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Parents and Teachers

This unit aims to engage the minds of your kids and help them learn about important events in modern history. To get started, print the Code Wheel toward the end of this book on two separate pieces of paper or cardstock. Cut out the wheels and attach them using a metal fastener.

The Case File text shares the history of each event. Have the student read the text and then answer the two questions that follow. The first question tests reading comprehension. The second question shares more information with them to help them learn about what happened. They can find the answer by using their Code Wheel. A Code Breaker sheet toward the end of this book tells them what to set their wheel to so they can correctly decipher the code in each case.

The Gathering Evidence questions that follow the first four readings in the Case File are optional, but they can be used to help students learn how to do research using books, Internet sites, the library, or whatever resources you have available.

As they read the Case Files, they will encounter bolded, underlined vocabulary words. As they complete each page of the Case File, have them fill out the vocabulary exercise, Did I Understand You Correctly?

After the fifth Case File reading, they can draw a Case Sketch to help them visualize and retain what they've learned.

They can also practice map skills using an atlas or similar resource by completing the Case Locations page. This allows them to record the location of one or more important places from the event. A more advanced optional map activity for each lesson is included in the Bonus Map Work section.

When they've completed these activities, they can fill out Solving the Case, Pt. 1. On this page, they need to copy the facts they learned that followed each Case File reading. This helps them practice reducing the question and answer to a single sentence. They can write down any additional facts they learned at the bottom of the page.

Finally, when they are finished, they can complete Solving the Case, Pt. 2. This is a place for them to retell what happened to show comprehension of the material.

Optional bonus units are included at the end. These Dossier assignments each focus on a key person, one from each decade the unit covers. These are shorter units and do not include vocabulary practice or bonus map work. A suggested plan for when to do these units so they flow chronologically is provided on the next page.

Outline

The Dossier units are optional and are included toward the end of this book.

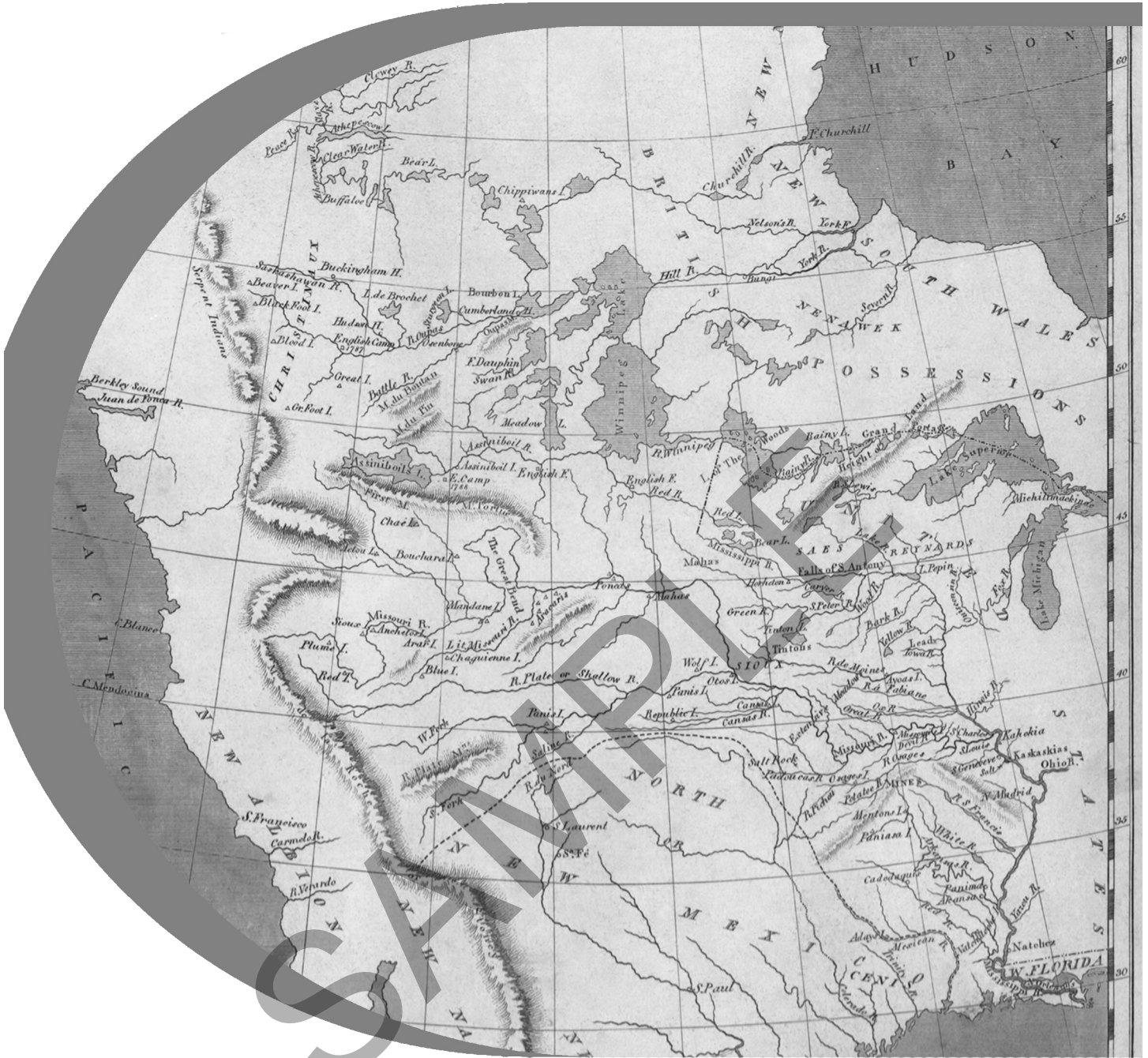
Case #1: Louisiana Purchase
Case #2: Lewis and Clark
Dossier #1: Robert Fulton
Dossier #2: John Jacob Astor
Case #3: Cumberland Road/National Road
Case #4: War of 1812
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Dossier #10: Herman Hollerith
Case #28: Columbian Exposition of 1893
Case #29: First Modern Olympics
Case #30: Spanish-American War

