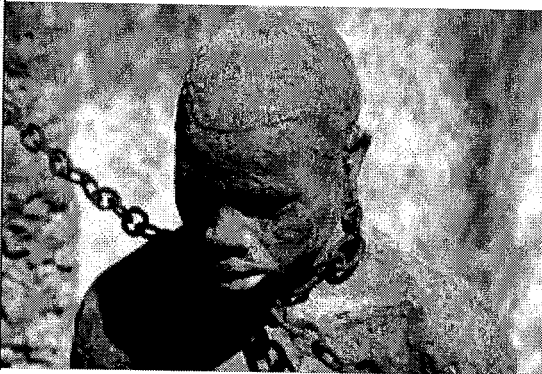
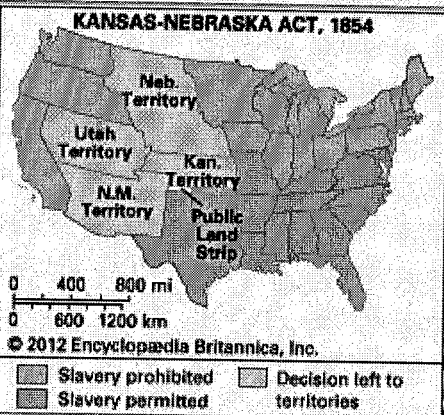
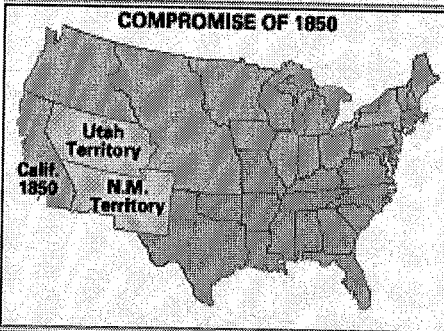


EXPANSION & COMPROMISES



NAME _____

PERIOD _____

Manifest Destiny

US History

Name: _____

“Some Americans headed west for religious reasons. Others were lured by the chance to own their own farms. While most settled east of the Mississippi River, more than 250,000 Americans headed farther west, across the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains to California and the Pacific Northwest.

In 1845 a magazine editor named John Louis O’Sullivan declared that it was the ‘manifest destiny’ of Americans ‘to overspread the continent allotted by Providence...’ Many Americans believed in this concept of Manifest Destiny – the idea that God had given the continent to Americans and wanted them to settle western land.

In 1821, after a bloody struggle, Mexico gained its independence from Spain. The new nation controlled a vast territory, including California, but that territory lay far from the central government in Mexico City. The local California government often relied on foreign settlers because it could not attract enough emigrants from Mexico. In 1839, hoping to attract more settlers, Juan Bautista Alvarado, governor of California, granted 50,000 acres (20,250 ha) in the Sacramento Valley to John Sutter, a German immigrant. There Sutter built a trading post and cattle ranch. Sutter’s Fort – as it was called – was often the first stopping point for Americans reaching California. By 1845 more than 200 Americans had settled in California...

Early travelers feared attacks by Native American warriors, but such encounters were rare. By one estimate 362 emigrants died due to Native American attacks between 1840 and 1860. The same estimate calculates that emigrants killed 426 Native Americans. In fact, Native Americans often gave emigrants gifts of food as well as helpful information about routes, edible plants, and sources of water. They often traded fresh horses for items such as cotton clothing and ammunition.

As the overland traffic increased, Native Americans on the Great Plains became concerned and angry over the threat immigration posed to their way of life. The Sioux, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and other groups relied on the buffalo for food, shelter, clothing, tools, and countless other necessities of everyday life. Now they feared that the increasing flow of American settlers across their hunting grounds would disrupt the age-old wanderings of the buffalo herds.” ~ *The American Vision*

1. Manifest Destiny was used to justify an American desire to

- (1) limit the number of immigrants entering the country
- (2) control the area located east of the Appalachian Mountains
- (3) expand the United States to the Pacific Ocean
- (4) warn European countries against colonizing Latin America

2. The principal goal of the supporters of Manifest Destiny in the 1840s was to

- (1) convince Canada to become part of the United States
- (2) expand United States territory to the Pacific Ocean
- (3) build a canal across Central America
- (4) acquire naval bases in the Caribbean

3. A basic argument offered in support of manifest destiny was that
- (1) American expansion would mean an extension of democracy.
 - (2) Population growth necessitated territorial acquisitions.
 - (3) God favored American expansionism.
 - (4) The United States was meant to occupy the entire North American continent.
 - (5) All of the answers are correct.

4. In the 1840s, the term *Manifest Destiny* was used by many Americans to justify
- (1) the extension of slavery into the territories
 - (2) war with Russia over the Oregon territory
 - (3) the acquisition of colonies in Latin America
 - (4) westward expansion into lands claimed by other nations

5. "[Buffalo hunters] have done more in the last two years, and will do more in the next year, to settle the . . . Indian question than the entire regular army has done in the last thirty years. . . . For the sake of peace let them kill, skin, and sell until the buffalo are destroyed."

~ General Philip Sheridan

What was the result of the process described in this quotation

- (1) Native American Indians were granted farmland under the Homestead Act.
 - (2) The disappearance of their economic base helped drive Native American Indians onto reservations.
 - (3) Many Native American Indians moved to Eastern cities to work in factories.
 - (4) Most Native American Indians migrated to Canada to find new ways to earn a living.
-

The Homestead Act

"The Homestead Act, enacted during the Civil War in 1862, provided that any adult citizen, or intended citizen, who had never borne arms against the U.S. government could claim 160 acres of surveyed government land. Claimants were required to 'improve' the plot by building a dwelling and cultivating the land. After 5 years on the land, the original filer was entitled to the property, free and clear, except for a small registration fee.

The act, however, proved to be no panacea for poverty. Comparatively few laborers and farmers could afford to build a farm or acquire the necessary tools, seed, and livestock. In the end, most of those who purchased land under the act came from areas quite close to their new homesteads (Iowans moved to Nebraska, Minnesotans to South Dakota, and so on)." ~ *Our Documents*

1. The Homestead Act of 1862 helped the development of the West by
- (1) providing free land to settlers
 - (2) granting land for construction of transcontinental railroads
 - (3) allowing slavery to spread to the territories
 - (4) placing Native American Indians on reservations

2. The Homestead Act (1862) attempted to promote development of western lands by
- (1) creating a system of dams for crop irrigation
 - (2) providing free land to settlers
 - (3) removing all restrictions on immigration
 - (4) placing Native American Indians on reservations

The Annexation of Texas, 1845

In the Mexican-American War, Mexico was quickly defeated and forced to give up California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and parts of Colorado and New Mexico. In the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the United States paid the Mexican Government \$15 million for these areas.

The Gadsden Purchase (1853) from Mexico

The United States added southern New Mexico and Arizona.

The Oregon Territory:

In an agreement with Great Britain in 1846, the line dividing Canada and the United States at the 49th parallel was extended westwards to the Pacific. This gave the United States part of the Oregon Territory.

Alaska:

In 1867, the United States purchased Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million. At first Secretary of State William Seward's purchase was met with ridicule. But Alaska proved to be an important acquisition for its natural resources. In 1959, Alaska became the 49th state.

- 1- What was an important outcome of the Mexican-American War?

- 2- What did the United States gain as a result of the Gadsden Purchase?

- 3- How did the United States gain the Oregon Territory?

- 4- How did the United States acquire Alaska?

- 5- What was the Homestead Act?

- 6- What were requirements for claiming land under the Homestead Act?

- 7- Why could many laborers and farmers not benefit from the Homestead Act?

Pacific Railway Act:

"On July 1, 1862 President Abraham Lincoln signed into law the Pacific Railway Act of 1862 which 'hereby created...The Union Pacific Railroad Company...' This act provided Federal support for the building of the first transcontinental railroad across the United States from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean. Federal support came in the form of government issued land grants to railroad companies to help fund the construction.

Congress passed many Railway Acts to help establish the first transcontinental railroad with the first being the Pacific Railway Act of 1862...The Federal Government decided to offer incentives such as land grants and government bonds to 'men of talent, men of character, men who are willing to invest' to help fund this major project. Congress authorized two railroad companies, Union Pacific and Central Pacific, to construct the railway lines. The Union Pacific began at Omaha, Nebraska building west, and the Central Pacific starting at Sacramento, California building east." ~ *Richmond University*

1. In 1862, the Homestead Act and Pacific Railway Act were passed primarily to
(1) achieve Northern victory in the Civil War

(2) develop the Midwest and western parts of the country

(3) improve the lives of freed slaves

(4) expand overseas markets to Asia

2. Both the Homestead Act (1862) and the Pacific Railway Act (1862) were efforts by the federal government to

(1) provide land to minority groups

(2) resolve conflicts with Native American Indians

(3) encourage settlement west of the Mississippi River

(4) support settlement of former plantation lands

3. In the 1840s, President James K. Polk's belief in Manifest Destiny led to

(1) a war with Mexico

(2) an alliance with several South American nations

(3) the establishment of new colonies in the Caribbean

(4) a ban on the activities of northern abolitionists

4. Which title best completes the partial outline below?

I. _____

A. California Gold Rush (1849)

B. Homestead Act (1862)

C. Completion of transcontinental railroad (1869)

(1) Factors Encouraging Westward Settlement

(2) Government-Sponsored Transportation Programs

(3) Recognition of Native American Indian Land Rights

(4) Actions Promoting the Conservation of Natural Resources

5. The foreign policies of President James Polk involving Texas, California, and the Oregon Territory were all efforts to

(1) remain neutral toward western territories

(2) continue traditional American isolationism

(3) weaken the Monroe Doctrine

(4) fulfill the goal of Manifest Destiny

6. The annexation of Texas and the Mexican Cession are best described as efforts by the United States to

(1) remove European threats

(2) limit the spread of slavery

(3) end wars of aggression

(4) fulfill Manifest Destiny

7. In the period from 1860 to 1900, the Federal Government encouraged the settlement of the West by

(1) passing an increased number of liberal immigration laws

(2) selling the most fertile public land to Native American Indians

(3) providing free transportation to settlers moving to the frontier

(4) granting tracts of land to railroad companies to encourage construction

8. In which pair of events did the first event most directly influence the second?

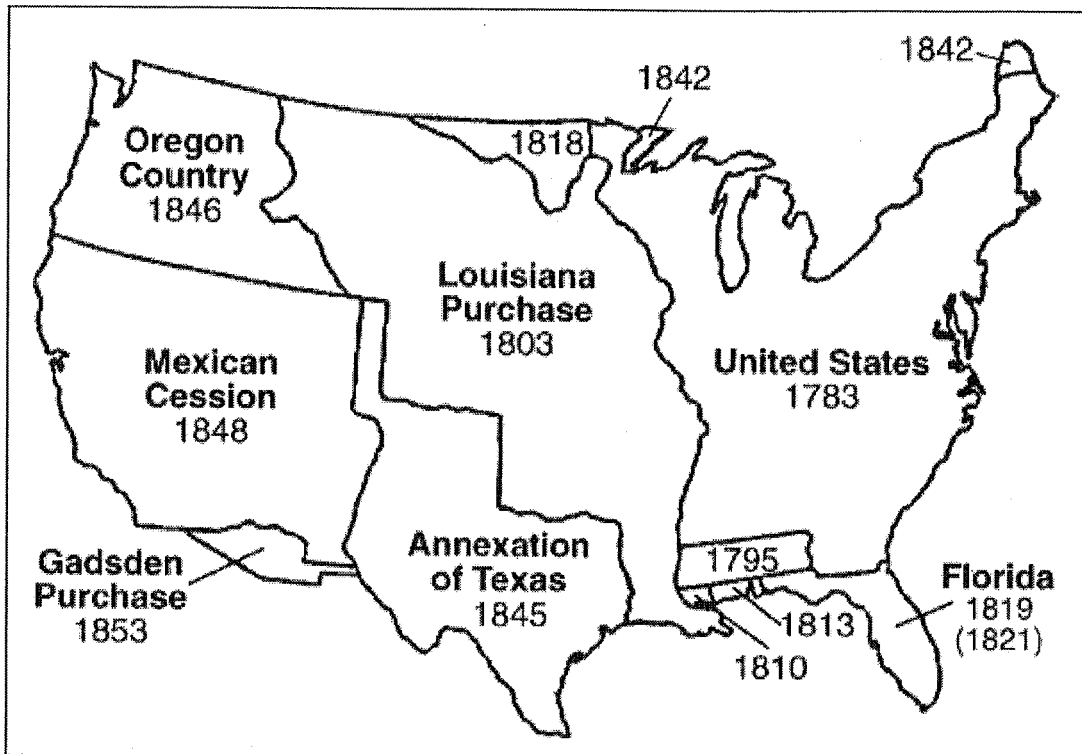
(1) discovery of gold in California → Louisiana Purchase

