**Find the Main Idea**

The Louisiana Purchase

In 1803, President Thomas Jefferson completed a treaty with the French government to purchase a large section

of land in North America. This land is now known as the Louisiana Purchase. The purchase was important to the future of the U.S. It was the ﬁrst major expansion of the U.S. since it had won its independence from Great Britain

20 years earlier. The territory gained in the Louisiana

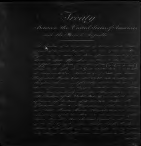
Purchase was the largest in U.S. history, totalling 828,000 squares miles, about

23% of the current U.S. land area. The Louisiana Purchase also secured the U.S.’s right to passage along the Mississippi River

*1903 map of the Louisiana Purchase from the U.S. Department of the Interior*

and allowed access to the important port of New Orleans.

*Treaty transferring the Louisiana Purchase from France to the U.S*



**Find the Main Idea**

Write the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

Write two supporting ideas for the main idea.

1

2

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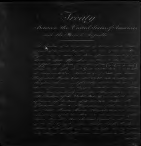
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**Actual wording and supporting ideas will vary. Example of correct answers:**

Write the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

**The Louisiana Purchase was important to the U.S.**

Write two supporting ideas for the main idea.

1 **The Louisiana Purchase was the ﬁrst large land purchase in U.S history.**

2 **The Louisiana Purchase allowed for passage along the Mississippi River.**