Welcome, Detectives!

Welcome! You have thirty mysteries to solve. Each Case File begins with a picture of an historical event. Your job is to figure out what is happening in the picture and why it was important. You'll have case information, puzzles, evidence, and more to help you.

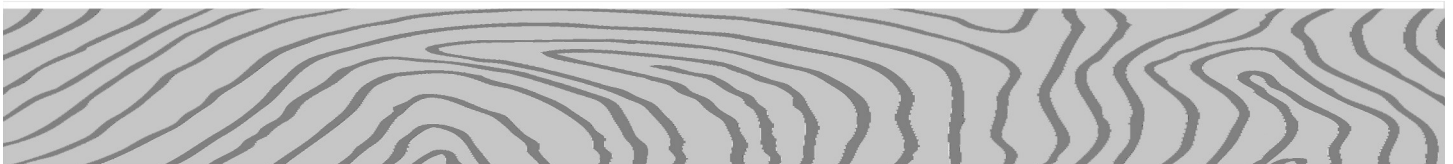
Are you ready? Let's get started!





Case #1

1803



Case File

Your case starts in 1803, but to get started, you need a little bit of background information. When 1800 began, the United States was a young nation. She'd declared herself independent a little over twenty-three years ago, and the peace treaty between America and Great Britain wasn't signed until seven years after that. George Washington didn't become the first President of the United States until almost six years after the treaty was signed. On March 4, 1801, Thomas Jefferson became the third President.

Case Facts:

Who was the third President of the United States?

When did George Washington become the first President?

5x1

2x10

11x2

3x1

6x0

1x1

7x1

2x4

3x3

The answer is a date; the first three answers are letters. Don't decode the final six problems. Just write your answers on the lines.

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

Who was President Jefferson's Vice President at the time?

Answer: _____

Source: _____

Case File

Now that you know who's who, let's dig in. In 1803, the U.S. was facing some challenges. She needed to move food that was grown, foods that were made (like cheese), and other supplies to other places. Since there were no planes or trains yet, many of these goods were sent by boat down the Mississippi River to New Orleans. Spain used to control New Orleans, but in 1800, they secretly gave it to France. The freedom to move supplies kept changing. Sometimes the U.S. could use New Orleans; other times, they couldn't.

