

Grade 07 Social Studies Unit 05 Exemplar Lesson 03: The Empresario's Office

Hill County Component

Activities

I. Decision Making with Today's Meet:

[TEKS: 7.2E; 7.19B; 7.21D]

[Consider allowing the students the option of registering their responses simultaneously before the class using the Today's Meet app on their mobile devices.]

- A. Would you have preferred to be Empresario Sterling Robertson or Texas Ranger Buck Barry? Why?
- B. If you were applying for a headright land grant in Texas, what would you list as your main reason for wanting to move to Robertson's Colony?
- C. If you were applying to join Robertson's Texas Rangers, what would you give as your main reason for wanting to be a Ranger?

II. Creative Writing: [TEKS: 7.2E; 7.19B; 7.21D]

- A. Write a letter to Empresario Sterling C. Robertson applying for a headright land grant in Robertson's Colony.
 - 1. Describe your family.
 - 2. Give your reasons for wanting to move to his colony.
 - 3. Assure him that you plan to obey the federal and state constitutions of Mexico, practice Christianity, and prove your morality and good habits.
 - 4. Tell him how you plan to use the land.
 - 5. Express your concerns about the government's future; and
 - 6. Express your concerns about the safety of your family from the rumored Indian troubles.
- B. Write a letter to Texas Ranger Captain Thomas J. Smith applying for a position in his Robertson County Rangers.
 - 1. Give him any details of your background that qualify you as a Texas Ranger.
 - 2. Tell him what supplies you can provide for yourself.
 - 3. Tell him where you live and how you acquired your land.
 - 4. Describe your family obligations.
 - 5. Assure him of your determination to provide for and protect your family.
 - 6. Explain to him why you are motivated to serve in this capacity.

III. Mapping: [TEKS: 7.8A; 7.8B]

Working together in small groups, brainstorm to determine where you think the following sites in Sterling Robertson's Colony were probably located on the [outline-map-major-rivers-of-texas](#) document (in Teacher Materials for this unit).

- A. Hill County
- B. Hillsboro
- C. Brazos River
- D. Fort Graham