(2) building of the transcontinental railroad → disappearance of the frontier

(3) settling of the Oregon Territory → passage of the Homestead Act

(4) assimilation of Native American Indians into American society → passage of the Dawes Act

Territorial Growth of the United States (1783–1853)



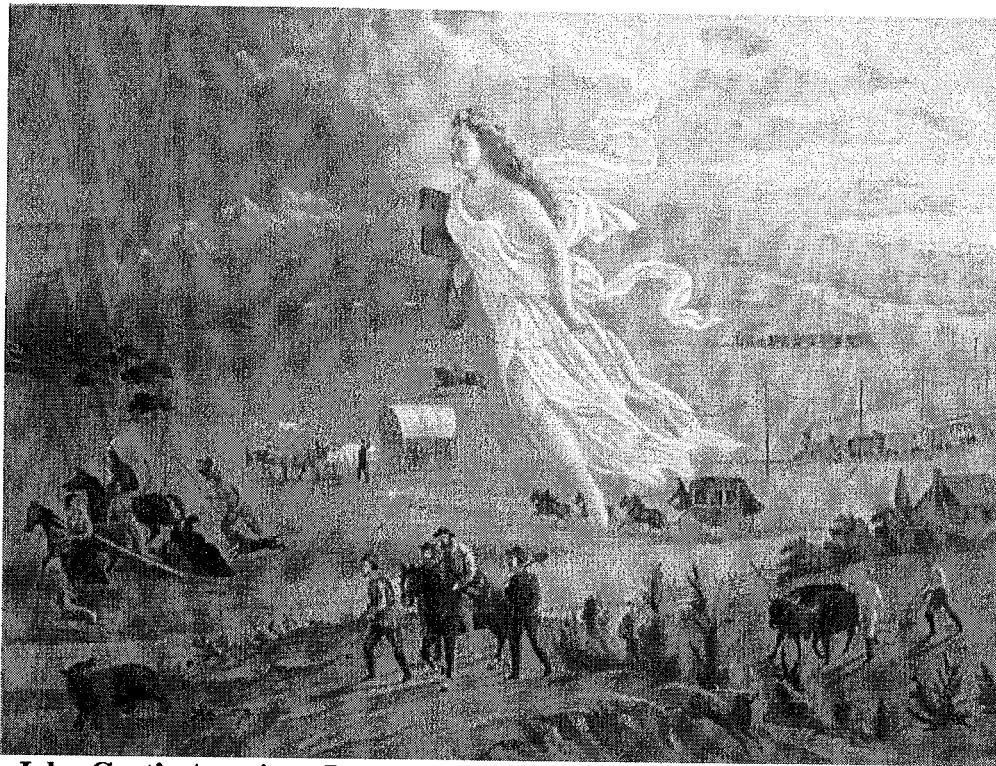
Source: *Historical Maps On File*, Revised Edition, Facts On File, Inc., 2003 (adapted)

Based on the map, state *two* methods used by the United States government to acquire new territory.

... Instead of this, however, we have been exerting [putting forth] our best efforts to propitiate [gain] her [Mexico's] good will. Upon the pretext that Texas, a nation as independent as herself, thought proper to unite its destinies with our own, she has affected to believe that we have severed [removed] her rightful territory, and in official proclamations and manifestoes has repeatedly threatened to make war upon us for the purpose of reconquering Texas. In the meantime we have tried every effort at reconciliation [restoring harmony]. The cup of forbearance [tolerance] had been exhausted even before the recent information from the frontier of the Del Norte [Mexican-American border]. But now, after reiterated [repeated] menaces, Mexico has passed the boundary of the United States, has invaded our territory and shed American blood upon the American soil. She has proclaimed that hostilities have commenced [begun], and that the two nations are now at war. ...

— President James K. Polk, Message to Congress, May 11, 1846

Based on this passage, state *one* reason President Polk asked Congress to declare war on Mexico.



John Gast's *American Progress* (1872)

“This engraving, which illustrates the strong appeal of Manifest Destiny, portrays settlers moving west under the protection of a heavenly angel who guides them as they make their way. Notice that the angel’s presence sheds light to guide the pioneers and that the Indians and buffalo retreat before her.” ~ Ethel Wood

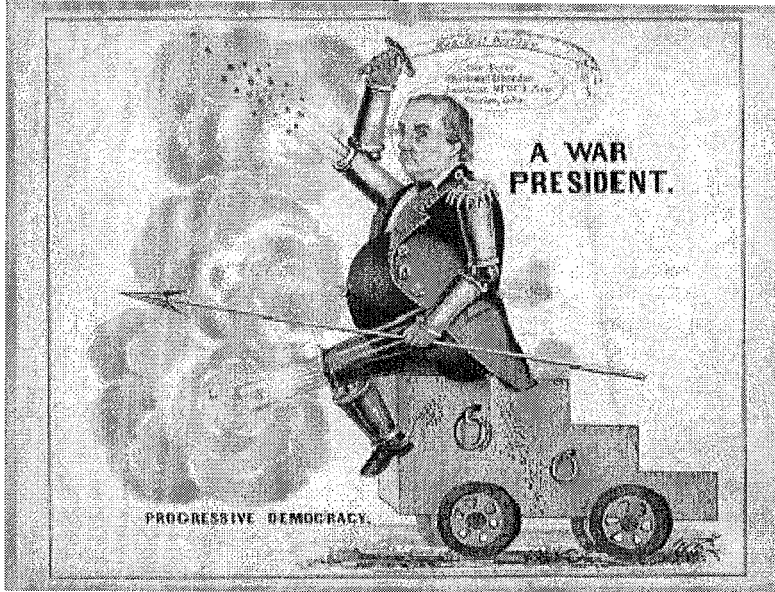
Complete the Manifest Destiny map below using the following Word Bank:

Oregon Territory (1846); Texas Annexation (1845); Gadsden Purchase (1853); Mexican Cession (1848); Louisiana Purchase (1803); Florida Treaty (1819); Original Thirteen Colonies; Red River Basin; Treaty of Paris (1783)

EXPANSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: 1607-1853

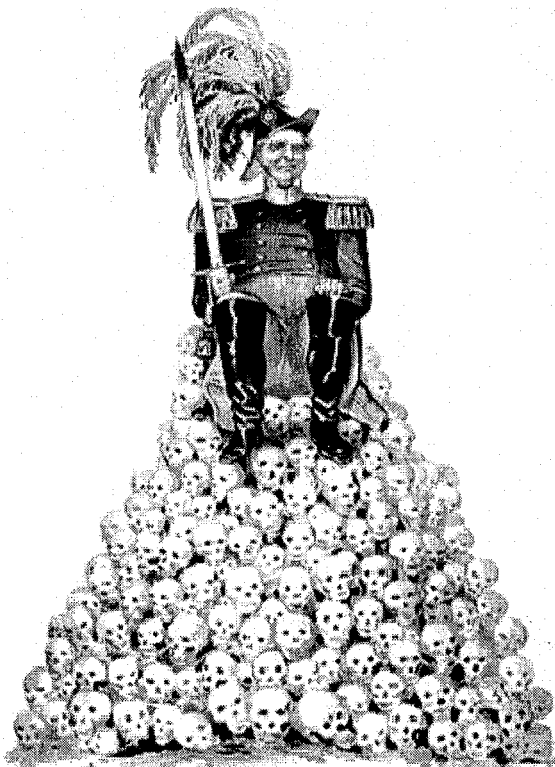


Analyze the following images:



A political cartoon of Polk shows him as a President hell-bent on War. In this cartoon Polk is not perceived as a bad President because it says “Progressive Democracy”.

A- Why might some Americans perceive Polk’s war policy as good for the nation?



AN AVAILABLE CANDIDATE.
THE ONE QUALIFICATION FOR A WHIG PRESIDENT.

“An Available Candidate: The One Qualification for a Whig President” – an editorial cartoon about the 1848 U.S. presidential election, showing a military man representing either Zachary Taylor or Winfield Scott, both of whom were generals in the United States Army during the Mexican–American War, atop a pile of skulls.

The Whig Party only operated for about 20 years, but during their brief existence, they could boast a number of political luminaries such as Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and Abraham Lincoln, and would see three of their members become President of the United States (not including Lincoln, who was elected as a Republican).

B- Explain the meaning of the political cartoon.

1. In the 1840s, President James K. Polk's belief in Manifest Destiny led to
 - (1) a war with Mexico
 - (2) an alliance with several South American nations
 - (3) the establishment of new colonies in the Caribbean
 - (4) a ban on the activities of northern abolitionists
2. The principal goal of the supporters of Manifest Destiny in the 1840s was to
 - (1) convince Canada to become part of the United States
 - (2) expand United States territory to the Pacific Ocean
 - (3) build a canal across Central America
 - (4) acquire naval bases in the Caribbean
3. The slogan "Fifty-four forty or fight!," the annexation of Texas, and the Mexican War all relate to the
 - (1) theory of nullification
 - (2) practice of secession
 - (3) belief in Manifest Destiny
 - (4) idea of due process
4. The Homestead Act of 1862 helped the development of the West by
 - (1) providing free land to settlers
 - (2) granting land for construction of transcontinental railroads
 - (3) allowing slavery to spread to the territories
 - (4) placing Native American Indians on reservations

5. In the mid-1800s, the growth of the populations of California and the western territories was mainly a result of the
 - (1) discovery of gold and silver
 - (2) opening of the Panama Canal
 - (3) migration of freedmen after the Civil War
 - (4) secession of the Southern states
6. During the 1840s, abolitionists opposed annexation of new western territory because they
 - (1) feared the admission of new slave states
 - (2) wanted to limit the power of the national government
 - (3) were concerned with the legal rights of Native American Indians
 - (4) supported an isolationist foreign policy
7. In an effort to resolve conflicts with the frontier settlers in the 1870s, the federal government forced Native American Indians to
 - (1) move west of the Mississippi River
 - (2) live on reservations with definite boundaries
 - (3) relocate to urban industrial centers
 - (4) help build the transcontinental railroad
8. Which title best completes the partial outline below?
 - I. _____
 - A. California Gold Rush (1849)
 - B. Homestead Act (1862)
 - C. Completion of transcontinental railroad (1869)
 - (1) Factors Encouraging Westward Settlement
 - (2) Government-Sponsored Transportation
 - (3) Recognition of Native American Indian Land Rights
 - (4) Actions Promoting the Conservation of Natural Resources

Texas and War with Mexico

US History Name: _____

"In July 1821, Stephen F. Austin set off from Louisiana for the Texas territory in the northeastern corner of Mexico. The Spanish government had promised to give his father, Moses, a huge tract of Texas land if the elder Austin settled 300 American families there. Moses died before he could fulfill his end of the deal. On his deathbed, he asked Stephen to take his place in Texas. When Austin settled in Texas, it was not a wild and empty land. Long a part of Spain's Mexican colony, the area was under Mexican control after the country achieved independence from Spain in 1821. The Spanish-speaking inhabitants of the area, called *Tejanos*, had established settlements in the southern portion of the region but few *Tejanos* lived north of these settlements. That area was the territory of the Apache, Comanche, and other Native American groups.

Unable to persuade its own citizens to move closer to the Native American groups, Mexico decided to continue Spanish policy and invite Americans and other foreigners to settle there. Between 1823 and 1825 Mexico passed three colonization laws, which offered cheap land to nearly anyone willing to come. The last law granted new immigrants a 10-year exemption from paying taxes but required that they become Mexican citizens, live under Mexican law, and convert to Roman Catholicism. But for various reasons, few settlers did. The Spanish Catholic Church was alien to the traditions of most American settlers, and only a few bothered to learn Spanish.

In 1830 Mexico closed its borders to further immigration by Americans and banned the import of enslaved labor as well. Mexico also placed taxes on goods imported from foreign countries, hoping to discourage trade with the United States. These new laws infuriated the settlers. Without immigration their settlements could not grow. The import tax meant higher prices for goods they were accustomed to purchasing from the United States. Perhaps worst of all, the Mexican government was telling them what they could and could not do. They saw no reason to follow the orders of a government they hardly considered their own. Over time, war was declared and Texas gained its independence. In September 1836 the newly independent republic called its citizens to the polls. They elected Sam Houston as their first president and voted in favor of annexation, or becoming part of the United States. President Andrew Jackson did not want to increase North-South tensions or risk a costly war with Mexico, which continued to claim ownership of Texas. Jackson made no move toward annexation, though on his last day in office he did sign a resolution officially recognizing Texas as an independent nation." ~ *The American Vision*

1. During its years as a Mexican province, Texas

- (1) Became a haven for runaway slaves.
- (2) Received offers of financial aid from Britain for abolishing slavery.
- (3) Expanded trade with Mexico along the Santa Fe Trail.
- (4) Attracted American settlers with inexpensive land grants.