Case Facts:

What country controlled New Orleans before France?

What important body of water does New Orleans border? the Gulf of _____?

1x17 18/2 12/6 13x1 14/2 1x19

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

When did Napoleon Bonaparte seize control in France?

Answer: _____

Source: _____

Case File

President Jefferson knew the U.S. had to move supplies through New Orleans. He was also worried that Spain would sell their land in Florida to France. He began to try to work out a solution between the governments. There were no telephones or telegraphs yet, so it took a long time to communicate back and forth. The situation seemed to be getting worse instead of better, and some feared there could be war. The French leader Napoleon Bonaparte had his eye on expanding France's territories around the world.

Case Facts:

What other land does President Jefferson think Spain might sell to France?

Was Napoleon Bonaparte very short or very tall?

2x13

27/3

2x11

18/6

1x23

2x6

19x1

19+3

2x12

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What Americans went to France to work out a deal?

Answer: _____

Source: _____

Case File

Controlling land half a world away is hard, and Napoleon decided he'd rather sell the land and work on conquering Europe instead of the U.S. The treaty between the U.S. and France was signed in May and arrived in Washington on July 14, 1803. The area of land President Jefferson had purchased was huge! It reached from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains and stretched from Louisiana to Canada. It had nearly doubled the size of a country that wasn't even twenty-five years old yet.

Case Facts:

How much larger was the United States after the Louisiana Purchase was official?

Who did Napoleon invade in 1805?

$22/2$ $36/4$ $16+6$ 1×17 $25/5$ 3×6 $27/9$

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

How much did the United States pay for the Louisiana Purchase?

Answer: _____

Source: _____

Case File

Not long after President Jefferson had taken office, he had started making plans to send explorers west through the Louisiana Territory and into the Northwest. He wanted to establish a good relationship with the people who lived there and find the best way to travel to the Pacific Ocean. He was also interested in learning about the plants and animals that grew and lived there. Now that the country suddenly owned the Louisiana Territory, it was even more important to start exploring.

Case Facts:

What great ocean is to the west of the United States?

Part of the northwest region was called what?

1x19 18+4 45/5 33/3 38/2 2x9

Case Sketch

A good detective needs to have a sharp eye for detail. Draw a picture of one of the things you learned about on this case.

Did I Understand You Correctly?

As you research your case, you'll probably run into some words you aren't sure of. It's important to know what the words mean. What do you think the following words mean from their context in the case file?

