STUDENT VERSION

THE IMPACT OF THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE

Activity Items

The following items are part of this activity and appear at the end of this student version.

- Item 1: U.S. Population Density Map, 1800
- Item 2: U.S. Population Density Map, 1820
- Item 3: U.S. Population Density Map, 1840
- Item 4: U.S. Population Density Map, 1860
- Item 5: U.S. Population Density Map, 1880

Student Learning Objective

- I will be able to interpret population density maps to assess the effect of the Louisiana Purchase on the United States.

NAME:_____ DATE:_____

1. Thinking about the timing of the Napoleonic Wars, the size and location of Louisiana at the time, and the growing influence of the early United States in 1803, explain why Napoleon sold Louisiana to the United States.

2. Using **Items 1–5** and their respective explanations (with guidance from your teacher), complete the table below.

Year	What do you predict happened with the U.S. population 20 years later? Why?	What actually happened? (Assess your prediction.)	How did state boundaries change since the previous 20 years?	What areas had the highest population density?	What areas had the lowest population density?	What does this tell you about the United States during this time?
1800			N/A			

Year	What do you predict happened with the U.S. population 20 years later? Why?	What actually happened? (Assess your prediction.)	How did state boundaries change since the previous 20 years?	What areas had the highest population density?	What areas had the lowest population density?	What does this tell you about the United States during this time?
1820						
1840						

Year	What do you predict happened with the U.S. population 20 years later? Why?	What actually happened? (Assess your prediction.)	How did state boundaries change since the previous 20 years?	What areas had the highest population density?	What areas had the lowest population density?	What does this tell you about the United States during this time?
1860						
1880		N/A				

3. In a 2003 Smithsonian.com article ***(tinyurl.com/gqsorlf)***, Douglas Brinkley — then-director of the Eisenhower Center for American Studies at the University of New Orleans — said about the Louisiana Purchase: "With the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, this is one of the three things that created the modern United States."

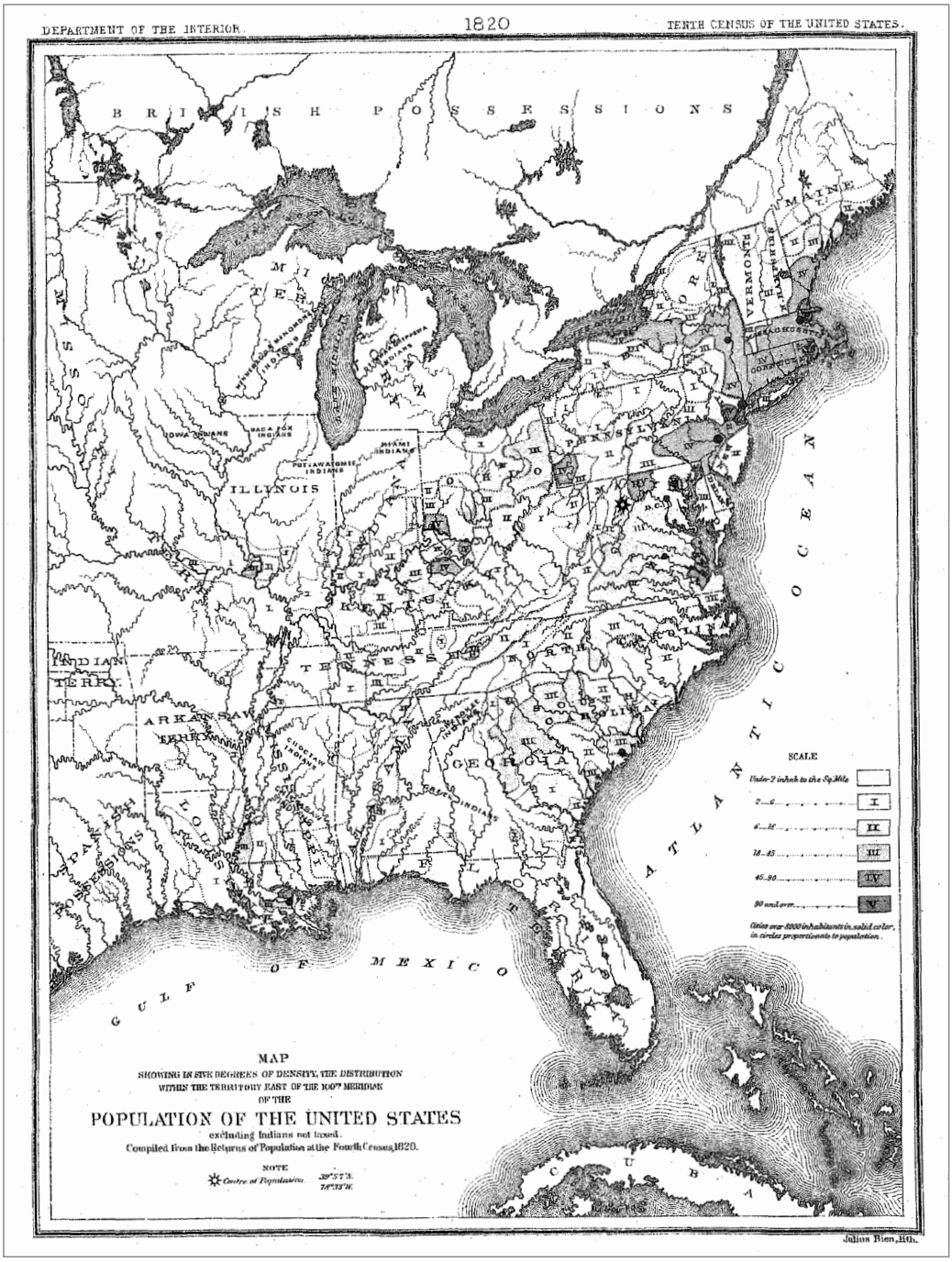
   Use evidence from this activity to write a paragraph that either supports or counters Brinkley's statement on the importance of the Louisiana Purchase in U.S. history.

Item 1: U.S. Population Density Map, 1800

www.census.gov/history/pdf/General_Discussion_of_the_Movements_of_Population.pdf

To view the map online, click on the link above and go to Page 4 of the PDF.

Item 2: U.S. Population Density Map, 1820



www.census.gov/history/pdf/General_Discussion_of_the_Movements_of_Population.pdf

To view the map online, click on the link above and go to Page 7 of the PDF.

Item 3: U.S. Population Density Map, 1840

www.census.gov/history/pdf/General_Discussion_of_the_Movements_of_Population.pdf

To view the map online, click on the link above and go to Page 11 of the PDF.

Item 4: U.S. Population Density Map, 1860

www.census.gov/history/pdf/General_Discussion_of_the_Movements_of_Population.pdf

To view the map online, click on the link above and go to Page 15 of the PDF.

Item 5: U.S. Population Density Map, 1880

www.census.gov/history/pdf/General_Discussion_of_the_Movements_of_Population.pdf

To view the map online, click on the link above and go to Page 19 of the PDF.