2. By 1830, American settlers in Texas had displeased Mexican authorities by

- (1) Evading import duties on goods from the United States.
- (2) Refusing to emancipate their slaves.
- (3) Insisting on local self-government.
- (4) Failing to convert to Catholicism.
- (5) All of the answers are correct.

Timeline: Mexican-American War

1845

- U.S. President John Tyler wished to annex Texas but the Senate rejected an annexation treaty due to Northern anti-slavery forces who feared Texas would become a slave holding state.
- March 1: United States Congress voted to annex the Republic of Texas.
- March 4: Expansionist James K. Polk became president of the United States. One of the goals of his administration was to acquire California and New Mexico from Mexico. The main interest was San Francisco Bay as an access point for trade with Asia. Polk claimed the Rio Grande as the boundary between the U.S. and Mexico.
- December 29: Texas became the 28th state of the United States. Mexico broke diplomatic relations with the United States.

1846

- Mexico did not accept the border at the Rio Grande River.
- March 8: American General Taylor was authorized to move south into disputed territory.
- March 28: American General Taylor reached the Rio Grande. The Mexican commander in Matamoros considered this an invasion of Mexican territory but was not authorized to attack.
- By April, fighting erupted. American Congress declares war.
- America reached compromise with Britain over Pacific Northwest with the Canadian-U.S. border set at the 49th parallel.
- July 4: American settlers in California declared independence from Mexico and established the "Bear Flag" Republic.
- July 7: Mexican Congress declared war on the U.S.

1848

- January 24: Gold discovered at Sutter's Mill in California [Gold Rush]
- February 2: Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo signed. America gained California, Nevada Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. Mexico lost 55% of its prewar territory. America paid \$15 million in compensation. Mexicans living in lands ceded (about 80,000) were to be treated as U.S. citizens.
- July 31 Last of American troops departed Mexico.

1. Which title best completes the partial outline below?

I. _____

- A. California Gold Rush (1849)
- B. Homestead Act (1862)
- C. Completion of transcontinental railroad (1869)

- (1) Factors Encouraging Westward Settlement
- (2) Government-Sponsored Transportation Programs
- (3) Recognition of Native American Indian Land Rights
- (4) Actions Promoting the Conservation of Natural Resources

2. In the 1840s, President James K. Polk's belief in Manifest Destiny led to

- (1) a war with Mexico
- (2) an alliance with several South American nations
- (3) the establishment of new colonies in the Caribbean
- (4) a ban on the activities of northern abolitionists

3. Both the Homestead Act (1862) and the Pacific Railway Act (1862) were efforts by the federal government to

- (1) provide land to minority groups
- (2) resolve conflicts with Native American Indians
- (3) encourage settlement west of the Mississippi River
- (4) support settlement of former plantation lands

4. Which action is most closely associated with the term *Manifest Destiny*?

- (1) declaring independence from Great Britain
- (2) deciding to end the War of 1812
- (3) acquiring territory from Mexico in 1848
- (4) annexing Hawaii and the Philippines

5. In 1862, the Homestead Act and Pacific Railway Act were passed primarily to

- (1) achieve Northern victory in the Civil War
- (2) develop the Midwest and western parts of the country
- (3) improve the lives of freed slaves
- (4) expand overseas markets to Asia and Europe

6. Manifest Destiny was used to justify an American desire to

- (1) limit the number of immigrants entering the country
- (2) control the area located east of the Appalachian Mountains
- (3) expand the United States to the Pacific Ocean
- (4) warn European countries against colonizing Latin America

7. The Homestead Act, the mass killing of buffalo, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad are most closely associated with the

- (1) rise of organized labor
- (2) building of the Erie Canal
- (3) northern migration of African Americans
- (4) decline of the Plains Indians

8. The principal goal of the supporters of Manifest Destiny in the 1840s was to

- (1) convince Canada to become part of the United States
- (2) expand United States territory to the Pacific Ocean
- (3) build a canal across Central America
- (4) acquire naval bases in the Caribbean

9. In the 1840s, the term *Manifest Destiny* was used by many Americans to justify

- (1) the extension of slavery into the territories**
- (2) war with Russia over the Oregon territory**
- (3) the acquisition of colonies in Latin America**
- (4) westward expansion into lands claimed by other nations**

10. The foreign policies of President James Polk involving Texas, California, and the Oregon Territory were all efforts to

- (1) remain neutral toward western territories**
- (2) continue traditional American isolationism**
- (3) weaken the Monroe Doctrine**
- (4) fulfill the goal of Manifest Destiny**

11. The slogan "Fifty-four forty or fight!," the annexation of Texas, and the Mexican War all relate to the

- (1) theory of nullification**
- (2) practice of secession**
- (3) belief in Manifest Destiny**
- (4) idea of due process**

12. The Homestead Act (1862) attempted to promote development of western lands by

- (1) creating a system of dams for crop irrigation**
- (2) providing free land to settlers**
- (3) removing all restrictions on immigration**
- (4) placing Native American Indians on reservations**

13. The annexation of Texas and the Mexican Cession are best described as efforts by the United States to

- (1) remove European threats**
- (2) limit the spread of slavery**
- (3) end wars of aggression**
- (4) fulfill Manifest Destiny**

14. The term *Manifest Destiny* was first used to support

- (1) independence from Great Britain**
- (2) westward expansion to the Pacific Ocean**
- (3) efforts to stop secession of Southern states**
- (4) laws restricting labor union activity**

15. Which region of the United States was most directly affected by the passage of the Homestead Act?

- (1) Atlantic Coast**
- (2) Rocky Mountains**
- (3) Appalachian Mountains**
- (4) Great Plains**

16. In the mid-1800s, the growth of the populations of California and the western territories was mainly a result of the

- (1) discovery of gold and silver**
- (2) opening of the Panama Canal**
- (3) migration of freedmen after the Civil War**
- (4) secession of the Southern states**

17. The Homestead Act of 1862 helped the development of the West by

- (1) providing free land to settlers**
- (2) granting land for construction of transcontinental railroads**
- (3) allowing slavery to spread to the territories**
- (4) placing Native American Indians on reservations**

18. During the first half of the 19th century, territorial expansion led to

- (1) Increased tensions over slavery**
- (2) Improved relations with bordering nations**
- (3) Fewer conflicts with Native American Indians**
- (4) Decreased domestic demand for manufactured goods**

Abolitionist Review

US History

Name: _____

"Over the centuries, the Northern and Southern sections of the United States had developed into two very different cultural and economic regions. The distinction between North and South had its roots in the early 17th century, when British colonists began settling Virginia in the South and Massachusetts in the North. Along with differences in geography and climate, the two regions were noticeably dissimilar in their religious and cultural traditions. However, it was the Southern dependence on the 'peculiar institution' of slavery that increased tensions between the regions and brought them into conflict.

The South, with its plantation economy, had come to rely on an enslaved labor force. The North, with its diversified industries, was less dependent on slavery. As the North industrialized, Northern opposition to slavery grew more intense. The controversy over slavery only worsened as new territories and states were admitted to the union. Supporters of slavery saw an opportunity to create more slave states, while opponents remained equally determined that slavery should not spread.

As the issue of slavery divided North and South, sometimes violence erupted as in the new territory of Kansas where pro-slavery and anti-slavery fought. Of course, violence was not restricted to Kansas. In May, Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts delivered an impassioned speech in the Senate, entitled 'The Crime Against Kansas.' For two days he verbally attacked the South and slavery, singling out Senator Andrew P. Butler of South Carolina for his proslavery beliefs.

Soon after, Butler's nephew, Congressman Preston S. Brooks, walked into the Senate chamber and struck Sumner on the head repeatedly with a cane until the cane broke. Sumner suffered brain damage and did not return to his Senate seat for more than three years.

The widening gulf between the North and the South had far-reaching implications for party politics as well. As the two regions grew further apart, the old national parties ruptured, and new political parties emerged, including a party for antislavery Northerners.

By the end of 1856, the nation's political landscape had a very different appearance than it had exhibited in 1848. The Whig Party had split over the issue of slavery and had lost support in both the North and the South. The Democratic Party, which had survived numerous crises in its history, was still alive, though scarred. A new Republican Party had formed and was moving within striking distance of the presidency." ~ *Americans*

1. In response to an attack on slavery from the floor of the Senate, South Carolinian Preston Brooks caned Senator _____.

- (1) Thaddeus Stevens
- (2) Charles Sumner
- (3) Stephen Douglas
- (4) Roger B. Taney

2. What contributed to the rise of sectionalism in American history?

- (1) Religious differences.
- (2) Geographic and economic conditions.
- (3) Gender and demographic factors.
- (4) Political parties that proposed radically different tax policies.

Activity 5: Reading

Excerpt from *Slavery in Massachusetts* by Henry David Thoreau

Delivered at an Anti-Slavery Celebration, at Framingham, Massachusetts, on July 4, 1854, after the conviction in Boston of fugitive slave Anthony Burns

“Three years ago, also, just a week after the authorities of Boston assembled to carry back a perfectly innocent man, and one whom they knew to be innocent, into slavery, the inhabitants of Concord caused the bells to be rung and the cannons to be fired, to celebrate their liberty – and the courage and love of liberty of their ancestors who fought at the bridge. As if those three millions had fought for the right to be free themselves, but to hold in slavery three million others. Nowadays, men wear a fool’s-cap, and call it a liberty-cap. I do not know but there are some who, if they were tied to a whipping-post, and could but get one hand free, would use it to ring the bells and fire the cannons to celebrate their liberty. So some of my townsmen took the liberty to ring and fire. That was the extent of their freedom; and when the sound of the bells died away, their liberty died away also; when the powder was all expended, their liberty went off with the smoke.

The joke could be no broader if the inmates of the prisons were to subscribe for all the powder to be used in such salutes, and hire the jailers to do the firing and ringing for them, while they enjoyed it through the grating.

This is what I thought about my neighbors.

Every humane and intelligent inhabitant of Concord, when he or she heard those bells and those cannons, thought not with pride of the events of the 19th of April, 1775, but with shame of the events of the 12th of April, 1851. But now we have half buried that old shame under a new one.

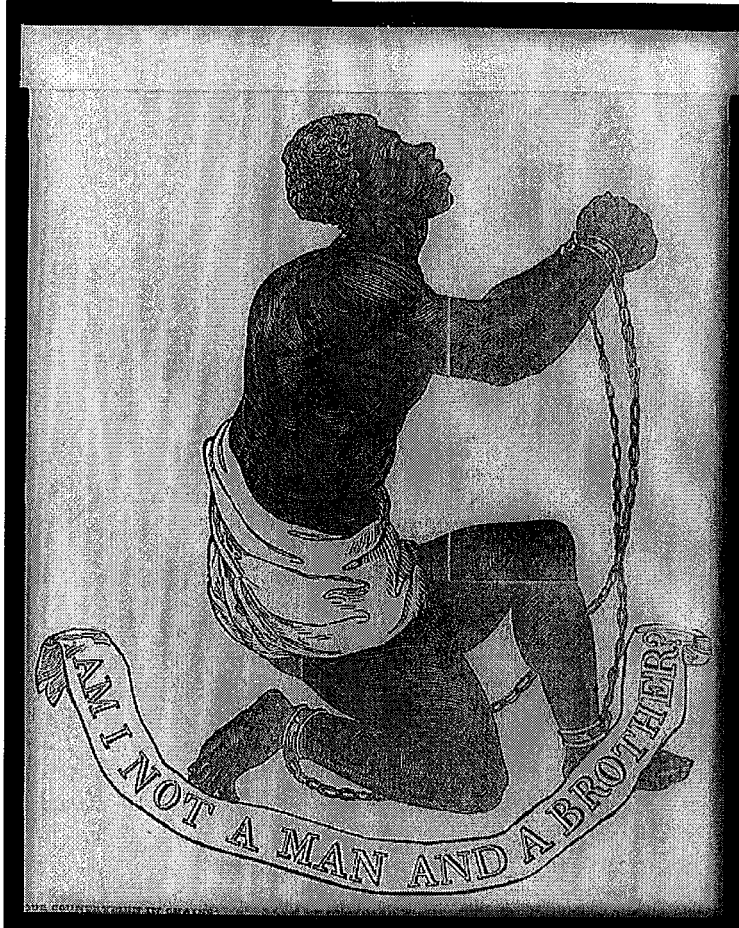
...I wish my countrymen to consider, that whatever the human law may be, neither an individual nor a nation can ever commit the least act of injustice against the obscurest individual without having to pay the penalty for it. A government which deliberately enacts injustice, and persists in it, will at length even become the laughing-stock of the world.