declared _____

challenges _____

solution _____

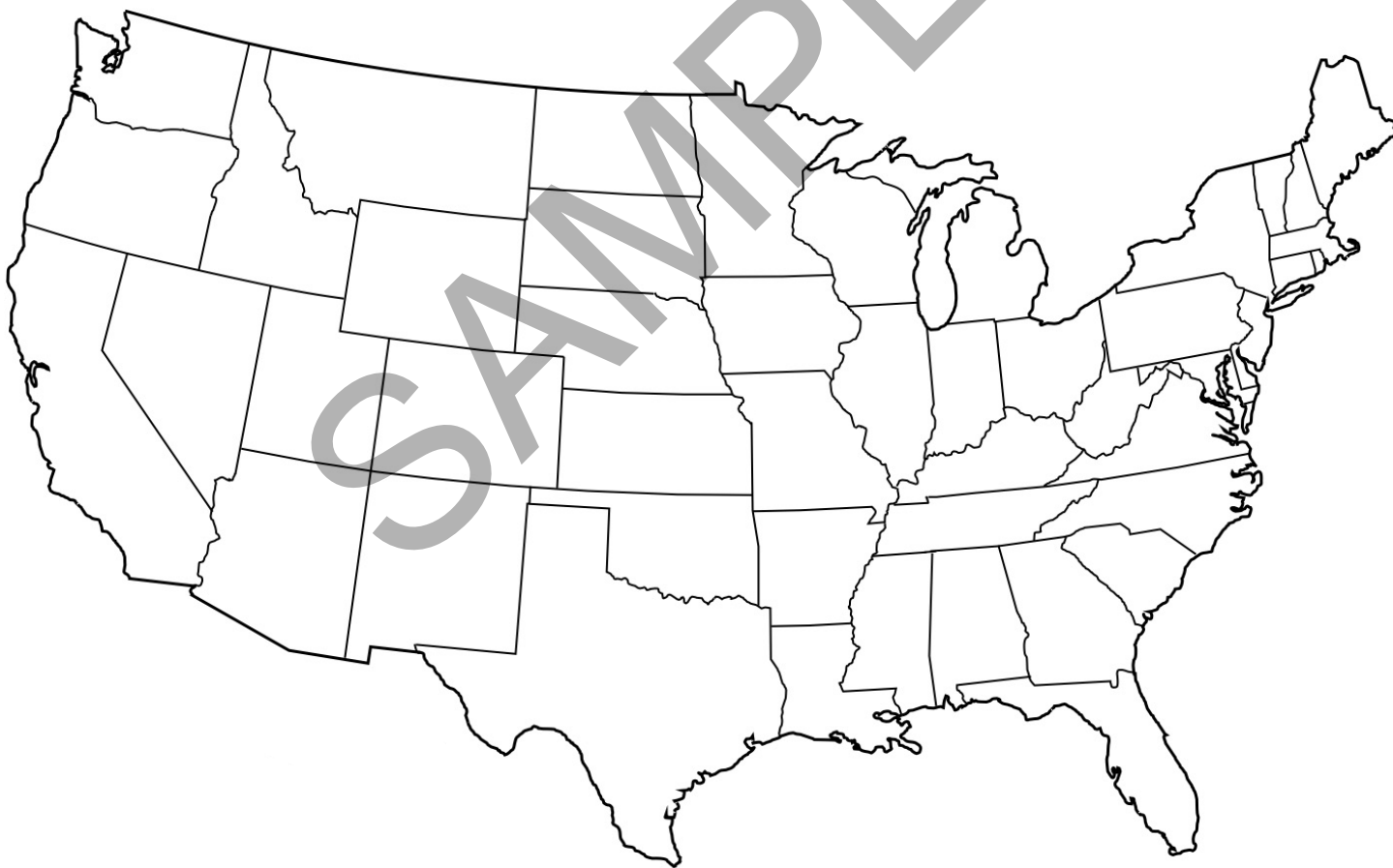
conquering _____

relationship _____

Look them up in a dictionary. Are there any definitions you need to revise or expand? If so, write them below.

Case Locations

This case involved Washington, D.C., and New Orleans, Louisiana. Using an atlas or another resource, find where those cities are located and draw them on the map below.



Solving the Case, Pt. 1

Copy all of your case facts here:

