The Alaska Purchase (1867) Test

Part I – Multiple Choice

Directions: Choose the best answer for each question.

1. In what year did the United States purchase Alaska from Russia?
   A. 1803
   B. 1848
   C. 1867
   D. 1898

2. Who was the U.S. Secretary of State who negotiated the Alaska Purchase?
   A. William Seward
   B. Andrew Johnson
   C. Ulysses S. Grant
   D. John Quincy Adams

3. From which country did the United States purchase Alaska?
   A. Canada
   B. France
   C. Great Britain
   D. Russia

4. How much did the United States pay Russia for Alaska?
   A. $1 million
   B. $7.2 million
   C. $50 million
   D. $100 million

5. What was one major reason Russia wanted to sell Alaska?
   A. Russia wanted to avoid a possible conflict with Great Britain
   B. Russia wanted to give Alaska to Canada
   C. Russia wanted to punish the United States
   D. Russia no longer wanted to trade with other countries

6. What did many Americans initially call the Alaska Purchase?
   A. Seward's Folly
   B. Seward's Victory
   C. Russia's Gift
   D. The Northern Purchase

7. Why did some Americans criticize the purchase of Alaska?
   A. They thought Alaska was too small.
   B. They believed Alaska was too far away and not worth the money.
   C. They wanted Russia to keep Alaska.
   D. They believed Alaska was already part of the United States.

8. What happened to Alaska after the United States purchased it?
   A. It immediately became a state.
   B. It became a U.S. territory.
   C. It became an independent country.
   D. It was returned to Russia.

9. Which natural resources later helped demonstrate the value of Alaska?
   A. Gold, oil, and fish
   B. Cotton and tobacco
   C. Coal and sugar only
   D. Silver and cotton only

10. What was the name of the U.S. Secretary of State who strongly supported purchasing Alaska?
    A. William H. Seward
    B. Henry Clay
    C. Daniel Webster
    D. Charles Sumner

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Part II – True or False

Directions: Write **True** or **False** on the line.

11. _____ Alaska was purchased from Russia in 1867.
12. _____ William Seward played an important role in negotiating the purchase.
13. _____ The United States paid Russia $7.2 million for Alaska.
14. _____ Alaska immediately became the 49th state of the United States.
15. _____ Some Americans originally criticized the purchase and called it "Seward's Folly."
16. _____ Russia was concerned that it might lose Alaska to Great Britain during a future conflict.
17. _____ Alaska later proved to have valuable natural resources.
18. _____ The Alaska Purchase doubled the size of the United States.

Part III – Fill in the Blank

Directions: Use the word bank to complete each sentence.

Word Bank:

Russia | William Seward | 1867 | $7.2 million | Seward's Folly | Gold | territory | Great Britain

19. The United States purchased Alaska from _____.
20. The Alaska Purchase took place in _____.
21. The U.S. Secretary of State who negotiated the purchase was _____.
22. The United States paid _____ for Alaska.
23. Critics of the purchase sometimes called it _____.
24. Alaska became a U.S. _____ after the purchase.
25. Russia was concerned that _____ might eventually take control of Alaska.
26. The discovery of _____ helped prove that Alaska had great economic value.

Part IV – Matching

Directions: Match each person or term in Column A with the correct description in Column B. Write the correct letter on the line.

Column A	Column B
27. _____ William Seward	A. The amount the United States paid for Alaska
28. _____ Russia	B. The year the Alaska Purchase occurred
29. _____ Alaska	C. The country that sold Alaska to the United States
30. _____ Seward's Folly	D. The territory purchased by the United States
31. _____ 1867	E. The nickname critics gave the Alaska Purchase
32. _____ $7.2 million	F. U.S. Secretary of State who supported and negotiated the purchase

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