Who were the American Indians that lived in the river valley of Texas? Which tribe was the most powerful and why?

Lipan Apache, Comanche, Coahuiltecans

The Lipan Apache and Comanche were the most powerful because of their access to horses. Warriors on horses were much more advanced during raids.

Why did the Spanish choose to establish missions in present-day San Antonio?

The San Antonio River was the largest influence on location for establishment. Because of the need for fresh water for survival, the American Indians and Spanish settlers could not venture too far from the water source. The river was used to irrigate crops and power the grist mill, aid as a source of transportation, and served as a food source (fish).

What were two main purposes of the Spanish missions?

Two main purposes: convert hunter-gatherers to the Catholic faith, establish colonies of Spanish citizens by converting hunter-gatherers to Spanish citizens

In what ways did the mission process succeed?

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What is one way the missions impact the San Antonio community today?

The churches are still active Catholic parishes; there are descendants living in the neighborhoods surrounding the missions; the missions are living history stories about the establishment of San Antonio; they are an economic asset to the community as a National Park site and UNESCO World Heritage Site.