Settlements

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. The first Europeans to see and travel across the lands that became Louisiana were _____.
2. Two Spanish explorers that led expeditions along the southeastern coast were Alonso _____ and _____.
3. Since de Soto's expedition did not find _____, Spanish interest in the region _____.
4. The first French explorers to arrive in Louisiana were led by _____, Sieur de La Salle.
5. He hoped to locate a _____ that would connect French territory in _____ with trade routes to Asia.
6. He did not achieve that goal, but La Salle did make it to the _____ (the place where a stream enters a larger body of water) of the great river now called the _____.
7. On April 9, 1682, _____ claimed the surrounding region for France and named it Louisiana in honor of his king, _____.
8. La Salle returned to _____, where he received royal sponsorship for establishing a permanent settlement in _____.
9. The fleet sailed all the way to _____ and came ashore at Matagorda Bay, where La Salle established a temporary base he called _____.
10. In 1689, the _____, who were concerned about rumors of a French settlement in territory they claimed, located the site of Fort St. Louis. The fort had long been _____.
11. _____ years passed between the time of La Salle's death and the next attempt to establish a Louisiana _____.



Louisiana: Our History, Our Home

Chapter 6: French Louisiana - Section 1: Exploration and Early Settlements

Guided Reading

12. The French were finally driven to action by the fear that their two most serious rivals, England and Spain, would establish _____
_____ near the Mississippi River before they did.
13. Louis XIV gave royal support for the settlement of Louisiana to Pierre Le Moyne,
_____, in 1698.
14. Iberville, accompanied by his brother _____, commanded a
fleet of four ships that left _____ in October 1698.
15. Using information provided by Native Americans, Iberville and his men reached the
mouth of the Mississippi River on March 2, 1699, and founded their first camp,
_____.
16. Although the French were determined to control the mouth of the Mississippi River,
_____ decided that the nearby _____
_____ was a more promising place to locate his first settlement.
17. The French began building a fortification near the site of present-day Ocean Springs,
Mississippi, and named it _____ in honor of the Comte de
Maurepas.
18. When Iberville returned in January of 1700, he and Bienville settled on a location fifty-
four miles above the mouth of the river and named it _____.
19. The soil around Fort Maurepas had proved too _____ for
farming, and the site had _____ more than once, so the
brothers moved the _____.
20. Bienville worked hard to maintain _____ relations with
neighboring tribes.
21. After Iberville's death, the French court gave Bienville the title of _____
(officer in command).
22. The colony's economic affairs were controlled by a separate _____ -
_____ (business manager).
23. This _____ of governing authority resulted in near-constant
_____ throughout the French colonial period.