

## Find the Main Idea

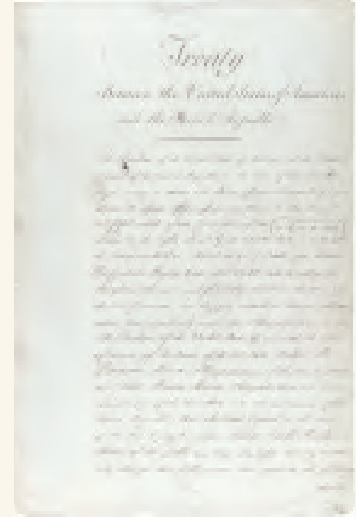
# THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE

In 1803, President Thomas Jefferson completed a treaty with the French government to purchase a large section of land in North America. This land is now known as the Louisiana Purchase. The purchase was important to the future of the U.S. It was the first major expansion of the U.S. since it had won its independence from Great Britain 20 years earlier. The territory gained in the Louisiana Purchase was the largest in U.S. history, totalling 828,000



*1903 map of the Louisiana Purchase from the U.S. Department of the Interior*

squares miles, about 23% of the current U.S. land area. The Louisiana Purchase also secured the U.S.'s right to passage along the Mississippi River and allowed access to the important port of New Orleans.



*Treaty transferring the Louisiana Purchase from France to the U.S.*

## Find the Main Idea

Write the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

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Write two supporting ideas for the main idea.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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