Much has been said about American slavery, but I think that we do not even yet realize what slavery is. If I were seriously to propose to Congress to make mankind into sausages, I have no doubt that most of the members would smile at my proposition, and if any believed me to be in earnest, they would think that I proposed something much worse than Congress had ever done. But if any of them will tell me that to make a man into a sausage would be much worse – would be any worse – than to make him into a slave – than it was to enact the Fugitive Slave Law, I will accuse him of foolishness, of intellectual incapacity, of making a distinction without a difference. The one is just as sensible a proposition as the other.

Questions:

- 1- What is the hypocrisy that Thoreau writes of?
- 2- What does Thoreau hope to demonstrate in his speech?

Activity 6: Image Analysis



Questions:

- 1- What is the meaning of this image?

- 2- Why would abolitionists use this image?

- 3- What was the desired effect of this image?

- 4- Do you believe that this image was effective?

- 5- Why do you believe that this image was effective?

"In thinking of America, I sometimes find myself admiring her bright blue sky – her grand old woods – her fertile fields – her beautiful rivers – her mighty lakes, and star-crowned mountains. But my rapture is soon checked, my joy is soon turned to mourning. When I remember that all is cursed with the infernal spirit of slaveholding, robbery and wrong, – when I remember that with the waters of her noblest rivers, the tears of my brethren are borne to the ocean, disregarded and forgotten, and that her most fertile fields drink daily of the warm blood of my outraged sisters, I am filled with unutterable loathing."

~ Frederick Douglass

Explain the meaning of Mr. Douglass' quote.

Multiple-Choice Review Questions:

1. In the period between 1820 and 1860, Southerners wanted slavery extended to the Western territories so that the South could

- (1) Continue to elect Southern Presidents.
- (2) Continue to dominate the Supreme Court.
- (3) Keep enough strength in the Senate to protect Southern interests.
- (4) Use slave labor to expand Southern industries.

2. During the period 1820–1860, the major concerns in the United States dealt with issues related to

- (1) Determining the future of slavery.
- (2) Increasing public funding of political campaigns.
- (3) Decreasing the number of elective offices.
- (4) Decreasing voter registration drives.

3. In the United States, the widespread disregard of the fugitive slave laws most clearly indicated that

- (1) Strongly held values are difficult to regulate.
- (2) The federal government is generally unable to enforce its own laws.
- (3) Little respect is given to the legal system.
- (4) The judicial system is too lenient in its treatment of offenders.

4. In the early 1850s, enforcement of the _____ gave many northerners an eyewitness view of the heartlessness of slavery.

- (1) Kansas-Nebraska Act
- (2) Fugitive Slave Act
- (3) Freeport Doctrine
- (4) Dred Scott decision
- (5) Compromise of 1850

5. Who published the anti-slavery newspaper, *The Liberator*?

- A. William Lloyd Garrison C. Nat Turner
B. Harriet Beecher Stowe D. John Brown

6. Who was the most famous Underground Railroad conductor?

- (1) Angelina Grimke
- (2) Sarah Grimke
- (3) Isabel Sojourner Truth
- (4) Harriet Tubman

7. Abolitionists in the pre–Civil War period were most likely to support the

- (1) removal of the Cherokee Indians from Georgia
- (2) passage of the Fugitive Slave Act
- (3) activities of the Underground Railroad
- (4) use of popular sovereignty in the territories

8. The Supreme Court decision in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857) was significant because it

- (1) allowed slavery in California
- (2) outlawed slavery in the Southern States
- (3) upheld the actions of the Underground Railroad
- (4) ruled that Congress could not ban slavery in the territories

9. One way that “Bleeding Kansas,” the *Dred Scott* decision, and John Brown’s raid on Harper’s Ferry had a similar effect on the United States was that these events

- (1) ended conflict over slavery in the territories
- (2) eased tensions between the North and the South
- (3) contributed to the formation of the Whig Party
- (4) made sectional compromise more difficult

10. Who purchased his freedom from his slaveholder and later started an abolitionist newspaper called *The North Star*?

- (1) Charles T. Weber
- (3) Frederick Douglass
- (2) Horace Mann
- (4) Sojourner Truth

Dred Scott v. Sanford (1857)

The antislavery writings and speeches of the abolitionists increased sectional tensions as did the Supreme Court's decision in the Dred Scott case of 1857.

Facts of the Case:

Dred Scott had lived in Missouri as a slave before being taken by his owner to Illinois, a free state. Returning to the slave state of Missouri, Scott went to court to sue for his freedom. He argued that he had lived in free territory and therefore should be declared a free citizen. His case eventually was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Supreme Court Decision:

In 1857 the Supreme Court ruled that Scott's petition was not valid. The reason the Court gave was extremely controversial. Chief Justice Roger Taney, a southerner, argued as follows:

- Even free African Americans could not sue in a federal court, since they were not citizens of the United States.
- Slaves brought into free territory remained slaves because they were a form of property. Owners would not be denied their property rights without due process of law.
- The Missouri Compromise, which had excluded slavery from free territory, was unconstitutional because it denied slave owners their property rights.

~ U.S. History and Government

Questions:

1- Who was Dred Scott?

2- Where had Dred Scott's owner taken him?

3- What did Dred Scott do when he returned to Missouri?

4- What did Dred Scott argue?

5- What did the Supreme Court rule about Scott's petition?

6- According to Chief Justice Taney, what could African Americans not do?

7- According to Chief Justice Taney, what were slaves in free territory a form of?

8- According to Chief Justice Taney, what was the Missouri Compromise?

9- Who liked the Dred Scott ruling? Why?

10- Who disliked the Dred Scott ruling? Why?

1. Most Southern political leaders praised the Supreme Court decision in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857) because it

- (1) granted citizenship to all enslaved persons**
- (2) upheld the principle of popular sovereignty**
- (3) supported the right of a state to secede from the Union**
- (4) protected the property rights of slave owners in the territories**

2. Which group benefited most directly from the Supreme Court decision in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857)?

- (1) abolitionists (3) slave owners**
- (2) immigrants (4) enslaved persons**

3. The Supreme Court ruling in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857) helped to increase sectional conflict because the decision

- (1) denied Congress the power to regulate slavery in the territories**
- (2) allowed for the importation of enslaved persons for ten years**
- (3) prohibited slavery in lands west of the Mississippi River**
- (4) gave full citizenship to all enslaved persons**

4. The *Dred Scott* decision on the issue of slavery upheld the Southern viewpoint that

- (1) the power of the Supreme Court does not extend to cases of race**
- (2) Congress could not pass a law depriving territorial residents of their property**
- (3) a national vote should be held to decide the legality of slavery**
- (4) the economic well-being of the western states depended on slave labor**

5. The *Dred Scott* decision

- (1) Affirmed Missouri law.**
- (2) Was a victory for the antislavery movement.**
- (3) Declared Scott a free man.**
- (4) Outlawed the interstate slave trade.**
- (5) Affirmed the South's argument that the Constitution guaranteed the existence of slavery.**

6. The Supreme Court's *Dred Scott* decision mandated congressional control of slavery in the territories.

- (1) Declared the Missouri Compromise unconstitutional.**
- (2) Granted citizenship to African Americans.**
- (3) Won widespread approval in the North.**
- (4) Was later overturned on appeal.**

7. In the *Dred Scott* case, the Supreme Court ruled that?

- (1) *Dred Scott* was not a citizen of the United States.**
- (2) *Dred Scott* could not legally sue in a federal court.**
- (3) The Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional.**
- (4) Congress had no power to ban slavery from a territory.**
- (5) All of these choices are correct.**

8. When the Supreme Court ruled in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857) that the Missouri Compromise (1820) was an unconstitutional infringement on property rights, the Supreme Court was exercising?

- (1) Judicial review.**
- (2) Impeachment procedures.**
- (3) Original jurisdiction.**
- (4) A check on the executive branch of government.**

Abolitionist Movement, Dred Scott, and the Rise of the Republican Party Review
US History Name: _____

Activity 1: Reading – Overview

“White and free blacks made up the minority of Northerners dedicated to ending slavery. Among the best known of these abolitionists were:

Harriet Beecher Stowe:

In 1852, Stowe, a white woman from Connecticut, wrote *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. It is the story of a kind, elderly slave, Uncle Tom, who is beaten and killed by a vicious overseer, Simon Legree. Stowe’s depiction of the evils of slavery outraged Northerners.

Harriet Tubman:

Tubman escaped slavery as a young woman and spent a lifetime leading others to freedom. She was a principal organizer of the *Underground Railroad*, a secret network of routes and stopovers for escaping slaves.

Frederick Douglass:

An escaped slave, Douglass dedicated himself to African-American freedom and equal rights. Famed as an orator, he spoke widely about the injustice of slavery and argued for its abolition.

William Lloyd Garrison:

A white reformer, Garrison began publishing the antislavery newspaper *The Liberator* in 1831. He demanded an immediate end to slavery without compensation to owners.

John Brown:

In the “Bleeding Kansas” of 1856, Brown, a white abolitionist, and his sons murdered five supporters of slavery in retaliation for the deaths of antislavery settlers. At Harpers Ferry, Virginia, in 1859, he led an attack on a federal arsenal, probably hoping to arm slaves for a revolt. Captured and hanged, Brown was hailed as a martyr by many antislavery Northerners but viewed as a crazed fanatic by Southerners.”

~ Reviewing U.S. History and Government

Questions:

- 1- What was the primary goal of the abolitionist movement?

- 2- How did Harriet Beecher Stowe’s novel, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, change Northern perceptions of slavery?

- 3- Why did Harriet Beecher Stowe’s novel change Northern perceptions of slavery?

- 4- What was the *Underground Railroad*?

- 5- Who is associated with the *Underground Railroad*? Why is this individual associated with the *Underground Railroad*?

- 6- What was remarkable about (worthy of notice or likely to be noticed as extraordinary) Frederick Douglass?

- 7- What contributions did Frederick Douglass make to the abolitionist movement?

- 8- What antislavery newspaper did William Lloyd Garrison publish?

- 9- What did William Lloyd Garrison demand?

- 10- What was "Bleeding Kansas" [Previous Knowledge]?

- 11- Describe John Brown's involvement in "Bleeding Kansas."

- 12- What happened at Harpers Ferry, Virginia in 1859?

- 13- What happened to John Brown?

- 14- Compare Northern and Southern views of John Brown.

Activity 2: Reading – Overview

"The Supreme Court's decision in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* increased sectional tensions more than ever.

Dred Scott was a slave from Missouri before his owner took him to Illinois, a free state. Scott returned to a Missouri court and sued for his freedom, arguing that he had lived in free territory and should be declared a free citizen. His case was ultimately appealed to the Supreme Court.

In 1857, the Supreme Court ruled against Scott, as follows:

- Free African Americans were not U.S. citizens and could not sue in a federal court.
- Slaves brought into free territory remained slaves because they were property, and owners could not be denied their property without due process of law.
- The Missouri Compromise's ban on slavery in free territory was unconstitutional because it denied slave owners their property rights."

~ Reviewing U.S. History and Government

Multiple-Choice Questions for Reading:

1. Which group benefited most directly from the Supreme Court decision in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857)?

- (1) abolitionists (3) slave owners
(2) immigrants (4) enslaved persons

2. Which Supreme Court decision created the need for a constitutional amendment that would grant citizenship to formerly enslaved persons?

- (1) *Marbury v. Madison*
(2) *McCulloch v. Maryland*
(3) *Worcester v. Georgia*
(4) *Dred Scott v. Sanford*

3. Most Southern political leaders praised the Supreme Court decision in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857) because it

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- (3) supported the right of a state to secede from the Union**
- (4) protected the property rights of slave owners in the territories**

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- (2) eased tensions between the North and the South**
- (3) contributed to the formation of the Whig Party**
- (4) made sectional compromise more difficult**

8. • Publication of *The Liberator*

- Kansas-Nebraska Act**
- *Dred Scott* decision**

The events listed above all contributed to the

- (1) outbreak of the Civil War**
- (2) formation of the policy of Manifest Destiny**
- (3) passage of the Missouri Compromise**
- (4) annexation of Texas**

9. Before the Civil War, slavery expanded in the South rather than in the North because

- (1) the Constitution contained a clause that outlawed the importation of slaves into the Northern states**
- (2) Congress passed a law forbidding slavery in the North**
- (3) Northern states passed affirmative action legislation**
- (4) geographic conditions in the South encouraged the development of large plantations**

10. In the 1850s, why did many runaway slaves go to Canada?

- (1) They feared being drafted into the Northern army.**
- (2) The Fugitive Slave Act kept them at risk in the United States.**
- (3) There were factory jobs.**
- (4) Northern abolitionists refused to help fugitive slaves.**

Compromises US History

"In 1819 the Union consisted of 11 free and 11 slave states. While the House of Representatives already had a majority of Northerners, admitting any new state, either slave or free, would upset the balance in the Senate and touch off a bitter struggle over political power.