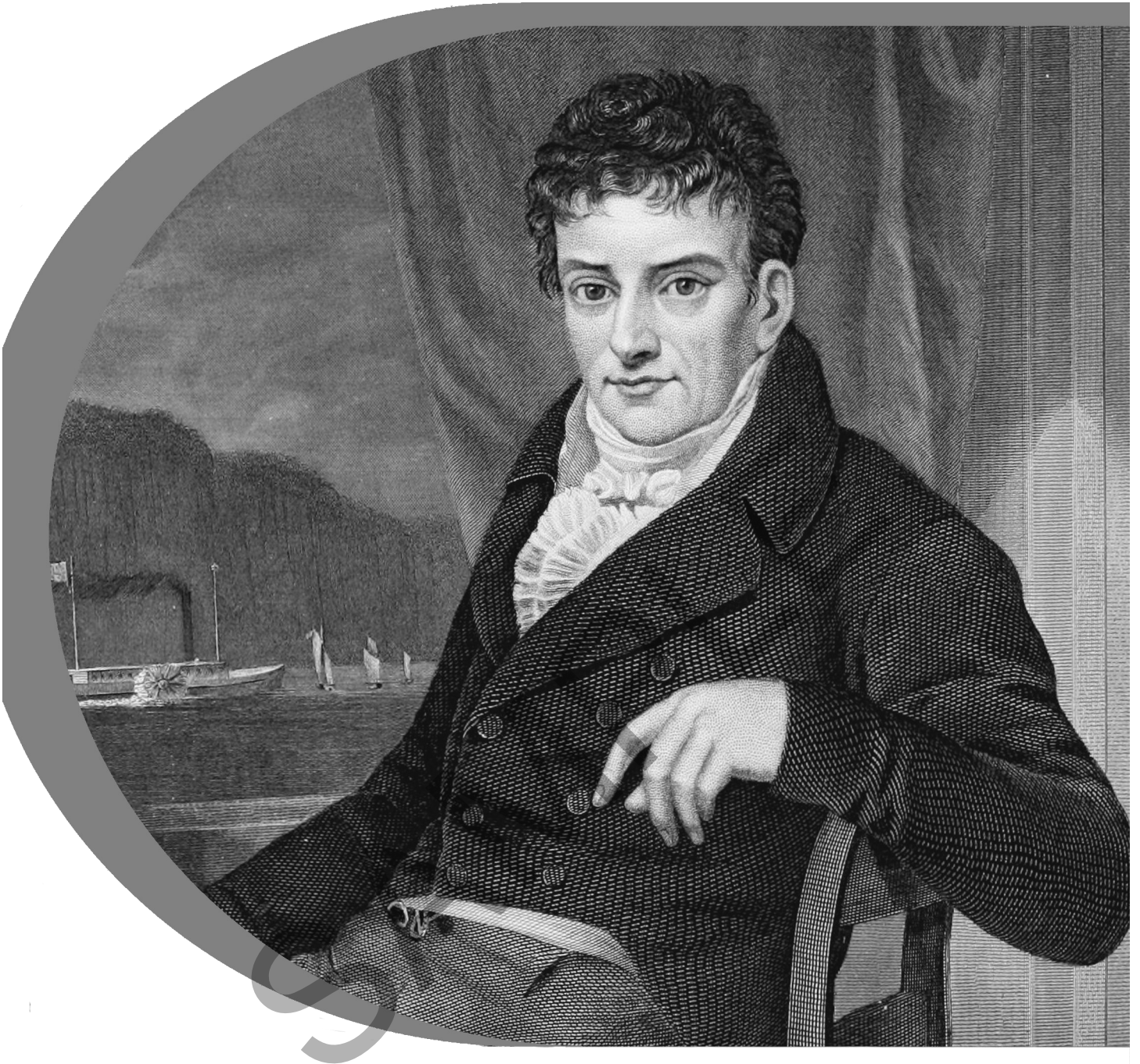
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Write down any additional facts you learned.

Solving the Case, Pt. 2

Write your case report. Explain what your case file image represents. Try to use as many of your case facts as you can.

SAMPLE



Dossier #1

Dossier

While Lewis and Clark were exploring the western frontiers of the country, another man just a few years older than they were was busy discovering and inventing new things back east. The man you are investigating is Robert Fulton. He was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and he was always busy building things like kitchen tools for his mom, skyrockets, paddle wheels, and his own type of rifle.

Getting the Facts:

Where was Robert Fulton born?

When was Robert Fulton born?

2x2 40/8 60/5 1x1 2x2 1x1 1x7 3x2 5x1

The answer is a date; the first three answers will be letters. Don't decode the final six problems. Just write your answers on the lines.

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What did John Fitch do in 1787?

Answer: _____

Source: _____

Dossier

When Robert was older, he studied as an artist but soon returned to the inventing he enjoyed even more. He came up with new designs for canal boats, worked on mechanical problems canal locks had, built machines to make rope and spin flax, and built all sorts of other machines. Then he started trying to build submarines, which would one day change everything about exploration and warfare. The ship he built in 1800 was successful, but he couldn't get the government very interested in it.

Getting the Facts:

What did Robert enjoy more than being an artist?

What was the name of the ship Robert built in 1800?

12/3

1x17

1x11

5x2

5x5

1x2

22/2

27/3

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What famous American artist did Robert study with?

