The Mexican ~ American War

Name_____

Date_____ Period____

To watch the program, go to this site:

https://vimeo.com/64537022

Directions ~ As you watch the program, answer the following questions.

1. According to the United States, what was the border between Texas and Mexico? What did Mexico consider as the border?

2. In his campaign for president, what did James K. Polk promise to do after being elected?

3. What limitations did Mexico have on the eve of the US-Mexican War? (They list several things.)

4. In an attempt to get the northern territories of the Mexican Empire, what did President Polk offer the Mexican government?

5. How did Pres. Polk provoke the Mexican Army?

6. Where does the first battle of the US-Mexican War take place?

7. Who was chosen to lead the Mexican Army? Why was he a surprise choice?

8. When Congress put out a call for volunteers to go and fight in the war, what was the American response?

9. What did Gen. Winfield Scott think of Gen. Zachary Taylor?

10. After the victory at the Battle of Monterrey, what does Gen. Zachary Taylor do? How does Polk react to this?

(continued on the back)

11. What do government officials tell the Mexican citizens living in the southwest territories? What do they tell the Native tribes?

12. Why was January 1847 a rough month for Gen. Zachary Taylor?

13. What happened to many of Taylor's soldiers at the Battle of Buena Vista?

14. As Santa Anna's soldiers were defeating Zachary Taylor's army, what was happening in Mexico City (the capital of Mexico)?

15. Publicly, Gen. Winfield Scott praised Pres. Polk. Privately, what did he think of Polk's war strategy?

16. After seizing control of Vera Cruz, why did many people criticize Gen. Scott? (How did he win? Think casualties.)

17. After a year of fighting, what happened to the popularity of the war in the United States?

18. Upon returning to the United States, Zachary Taylor considers a future doing what?

19. What is Mexico City's current population?

20. Who were the San Patricio (St. Patrick's Brigade)? Why did they fight so vigorously against the Americans?

21. What happened to the men who made up the San Patricio?

22. When did the climactic battle of Chapultepec begin?

23. Who were the final "defenders of the Mexican flag"? How are they remembered today?

24. On the verge of making a deal with Mexican leaders to end the war, Nicholas Trist receives a message from Pres. Polk to do what? What is his response to this message?

25. During the US-Mexican War, the American military experienced one of the highest death rates of any American conflict. How did most American soldiers die during the war?