Missouri's territorial government requested admission into the Union as a slave state in 1819. Acting for slavery's opponents, Congressman James Tallmadge, Jr., of New York proposed a resolution that prohibited slaveholders from bringing new slaves into Missouri. The resolution also called for all enslaved children currently living in Missouri to be freed at age 25. The House accepted the proposal, but the Senate rejected it. Most Senators and members of the House of Representatives from the South voted against the ban, while most from the North voted in favor of it.

Finally, a solution emerged when Maine, which for decades had been part of Massachusetts, requested admission to the Union as a separate state. The Senate decided to combine Maine's request with Missouri's, and it voted to admit Maine as a free state and Missouri as a slave state. This solution preserved the balance in the Senate. Senator Jesse Thomas of Illinois then proposed an amendment that would prohibit slavery in the Louisiana Purchase territory north of Missouri's southern border. This would allow slavery to expand into Arkansas territory south of Missouri, but it would keep it out of the rest of the Louisiana Purchase.

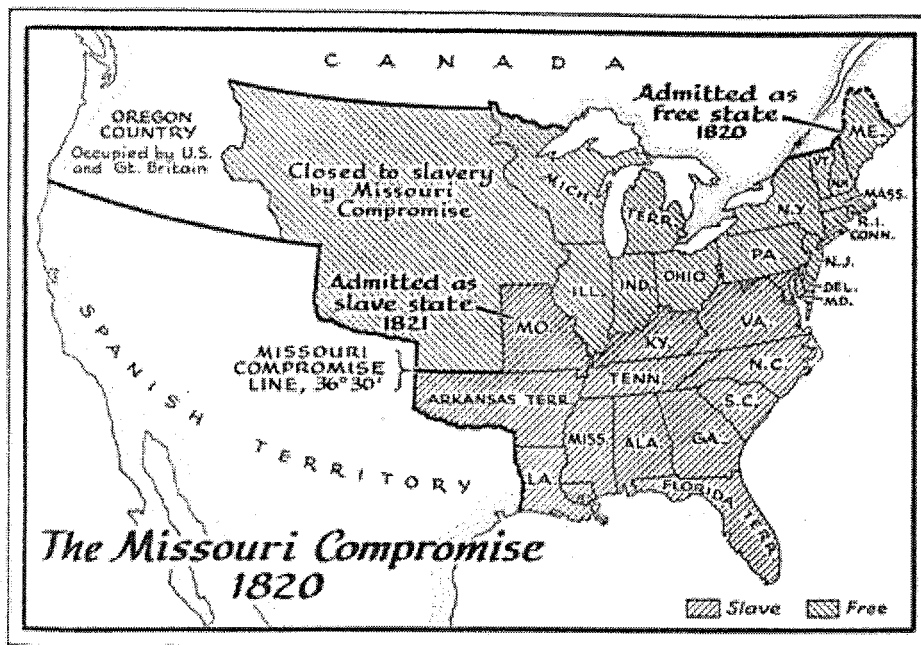
Since many people at the time thought the Great Plains area north of Missouri was not suitable for farming, it appeared that this Missouri Compromise benefited the South. By a very close vote, carefully managed by Henry Clay of Kentucky, the House of Representatives voted to accept the Compromise. The Compromise held out the hope that pairing the admission of free and slave states together would quiet the dispute over the expansion of slavery.

Despite Clay's efforts, many leaders feared that the Missouri Compromise was only a temporary solution. "I take it for granted," John Quincy Adams wrote, "that the present question is a mere preamble – a title page to a great tragic volume." ~ *The American Vision*

Multiple-Choice Questions:

- 1. The Missouri Compromise provided for**
 - (1) Citizens of territories to decide whether or not to allow slavery.**
 - (2) Slavery in the Oregon Territory.**
 - (3) The abolition of slavery in the United States by 1830.**
 - (4) The admission of Maine as a free state and Missouri as a slave state.**
 - (5) The collection of excise taxes.**

- 2. What led to the Missouri Compromise?**
 - (1) The need to add Maine as a slave state.**
 - (2) The effort to abolish slavery in the South.**
 - (3) The fact that slavery was illegal in Missouri.**
 - (4) The desire to maintain a balance in the Senate.**
 - (5) The desire to abolish slavery in all western territories.**



Interpreting Maps:

1- What line of latitude divided the future free territories from the slave territories?

2- Why do you think this line of latitude was chosen [think of the connection between latitude and climate]?

The Northeast	The South	The Northwest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Became a center of manufacturing, shipping, fishing and small farms * Witnessed the growth of a new class of factory workers * Factories and cities began to dramatically change traditional lifestyles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Its dominant institution was slavery * Although most Southerners never owned slaves, much of the region's economy was based on profits from the use of slave labor on large plantations, which grew crops such as cotton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Included present-day Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio * Became the nation's breadbasket * Its grain was shipped by river and canal to the Northeast and South * Small farmers predominated in this area

These regional differences led to the rise of sectionalism as early as the 1820s. Sectionalism referred to the greater loyalty many Americans felt towards their section (North, South, or West) than towards the country as a whole.

Critical Thinking Question:

Why did sectionalism develop and how did sectionalism affect the American history?

“The discovery of gold in California had quickly led to that territory’s application for statehood. The decision had to be made about whether California would enter the Union as a free state or a slave state.

The 1848 discovery of gold brought thousands to California. By the end of 1849, more than 80,000 ‘Forty-Niners’ had arrived to look for gold. Mining towns sprang up overnight, and the frenzy for gold led to chaos and violence. Needing a strong government to maintain order, Californians began to organize for statehood.

If California entered the Union as a free state, the slaveholding states would become a minority in the Senate. Southerners dreaded losing power in national politics, fearing it would lead to limits on slavery and states’ rights. A few Southern politicians began to talk openly of secession – of taking their states out of the Union.

In early 1850, one of the most senior and influential leaders in the Senate, Henry Clay of Kentucky, tried to find a compromise that would enable California to join the Union. Clay, nicknamed “The Great Compromiser” because of his role in promoting the Missouri Compromise in 1820 and solving the nullification crisis in 1833, proposed eight resolutions to solve the crisis. Clay grouped the resolutions in pairs, offering concessions to both sides. The first pair allowed California to come in as a free state but organized the rest of the Mexican cession without any restrictions on slavery. The second pair settled the border between New Mexico and Texas in favor of New Mexico but compensated Texas by having the federal government take on its debts.

Clay’s third pair of resolutions outlawed the slave trade in the District of Columbia but did not outlaw slavery itself. The final two resolutions were concessions to the South. Congress would be prohibited from interfering with the domestic slave trade and would pass a new fugitive slave act to help Southerners recover enslaved African Americans who had fled north. These concessions were necessary to assure the South that after California joined the Union, the North would not use its control of the Senate to abolish slavery.

For a short time, the Compromise of 1850 eased the tensions over slavery. In the next few years, however, the hope of a permanent solution through compromise would begin to fade.” ~ *The American Vision*

1. The Compromise of 1850 included all of the following EXCEPT

- (A) California would come in as a free state.**
- (B) In the rest of the lands acquired from Mexico, territorial governments would be formed without restrictions on slavery.**
- (C) The national government would not pay the Texas debt.**
- (D) The slave trade, but not slavery, would be abolished in the District of Columbia.**
- (E) None of these answers is correct.**

2. Many Southerners supported the Compromise of 1850 because it

- (A) Provided that cotton be substituted for currency as a medium of exchange.**
- (B) Made the number of free states and slave states equal.**
- (C) Legalized slavery in all the newly acquired territories.**
- (D) Provided for the possible creation of five states out of Texas.**
- (E) Provided for the return of fugitive slaves.**

3. Which statement about the Missouri Compromise (1820) is most accurate?

- (1) Slavery was banned west of the Mississippi River.
- (2) Unorganized territories would be governed by the United States and Great Britain.
- (3) The balance between free and slave states was maintained.
- (4) The 36°30' line formed a new boundary between the United States and Canada.

4. "Compromise Enables Maine and Missouri to Enter the Union"

"California Joins the Union As Part of Compromise of 1850"

"Kansas-Nebraska Act Establishes Popular Sovereignty in the Territories"

Which issue is most closely associated with these headlines?

- (1) Status of slavery in new states
- (2) Negotiation of the Oregon Treaty
- (3) Expansion of land for reservations
- (4) Influence of political parties on economic development

5. What did the Fugitive Act state?

- (1) Runaway slaves could be kept.
- (2) Runaway slaves had to be returned to their rightful masters.
- (3) Runaway slaves were granted freedom.
- (4) Runaway slaves had the right to beat their masters if they came after them.

6. Which congressional action made California a free state and paid Texas' debt in exchange for adjustment of the Texas border?

- (1) Kansas-Nebraska Act
- (2) Missouri Compromise
- (3) Compromise of 1850
- (4) Tariff Act

100 DOLLARS REWARD!

Ranaway from the subscriber on the 27th of July, my Black Woman, named

EMILY,

Seventeen years of age, well grown, black color, has a whining voice. She took with her one dark calico and one blue and white dress, a red corded gingham bonnet; a white striped shawl and slippers. I will pay the above reward if taken near the Ohio river on the Kentucky side, or THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS, if taken in the State of Ohio, and delivered to me near Lewisburg, Mason County, Ky.

THO'S H. WILLIAMS.

August 4, 1853.

Source: Ohio Historical Center Archives (adapted)

7. Prior to the Civil War, abolitionists reacted to the situation described in the poster by

- (1) supporting the Underground Railroad
- (2) opposing the Emancipation Proclamation
- (3) banning freed slaves from Northern states
- (4) proposing a stricter fugitive slave law

8. The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 affected slaves by –

- (1) legalizing slavery throughout the United States
- (2) allowing slaves to escape to Canada legally
- (3) authorizing the arrest of escaped slaves in states where slavery was illegal
- (4) taking away their voting rights

9. Which of the following was a result of the Missouri Compromise?

- (1) The slave trade ended.
- (2) Only slave states were admitted to the Union.
- (3) Political power was balanced between slave and free states.
- (4) Slavery was declared unconstitutional.

“Bleeding Kansas”

US History

“Congress passed the Kansas-Nebraska Act in May 1854. This act stated that any states organized in the new Nebraska territory would be allowed to exercise popular sovereignty. Popular sovereignty came to mean that the citizens of each new territory should be allowed to decide for themselves if they wanted to permit slavery or not.

Kansas became the first battleground between those favoring the extension of slavery and those opposing it. Since eastern Kansas offered the same climate and rich soil as the slave state of Missouri, settlers moving there from Missouri were likely to bring enslaved persons with them and claim Kansas for the South. Northerners responded by hurrying into the territory themselves, intent on creating an antislavery majority. Northern settlers could count on the support of the New England Emigrant Aid Society, an abolitionist group founded to recruit and outfit antislavery settlers bound for Kansas. Carrying supplies and rifles, hordes of Northerners headed for the new territory.

Pro-slavery senator David Atchison of Missouri responded by calling on men from his state to storm into Kansas. In the spring of 1855, thousands of armed Missourians –called ‘border ruffians’ in the press – voted illegally in Kansas, helping elect a proslavery legislature. Furious antislavery settlers countered by holding a convention in Topeka and drafting their own constitution that excluded slavery. By March 1856, Kansas had two governments. On May 21, 1856, border ruffians, worked up by the arrival of more Northerners, attacked the town of Lawrence, a stronghold of antislavery settlers. The attackers wrecked newspaper presses, plundered shops and homes, and burned a hotel and the home of the elected free-state governor.

‘Bleeding Kansas,’ as newspapers dubbed the territory, became the scene of a territorial civil war between pro-slavery and antislavery settlers. By the end of 1856, 200 people had died in the fighting and two million dollars’ worth of property had been destroyed.”