Answer: _____

Source: _____

Dossier

In 1807, it was time for the big moment. Robert had built a steamboat that had lots of comforts for the passengers like special places to put their boots, mealtimes, and even a time set for tea. On August 17, 1807, the ship which everyone called the *Clermont*, launched from New York City, New York. It was a beautiful site to see! And it changed history because it was the first steamboat that could make enough money to keep operating. Travel by steamboat was about to become a normal part of life!

Getting the Facts:

What is the name of the famous ship?

Where did the ship go on its first journey?

 34/2 6/3 3x6 17x1 2x2 5x3 , 28/7 30/2

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What steam-powered warship did Robert build but did not finish for the War of 1812?

Answer:

Source:

Gathering Evidence

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

Who wrote a book called *Life on the Mississippi* about his days as a steamboat pilot?

Answer: _____

Source: _____

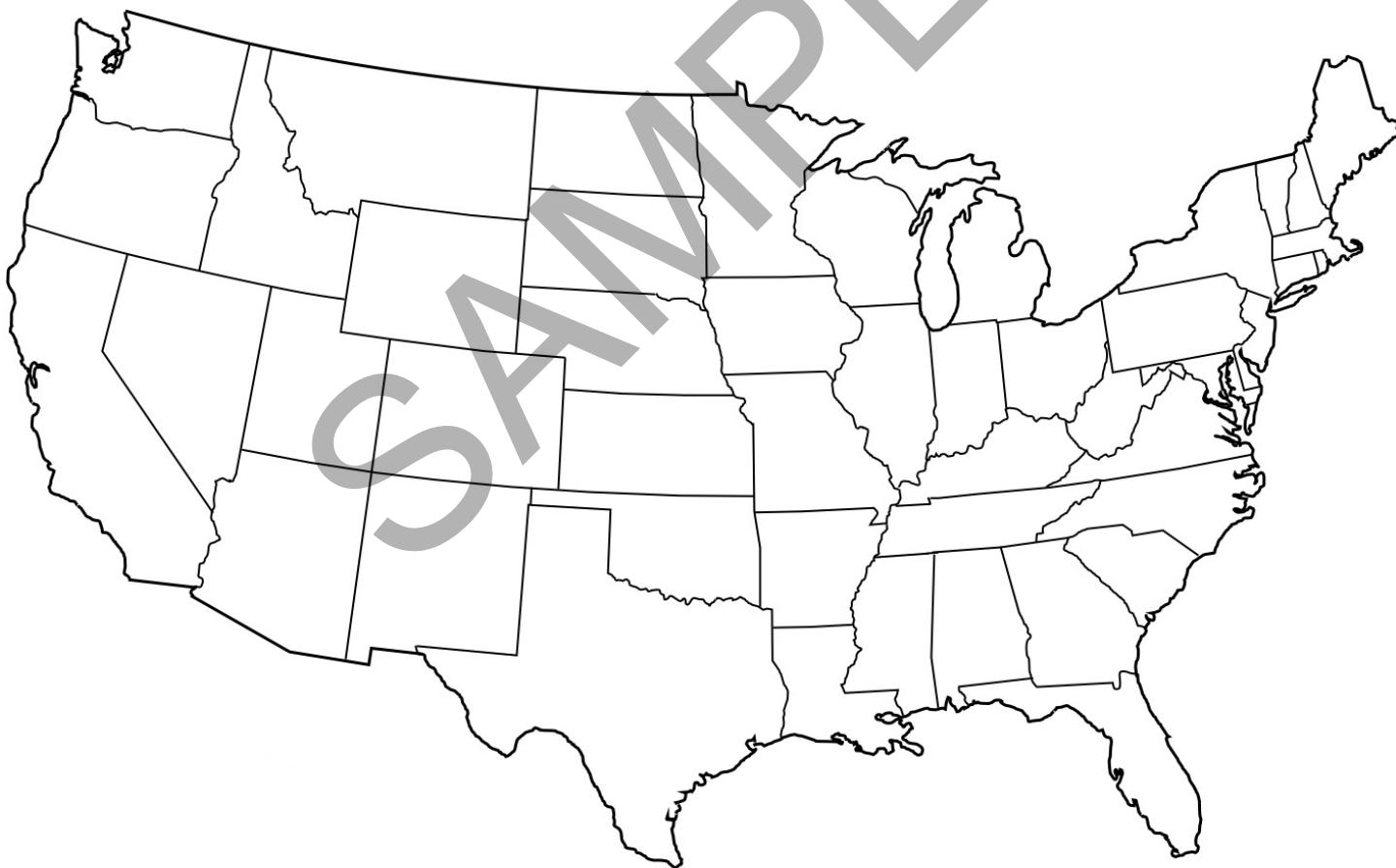
Case Sketch

A good detective needs to have a sharp eye for detail. Draw a picture of one of the things you learned about on this case.

SAMPLE

Case Locations

This case involved Albany and New York City, New York, and Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Using an atlas or another resource, find where that county and those two cities are located and draw them on the map below.



