

Process Paper

I chose my topic, the Louisiana Purchase, because my brother said that he would want to do it if he could do this project again.

I first started by finding books on the Louisiana Purchase. Then I looked for biographies on Jefferson, and a lot of them actually seemed to have a lot of information on the Louisiana Purchase. I have learned that he wanted to do it because he wanted to get rid of foreign superpowers around them, and also for the people. He saw the west as a fountain of youth, so he wanted to purchase it and it gave many people different lives. One of Jefferson's biographies I found was written by Joseph J Ellis called American Sphinx, who is a very famous historian. I found some interesting books that have the writings of Thomas Jefferson, one of them being all about his political writings. I found another book written by Thomas Jefferson, being primary sources. I also figured out that the reason why the Federalists were angry was because they wanted to re-conciliate with Britain, but buying Louisiana wouldn't help, it would just make things worse. This week, I learned that a precedent set by the Louisiana Purchase is to have the Secretary of State involved with signing the treaty. I wrote my paper and I actually learned a lot on why he bought Louisiana. I already knew that he wanted to get rid of foreign countries and freedom, but I think that deep down Jefferson wanted America to be *the* strongest. Stronger than all the foreign superpowers, especially England. It doesn't say that anywhere but I read that he wanted to be as strong as France, but he didn't want to re-conciliate with Britain. He wanted to separate and be the free country they are meant to be.

In the early 17th century, the presidency of Thomas Jefferson influenced people's views on freedom, resulting in the Louisiana Purchase. Jefferson was interested in buying Louisiana to get rid of foreign superpowers, earn freedom, and have more farmers. Even though there was a

lot of opposition because people thought it was a waste of money and it was unconstitutional, he ended up doing so. The Louisiana Purchase set up a precedent for acquiring land in the future. Jefferson thought that if Spain and England went to war because Spain seized British ships, they would fight over the Mississippi River. Jefferson was scared of the threat that British had on the Mississippi; he didn't want Britain to invade them. So when the chance came to buy Louisiana for only 15 million dollars, he jumped at it. Also, for Jefferson, his vision to become free is to own land. This Louisiana territory would give them enough land for the thousands of generations to come. Many Americans believed in Manifest Destiny, which was a belief that is was their destiny to expand to the Pacific Ocean. Americans believed this because the west held a new life for them, they could start over and be free there.