~ *The American Vision*

1. Which of the following is an example of popular sovereignty?

- (1) In 1837, Michigan becomes a free state because it is north of Missouri.**
- (2) In 1836, Arkansas becomes a slave state because it is south of Missouri.**
- (3) In 1849, California voters approve a state constitution that bans slavery.**
- (4) In 1846, the House of Representatives bans slavery in territories won from Mexico.**

2. The territory that became the battle ground over the issue of slavery in the 1850’s was:

- (1) Nebraska**
- (3) Kansas**

3. The Kansas-Nebraska Act overruled the:

- (1) Compromise of 1850**
- (2) Missouri Compromise**
- (3) Dred Scott Decision**
- (4) Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo**

4. What led to violence in Kansas in 1855 or why was Kansas called “Bleeding Kansas”?

- (1) The repeal of the Compromise of 1850.**
- (2) The election of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States.**
- (3) The Supreme Court’s verdict in *Dred Scott v. Sanford***
- (4) Rivalry and fighting between proslavery and antislavery forces in Kansas**

(2) Minnesota (4) Missouri

A Book and a Railroad:

“One evening in 1851, the comfortable, well-educated, deeply religious Stowe family sat in their parlor in Brunswick, Maine, listening to a letter being read aloud. The letter was from Harriet Beecher Stowe’s sister, Isabella, in Boston.

The new Fugitive Slave Act, part of the Compromise of 1850, had gone into effect, Isabella reported, and slave-catchers prowled the streets. They pounced on African Americans without warning, breaking into their houses, destroying their shops, and carrying them off.

Isabella described daily attacks. She also told of outraged Bostonians, white and African American alike, who rallied to resist the kidnappers. Stowe listened with growing despair. She had lived for many years in Cincinnati, across the Ohio River from the slave state of Kentucky. There she had met many runaways from slavery and heard their tragic tales. She had also visited Kentucky and witnessed slavery firsthand.

As the reading of her sister’s letter continued, Stowe, who was an accomplished author, received a challenge. “Now Hattie,” Isabella wrote, “If I could use a pen as you can, I would write something that would make this whole nation feel what an accursed thing slavery is.”

Stowe suddenly rose from her chair and announced, “I will write something. I will if I live.” That year, she began writing sketches for a book called *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.

~ Adapted from *Harriet Beecher Stowe: A Life*

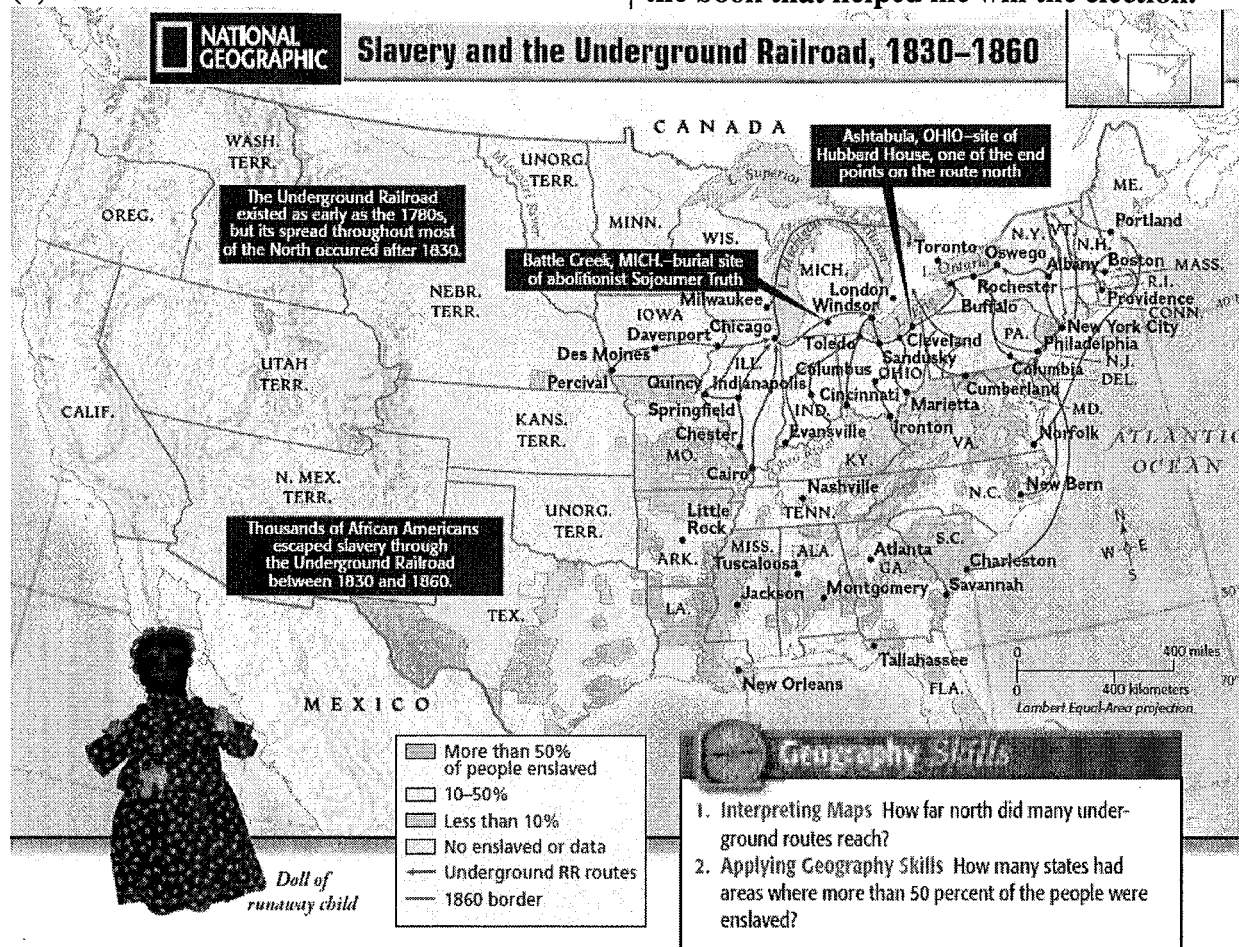
Abolitionists – Determined to Abolish Slavery in the United States of America

<u>Harriet Beecher Stowe</u>	<u>The Underground Railroad</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Uncle Tom’s Cabin came out in book form in 1852 and sold 300,000 copies in its first year* Her depiction of the enslaved hero, Tom, and the villainous overseer, Simon Legree, changed Northern perceptions of African Americans and slavery* Stowe presented African Americans as real people imprisoned in dreadful circumstances* Southerners tried unsuccessfully to have the novel banned* It had such a dramatic impact on public opinion that many historians consider it one of the causes of the Civil War.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Although the Fugitive Slave Act included heavy fines and prison terms for helping a runaway, whites and free African Americans continued their work with the Underground Railroad.* This informal but well-organized system that was legendary during the 1830s helped thousands of enslaved persons escape.* Members, called “conductors,” transported runaways north in secret, gave them shelter and food along the way, and saw them to freedom in the Northern states or Canada with some money for a fresh start.* The most famous of these conductors was Harriet Tubman, herself a runaway; she

	risked many trips to the South.
<p>1. The novel <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> was written by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Stephen Douglas (2) Harriet Beecher Stowe (3) Emily Dickinson (4) Harriet Tubman 	<p>6. Abolitionists wanted to abolish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Taxes. (2) Alcohol. (3) Slavery. (4) Popular sovereignty.
<p>2. Harriet Beecher Stowe's <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Greatly strengthened northern antislavery feeling (2) Argued that non-slaveholding whites suffered the most from slavery (3) Increased the desire for sectional compromise on the issue of slavery (4) Was based on Stowe's long personal experience with slavery in the deep south 	<p>7. The main provision of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 stated that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Harriet Tubman would be arrested. (2) All fugitive slaves must be returned to their masters. (3) Captured fugitive slaves were to be hanged without trial. (4) All fugitive slaves were emancipated or freed and would no longer be pursued.
<p>3. In the 1850s, why did many runaway slaves go to Canada?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) They feared being drafted into the Northern army. (2) The Fugitive Slave Act kept them at risk in the United States. (3) Factory jobs were available in Canada. (4) Northern abolitionists refused to help fugitive slaves. 	<p>8. Why did Northerners dislike the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) They felt that it was expanding the power and reach of slavery. (2) They felt that it only benefitted Southern slave owners and did not help Northern slave owners. (3) They felt it would only delay the Civil War, which they really wanted to happen. (4) They felt a better solution to the problem would be for Southern slave owners to prevent their slaves from running away.
<p>4. The Underground Railroad was</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The first subway in the United States, going from Atlanta to New York (2) Secretly marked railroad cars that escaped slaves often used to travel north (3) A series of tunnels that escaped slaves used to avoid capture (4) A loosely organized group of people who helped slaves escape to the North 	<p>9. Harriet Tubman was often called the Moses of her people because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Like Moses, she received God's commandments for the abolitionist cause. (2) Like Moses, she came to a spiritual understanding of God's relationship to man. (3) Like Moses, she led her people to freedom. (4) Like Moses, she was a conductor on a critical transportation route.
<p>5. Southern slave owners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Tried to ban Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (2) Agreed with Harriet Beecher Stowe's portrayal of slavery (3) Believed Northerners were hypocrites as they enslaved people in factories 	<p>10. When President Abraham Lincoln met Harriet Beecher Stowe, he said</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) "So you're the little woman who wrote the book that started this great war." (2) "So, you're the little woman who wrote

(4) None of the above

the book that helped me win the election.”



Profiles in History: Harriet Tubman c. 1820–1913

“Known as ‘Moses’ for her courage in leading enslaved persons to freedom, Harriet Tubman was a heroine of the antislavery movement. Tubman was born into slavery in Maryland and struggled early against the system’s brutality. At age 13, when she tried to save another enslaved person from punishment, an overseer struck her savagely and fractured her skull. Miraculously, she recovered from the injury, but she suffered from occasional blackouts for the rest of her life.

Tubman escaped to freedom in 1849 when she was 29 years old. Upon crossing into Pennsylvania, she later wrote, ‘I looked at my hands to see if I was the same person. There was such a glory over everything. The sun came up like gold through the trees, and I felt like I was in Heaven.’”

Her joy inspired her to help others. After Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Act, Tubman returned to the South 19 times to guide enslaved persons along the Underground Railroad to freedom. Tubman became notorious in the eyes of slaveholders, but despite a large reward offered for her capture, no one ever betrayed her whereabouts. Furthermore, in all her rescues on the Underground Railroad, she never lost a single “passenger.” Tubman’s bravery and determination made her one of the most important figures in the antislavery movement.

In 1847 Frederick Douglass met Brown for the first time in Springfield, Massachusetts. Of the meeting Douglass stated that, 'though a white gentleman, [Brown] is in sympathy a black man, and as deeply interested in our cause, as though his own soul had been pierced with the iron of slavery.' It was at this meeting that Brown first outlined his plan to Douglass to lead a war to free slaves.

Brown moved to the black community of North Elba, New York, in 1849. The community had been established thanks to the philanthropy of Gerrit Smith, who donated tracts of at least 50 acres to black families willing to clear and farm the land. Brown, knowing that many of the families were finding life in this isolated area difficult, offered to establish his own farm there as well, in order to lead the blacks by his example and to act as a 'kind father to them.'

Despite his contributions to the antislavery cause, Brown did not emerge as a figure of major significance until 1855 after he followed five of his sons to the Kansas territory. There, he became the leader of antislavery guerillas and fought a proslavery attack against the antislavery town of Lawrence. The following year, in retribution for another attack, Brown went to a proslavery town and brutally killed five of its settlers. Brown and his sons would continue to fight in the territory and in Missouri for the rest of the year.

Brown returned to the east and began to think more seriously about his plan for a war in Virginia against slavery. He sought money to fund an 'army' he would lead. On October 16, 1859, he set his plan to action when he and 21 other men – 5 blacks and 16 whites – raided the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry.

Brown was wounded and quickly captured, and moved to Charlestown, Virginia, where he was tried and convicted of treason. Before hearing his sentence, Brown was allowed make an address to the court.

... I believe to have interfered as I have done . . . in behalf of His despised poor, was not wrong, but right. Now, if it be deemed necessary that I should forfeit my life for the furtherance of the ends of justice, and mingle my blood further with the blood of my children, and with the blood of millions in this slave country whose rights are disregarded by wicked, cruel, and unjust enactments, I submit: so let it be done.'

Although initially shocked by Brown's exploits, many Northerners began to speak favorably of the militant abolitionist. 'He did not recognize unjust human laws, but resisted them as he was bid...', said Henry David Thoreau in an address to the citizens of Concord, Massachusetts. 'No man in America has ever stood up so persistently and effectively for the dignity of human nature. . . .'

John Brown was hanged on December 2, 1859."

~ pbs.org

Questions:

- 1- From your understanding of the reading, describe John Brown.

2- What happened at Harper's Ferry?

3- What was the outcome of John Brown's action at Harper's Ferry?

