

# America Grows in the 1800's

Colonists were from England, but lived in America. They started the Revolutionary War against England. They believed they should not have to follow English laws. American colonists won independence in 1781. This was the official start of our country.



Independence means freedom, or not being in someone else's control.

**Fill in the blanks:** America wanted to be \_\_\_\_\_ from Great Britain. They won the war and their \_\_\_\_\_ in 1781.

- a) Independent, independence
- b) independency, independent

George Washington became the first president, because of his position during the war. At this time, the United States was not as big as it is today. It only had land east of the Mississippi River.

**In the 1800's, the United States started to get bigger:**

- In 1803, the U.S bought land from France. This was called the Louisiana Purchase.
- Florida was purchased in 1819 from Spain.
- The Southwest part of the United States was won during the Mexican-American War.
- The U.S. bought Alaska from Russia.
- In 1898, the U.S. won Hawaii from Spain in the Spanish-American War.



**Matching:**

The Louisiana Purchase

Won during the Spanish-American War

All Southwest Land

Was purchased from Russia

Alaska

Bought from France in 1803

Hawaii

Won after the Mexican-American War

1. A synonym for buy is:
  - a. Purchase
  - b. Rent
2. What is the past tense of the word buy?
  - a. Buyed
  - b. Bought
3. In the 1800's, which direction did the United States start expanding?
  - a. West
  - b. North
4. What does the word expand mean?
  - a. To stay the same
  - b. To grow, or become larger

**Finish each of the following sentences:**

1. In the 1800's, the United States \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The United States won \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. The United States bought \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.