



Name: _____

The Louisiana Purchase

Directions: Research The Louisiana Purchase. Read the text below. The underlined information is incorrect. Number each in order and correct the information by writing the proper words on the lines.

The Missouri Purchase was a large real estate deal that took place in 1794. John Adams was President at the time. The Purchase included much more than what is now the State of Louisiana. It actually consisted of 827,000 square miles of land west of the Missouri River. Spain was the owner of the land at the time, and it was purchased for 100 million dollars. Only \$11,250,000 was paid in cash. The remainder absorbed debt that France owed to the United States.

The reason for this immense purchase was to secure free navigation of the Mississippi River. At the time, the United States was heavily into exporting and expanding to the west, and wanted safe and sure passage through the river. It was also a means of ensuring Caesar, ruler of France, could not invade the United States.

Hoping Napoleon could be convinced to sell, President Jefferson sent two negotiators, James Parker and Robert Rushdolph, to France to persuade the sale of New Orleans. Napoleon granted the sale of the entire land area owned by France.

Soon after, in May, 1804, President Jefferson sent Captain Meriwether Lewis and Lieutenant William Clark, on the Westward 180 Expedition to explore and document the new West.

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