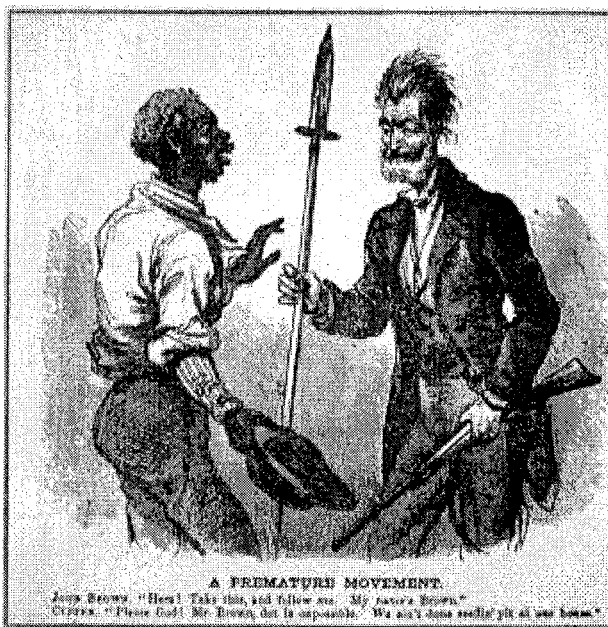
4- How did John Brown's actions affect people's views about slavery and about his life and mission?

5- How do you think John Brown's actions affected southerners?

6- Do you think John Brown was heroic or foolish? Defend your point of view.

7- What do the actions of John Brown reveal about the issue of slavery in the United States at the time?

Analyze the following political cartoon:



Explain the meaning of the political cartoon.

John Brown and Harpers Ferry

US History

"John Brown was a fervent abolitionist who believed, as one minister who knew him in Kansas said, 'that God had raised him up on purpose to break the jaws of the wicked.' In 1859, he developed a plan to seize the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia (today in West Virginia), free and arm the enslaved people of the neighborhood, and begin an insurrection, or rebellion, against slaveholders.

On the night of October 16, 1859, Brown and 18 followers seized the arsenal. To the terrified night watchman, he announced, 'I have possession now of the United States armory, and if the citizens interfere with me I must only burn the town and have blood.'

Soon, however, Brown was facing a contingent of U.S. Marines, rushed to Harpers Ferry from Washington, D.C., under the command of Colonel Robert E. Lee. Just 36 hours after it had begun, Brown's attempt to start a slave insurrection ended with his capture. A Virginia court tried and convicted him and sentenced him to death. In his last words to the court, Brown, repenting nothing, declared:

'I believe that to have interfered as I have done, as I have always freely admitted I have done in behalf of [God's] despised poor, I did no wrong, but right. Now if it is deemed necessary that I should forfeit my life for the furtherance of the ends of justice and mingle my blood...with the blood of millions in this slave country whose rights are disregarded by wicked, cruel and unjust enactments, I say, let it be done!' ~ quoted in *John Brown, 1800-1859*

On December 2, the day of his execution, Brown handed one of his jailers a prophetic note: 'I, John Brown, am now quite *certain* that the crimes of this *guilty land* will never be purged away but with Blood. I had as *I now think vainly* flattered myself that without *very much* bloodshed it might be done.'

Many Northerners viewed Brown as a martyr in a noble cause. The execution, Henry David Thoreau predicted, would strengthen abolitionist feeling in the North. 'He is not old Brown any longer,' Thoreau declared, 'he is an angel of light.'

For most Southerners, however, Brown's raid offered all the proof they needed that Northerners were actively plotting the murder of slaveholders. 'Defend yourselves!' cried Georgia Senator, Robert Toombs. 'The enemy is at your door!'" ~ *The American Vision*

1. When he raided Harpers Ferry, John Brown apparently hoped to

- (1) Convince non-slaveholding southerners to oppose slavery.
- (2) Frighten the North and South into negotiating a compromise on slavery.
- (3) Provoke a slave insurrection.
- (4) Discredit northern abolitionists.
- (5) Help make Kansas a free state.

2. John Brown believed slavery:

- (1) Could be ended gradually.
- (2) Should be outlawed just in the territories.
- (3) Should be allowed all over the country.
- (4) Would end only with a bloody confrontation.
- (5) Should be abolished and blacks returned to Africa.

3. John Brown raided the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry in order to

- (1) Prevent slave owners from taking it.**
- (2) Provide arms for a general slave uprising.**
- (3) Prove that God was with him.**
- (4) Make a statement for slavery.**
- (5) Create and defend a giant communal farm run by ex-slaves.**

4. What did John Brown hope to accomplish by seizing the arsenal at Harpers Ferry?

- (1) To take one of George Washington's family members hostage.**
- (2) To become a martyr.**
- (3) To avenge the deaths in Lawrence, Kansas.**
- (4) To obtain weapons to distribute to slaves for a rebellion.**

5. The attack at Harpers Ferry took place in the present state of

- (1) North Carolina**
- (2) Virginia**
- (3) West Virginia**
- (4) Ohio**

6. He led a raid on Harpers Ferry in a failed attempt to free to slaves in Virginia

- (1) John Brown**
- (2) Owen Brown**
- (3) Jason Brown**
- (4) Robert E. Lee**

7. What was the most effective part of Brown's raid?

- (1) The way he died for his role in it.**
- (2) How he held off Robert E. Lee's men.**
- (3) His elaborate planning.**
- (4) His ability to protect the identities of his backers.**
- (5) His ability to muster the support of local slaves.**

8. Which of the following BEST describes southern reaction of John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry?

- (1) Alarmed, because they saw it as a violent threat to the southern way of life.**
- (2) Encouraged, because it showed that some men were willing to go to extreme measures to protect states' rights.**
- (3) Amused, because they dismissed it as an isolated incident led by a fool.**
- (4) Saddened, because Brown was a southern hero and news of his death was disheartening.**

9. In the South, whites responded to the raid on Harpers Ferry by:

- (1) Loosening restrictions on their slaves in hopes of making them happier.**
- (2) Deciding the abolitionists might be right.**
- (3) Moderating their tone toward the North.**
- (4) Becoming increasingly paranoid about a slave revolt.**
- (5) Praying to God for forgiveness.**

10. In the South, whites responded to the raid on Harpers Ferry by:

- (1) Loosening restrictions on their slaves in hopes of making them happier.**
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- (3) Moderating their tone toward the North.**
- (4) Becoming increasingly paranoid about a slave revolt.**
- (5) Praying to God for forgiveness.**

11. Southerners were particularly enrage by the John Brown affair because:

- (1) Many slaves had joined the insurrection.**
- (2) They believed Brown's violent abolitionist sentiments were shared by the whole North.**
- (3) Brown had expressed his contempt for the southern way of life.**
- (4) Brown escaped punishment by pleading insanity.**

Multiple-Choice Questions:

1. John Brown's raid at Harpers Ferry:
(A) Was endorsed by the Republican party.
(B) Precipitated a slave insurrection.
(C) Was ignored by Southerners because of its small size.
(D) Strengthened disunion sentiment in the South.
2. When he raided Harpers Ferry, John Brown apparently hoped to
(A) Convince non-slaveholding southerners to oppose slavery.
(B) Provoke a slave insurrection.
(C) Discredit northern abolitionists.
(D) Frighten the North and South into negotiating a compromise on slavery.
(E) Help make Kansas a free state.
3. The attack at Harper's Ferry took place in the present state of :
(A) North Carolina
(B) Virginia
(C) West Virginia
(D) Ohio
4. What was Abraham Lincoln's opinion of the John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry?
(A) He considered John Brown a martyr.
(B) He believed John Brown should be commended for his attempt at providing.
(C) He provided slaves with the opportunity to rebel.
(D) He denounced John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry and called it foolish.
(E) He called him a Christian hero.
5. What was the purpose of John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry?
(A) to secure enough ammunition from a federal arsenal to carry out a large-scale operation against slavery in the South
(B) to make the issue of "Bloody Kansas" more public
(C) to make himself a martyr to the abolitionist cause
(D) to begin a series of rumors of slave insurrection so that southern slaveholders might be frightened into agreeing to end slavery
6. The abolitionist movement, the women's suffrage movement, and the 1960's civil rights movement are all examples of reform efforts that
(A) succeeded without causing major controversy
(B) developed significant popular support
(C) achieved their goals without government action
(D) failed to affect the nation as a whole
7. Sectional differences developed in the United States largely because
(A) the Federal Government adopted a policy of neutrality
(B) economic conditions and interests in each region varied
(C) only northerners were represented at the Constitutional Convention
(D) early Presidents favored urban areas over rural areas

Primary Source:

John Brown's Speech to the Court at his Trial

November 2, 1859

~ law2.umkc.edu

I have, may it please the court, a few words to say. In the first place, I deny everything but what I have all along admitted – the design on my part to free the slaves. I intended certainly to have made a clean thing of that matter, as I did last winter when I went into Missouri and there took slaves without the snapping of a gun on either side, moved them through the country, and finally left them in Canada. I designed to have done the same thing again on a larger scale. That was all I intended. I never did intend murder, or treason, or the destruction of property, or to excite or incite slaves to rebellion, or to make insurrection.

I have another objection; and that is, it is unjust that I should suffer such a penalty. Had I interfered in the manner which I admit, and which I admit has been fairly proved (for I admire the truthfulness and candor of the greater portion of the witnesses who have testified in this case) – had I so interfered in behalf of the rich, the powerful, the intelligent, the so-called great, or in behalf of any of their friends – either father, mother, brother, sister, wife, or children, or any of that class – and suffered and sacrificed what I have in this interference, it would have been all right; and every man in this court would have deemed it an act worthy of reward rather than punishment.

This court acknowledges, as I suppose, the validity of the law of God. I see a book kissed here which I suppose to be the Bible, or at least the New Testament. That teaches me that all things whatsoever I would that men should do to me, I should do even so to them. It teaches me, further, to “remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them.” I endeavored to act up to that instruction. I say I am yet too young to understand that God is any respecter of persons. I believe that to have interfered as I have done – as I have always freely admitted I have done – in behalf of His despised poor was not wrong, but right. Now, if it is deemed necessary that I should forfeit my life for the furtherance of the ends of justice, and mingle my blood further with the blood of my children and with the blood of millions in this slave country whose rights are disregarded by wicked, cruel, and unjust enactments – I submit; so let it be done!

Let me say one word further.

I feel entirely satisfied with the treatment I have received on my trial. Considering all the circumstances it has been more generous than I expected. But I feel no consciousness of guilt. I have stated that from the first what was my intention and what was not. I never had any design against the life of any person, nor any disposition to commit treason, or excite slaves to rebel, or make any general insurrection. I never encouraged any man to do so, but always discouraged any idea of that kind.

Let me say also a word in regard to the statements made by some of those connected with me. I hear it has been stated by some of them that I have induced them to join me. But the

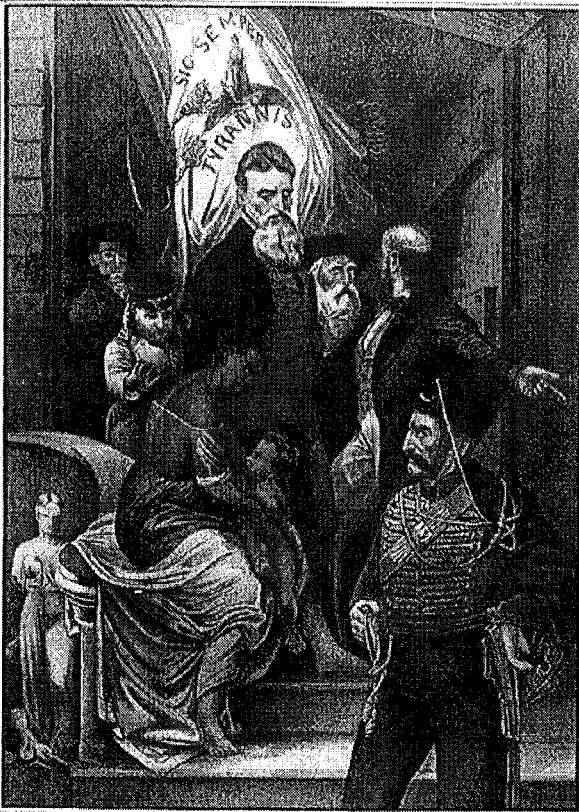
contrary is true. I do not say this to injure them, but as regretting their weakness. There is not one of them but joined me of his own accord, and the greater part of them at their own expense. A number of them I never saw, and never had a word of conversation with till the day they came to me; and that was for the purpose I have stated.

Now I have done.”

Questions:

- 1- Identify the main points made by John Brown in his speech before the court:

- 2- Identify your responses to the points made by John Brown in his speech before the court. Do you agree or disagree with his points?



