

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

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 |