Creating Your Dossier, Pt. 1

Copy all of your dossier facts here:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Write down any additional facts you learned.

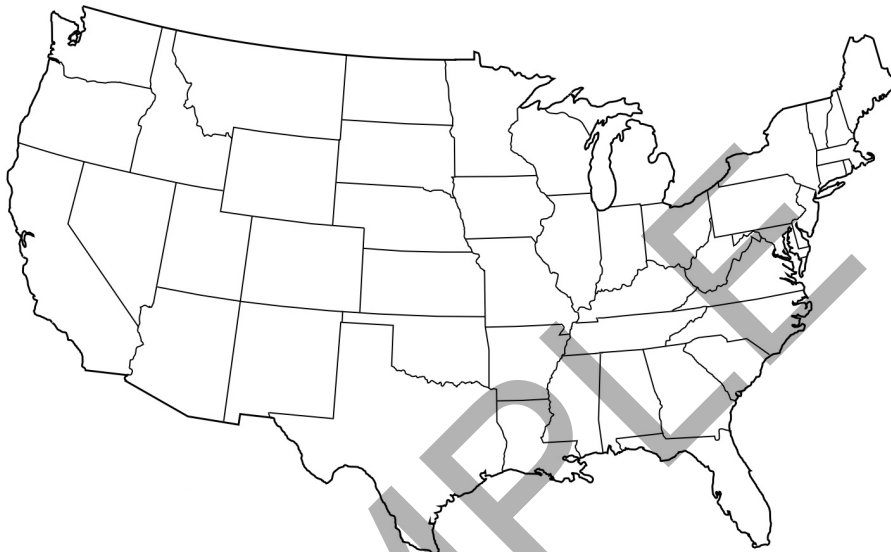
Creating Your Dossier, Pt. 2

Write your completed dossier. Try to use as many of the facts you gathered as you can.

SAMPLE

Case #1: Bonus Map Work

The Louisiana Purchase covered parts or all of the states of Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana. See if you can draw the modern state boundaries on the larger map that shows the area of the Louisiana Purchase.



Answer Key

Case #1

Case Facts & Gathering Evidence

- Thomas Jefferson; Apr. 30, 1789
- Aaron Burr
- Spain; Mexico
- 1799
- Florida; very short
- Robert Livingston and James Monroe (Pierre du Pont de Nemours was also sent to assist)
- almost twice as large; Germany
- Answers will vary depending on whether claims or interest are included, but answers should range between \$11,250,000 and \$15,000,000 or \$27,267,622.
- Pacific; Oregon

Case #2

Case Facts & Gathering Evidence

- Philadelphia; Seaman
- answers will vary but may include the Oto, Yankton Sioux, Arikara, Mandan, Hidatsa, Shoshone, Nez Perce, Chinook, Teton Sioux, Tillamook, Walla Walla, Wanapam, Yakama, and others
- the boats; Virginia
- Zebulon Pike
- May 14, 1804; Baptiste
- Toussaint Charbonneau
- medicines; Shoshone
- they had to unload them and carry everything
- almost 8,000 miles; pronghorn