JOHN BROWN
Being the last moments of the life of John Brown, just as he was to be executed. The artist has represented that Brown, regarding with calmness, a slave mother and child who stood before him as he lay on the scaffold. "I feel for me enough and know the child - I love and his fate."
JOHN BROWN: DEATH BY SWORD EXECUTION.

“This print, published by the New York lithography firm of Currier and Ives in 1863, was based on a painting by Louis Ransom depicting John Brown pausing on the steps of the Charlestown, Virginia, jail, surrounded by armed soldiers, and leaning down to kiss the small child proffered to him by an African-American woman. The legend of Brown kissing a slave child on the way to his execution originated with an account of the execution in the New York Tribune on December 6, 1859. This account was reprinted in other newspapers and in early Brown biographies. In fact, Brown encountered only soldiers and jail personnel on the way to his execution. Fearing that the painting would draw angry crowds during the July 1863 New York City draft riots; Barnum removed Ransom’s painting from the American Museum.”

~ chnm.gmu.edu

Activity 3: Reading – Overview

“The Democratic party was a unifying force, strong in the North, West, and South. In 1854, Democrats were challenged by a new sectional party, the Republicans, who drew support from the North and West. Southerners opposed the party as antislavery.

The Republican platforms (statements of political ideas) of 1856 and 1860 proposed the following:

- **A ban on slavery in Western territories**
- **A high protective tariff to aid Northern industries**

One Republican, Abraham Lincoln, spoke forcefully on stopping the spread of slavery:

“The Republican party looks upon slavery as a moral, social, and political wrong. They insist that it should be treated as a wrong; and one of the methods of treating it as a wrong is to make sure that it should grow no longer.”

In 1860, the Republicans nominated Lincoln for president. A majority of Democrats nominated Stephen Douglas, a moderate on slavery. Southern Democrats nominated John Breckinridge, a proslavery Southerner. Lincoln’s victory was the worst possible outcome from the South’s point of view.

One month after Lincoln’s election, South Carolina seceded from the Union. (In Lincoln’s view, the nation was a union of people, not states; therefore no state had the right to secede.) Other Southern states followed suit, and by March, 1861, the North and the South were virtually separate nations.”

~ Reviewing U.S. History and Government

Multiple-Choice Questions for the Reading:

1. Which argument did President Abraham Lincoln use against the secession of the Southern States?

- (1) Slavery was not profitable**
- (2) The government was a union of people and not of states.**
- (3) The Southern States did not permit their people to vote on secession.**
- (4) As the Commander in Chief, he had the duty to defend the United States against foreign invasion.**

2. Early in his Presidency, Abraham Lincoln declared that his primary goal as President was to

- (1) enforce the Emancipation Proclamation**
- (2) preserve the Union**
- (3) end slavery throughout the country**
- (4) encourage sectionalism**

3. Which statement best explains President Abraham Lincoln’s justification for the Civil War?

- (1) As an abolitionist, President Lincoln wanted to end slavery in the United States.**
- (2) President Lincoln wanted to keep the South economically dependent on the industrial North.**
- (3) President Lincoln’s oath of office required him to defend and preserve the Union.**
- (4) To keep the support of Great Britain and France, President Lincoln had to try to end slavery immediately.**

The Election of 1860

US History/

“John Brown’s raid on Harpers Ferry was a turning point for the South. The possibility of an African American uprising had long haunted many Southerners, but they were frightened and angered by the idea that Northerners would deliberately try to arm enslaved people and encourage them to rebel. Although the Republican leaders quickly denounced Brown’s raid, many Southerners blamed Republicans. To them, the key point was that both the Republicans and John Brown opposed slavery.

In 1860 the debate over slavery in the western territories tore the Democratic Party apart. Their first presidential nominating convention ended in dispute. Northern delegates wanted to support popular sovereignty, while Southern delegates wanted to uphold the *Dred Scott* decision and endorse a federal slave code for the territories. In June 1860, the Democrats met again to select their candidate. Supporters of popular sovereignty had organized to ensure Stephen Douglas’s endorsement. The original Southern delegations objected and walked out. The Southern Democrats who had walked out organized their own convention and nominated the current vice president for president, a politician that supported the *Dred Scott* decision. This split the Democratic Party.

With no possibility of winning electoral votes in the South, the Republicans needed a candidate who could sweep the North. Delegates at the Republicans’ Chicago convention nominated Abraham Lincoln, whose debates with Stephen Douglas had made him very popular in the North. During the campaign, the Republicans tried to persuade voters they were more than just an antislavery party. They denounced John Brown’s raid and reaffirmed the right of the Southern states to preserve slavery within their borders. They also supported higher tariffs, a new homestead law for western settlers, and a transcontinental railroad. The Republican proposals angered many Southerners. Nevertheless, with Democratic votes split, Lincoln won the election without Southern support. For the South, the election of a Republican president represented the victory of the abolitionists. The survival of Southern society and culture seemed to be at stake. For many, there was now no choice but to secede.

The dissolution of the Union began with South Carolina, where anti-Northern secessionist sentiment had long been intense. Shortly after Lincoln’s election, the state legislature called for a convention. Amid a frenzy of fireworks and drills, the convention unanimously voted for the Ordinance of Secession. By February 1, 1861, six more states in the Lower South – Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas – had voted to secede. Many Southerners felt secession was in the Revolutionary tradition and that they were fighting for American rights.” ~ *The American Vision*

1. The precipitating event of secession was:

- (1) Slavery.
- (2) John Brown’s raid on Harper’s Ferry.
- (3) Abraham Lincoln’s election.
- (4) The *Dred Scott* decision.
- (5) The civil war in Kansas.

2. In the election of 1860,

- (1) Southerners refused to vote in protest.
- (2) The tariff was the most important issue.
- (3) The Republicans gained control of the executive branch for the first time.
- (4) Southerners voted for Lincoln.

The Causes of the Civil War

Sectionalism

- The greater loyalty many Americans felt towards their region rather than the nation
- The South developed a plantation economy; the North was more industrialized

Slavery:

- Abolitionists wanted to end slavery
- Southern plantations depended on slave labor

Slavery in the New Territories and Compromises:

- Southerners wanted to extend slavery but Northerners opposed its spread
- * **The Missouri Compromise of 1820:**
 - Missouri was admitted as a slave state and Maine was admitted as a free state
 - Congress prohibited slavery in Louisiana Purchase area north of 36°30' latitude line
- * **Compromise of 1850:**
 - California was admitted as a free state
 - Fugitive Slave Law required northern states to help return runaway slaves

More Conflict over Slavery:

- * **Kansas-Nebraska Act, 1854:**
 - Congress repealed the Missouri Compromise
 - Introduced popular sovereignty in the Kansas and Nebraska Territories
 - In Kansas, pro-and anti-slavery forces fought ("Bleeding Kansas")
- * **Dred Scott Decision, 1857:**
 - The Supreme Court ruled that Congress could not prohibit slavery in any U.S. territory
 - Since slaves were property, Congress did not have the right to take away property
- * **John Brown's Raid (1859):**
 - John Brown, a Northern abolitionist, sought to start a slave rebellion to free the slaves
 - Brown captured a federal arsenal in Virginia, but captured and hanged
 - His attempt created alarm and fear among Southerners

States' Rights:

- Southerners believed states had created the federal government
- Southerners believed that each state had the power to leave the Union if it desired
- Northerners believed that the Constitution was the work of the American people
- Northerners believed that states could not leave the Union

The Election of Lincoln:

- The Southern states seceded (withdrew) from the United States and formed Confederacy
- Lincoln refused to recognize the secession and resolved to preserve the unity of the USA

1. When did differences regarding slavery begin between the North and the South?

- (1) 1776 - American Constitution
- (2) 1820 - Missouri Compromise
- (3) 1850 - Compromise of 1850
- (4) 1857 - John Brown's raids

2. Though the Civil War was going to be a fight about slavery, what was the South's main reason to secede?

- (1) Wanted to protect rural way of life
- (2) Believed State's rights superseded Federal rights.
- (3) Felt the South as a region was losing power in the Senate because of population shifts.
- (4) Believed that the Industrial Revolution was a threat to their way of life.

3. Which argument did President Abraham Lincoln use against the secession of the Southern States?

- (1) Slavery was not profitable
- (2) The government was a union of people and not of states.
- (3) The Southern States did not permit their people to vote on secession.
- (4) As the Commander in Chief, he had the duty to defend the United States against foreign invasion.

4. Which phrase best completes the title for the partial outline shown below?

- I. Reasons for the _____
- A. Increasing sectionalism
 - B. Disagreements over states' rights issues
 - C. Breakdown of compromise
 - D. Election of 1860

- (1) Start of the Revolutionary War
- (2) Adoption of the Bill of Rights
- (3) Failure of the Whiskey Rebellion
- (4) Secession of Southern States from the Union

5. Sectional differences developed in the United States largely because

- (1) the Federal Government adopted a policy of neutrality
- (2) economic conditions and interests in each region varied
- (3) only northerners were represented at the Constitutional Convention
- (4) early Presidents favored urban areas over rural areas

6. What did the Fugitive Act state?

- (1) Runaway slaves could be kept.
- (2) Runaway slaves had to be returned to their rightful masters.
- (3) Runaway slaves were granted freedom.
- (4) Runaway slaves had the right to beat their masters if they came after them.

7. What controversial man was a hero in the North but a villain in the South in 1858?

- (1) John Brown (3) Frederick Douglass
- (2) Stephen Douglas (4) Abraham Lincoln

8. Early in his Presidency, Abraham Lincoln declared that his primary goal as President was to

- (1) enforce the Emancipation Proclamation
- (2) preserve the Union
- (3) end slavery throughout the entire country
- (4) encourage sectionalism

9. Southern states threatened _____ if Lincoln was elected.

- (1) compromise
- (2) division
- (3) filibustering
- (4) secession

10. What state was the first to secede the Union?

- (1) Alabama
- (2) South Carolina
- (3) Virginia
- (4) Texas

11. "Compromise Enables Maine and Missouri To Enter Union" (1820)
 "California Admitted to Union as Free State" (1850)
 "Kansas-Nebraska Act Sets Up Popular Sovereignty" (1854)

Which issue is reflected in these headlines?

- (1) enactment of protective tariffs
- (2) extension of slavery
- (3) voting rights for minorities
- (4) universal public education

12. "A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free." ~ Abraham Lincoln, 1858

According to this quotation, Abraham Lincoln believed that

- (1) slavery was immoral and should be abolished immediately
- (2) sectional differences threatened to destroy the Union
- (3) the Southern states should be allowed to secede
- (4) to save the nation, the North should compromise with the South on slavery

13. Before the Civil War, slavery expanded in the South rather than in the North because

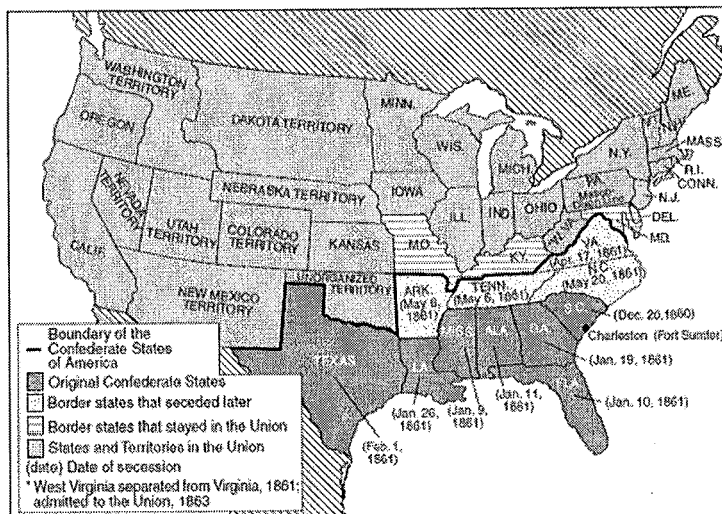
- (1) the Constitution contained a clause that outlawed the importation of slaves into the Northern states
- (2) Congress passed a law forbidding slavery in the North
- (3) Northern states passed affirmative action legislation
- (4) geographic conditions in the South encouraged the development of large plantations

14. The principle of popular sovereignty was an important part of the

- (1) Indian Removal Act
- (2) Kansas-Nebraska Act
- (3) Homestead Act
- (4) Dawes Act

15. Most Southern political leaders praised the Supreme Court decision in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857) because it

- (1) granted citizenship to all enslaved persons
- (2) upheld the principle of popular sovereignty
- (3) supported the right of a state to secede from the Union
- (4) protected the property rights of slave owners in the territories



Source: John M. Blum et al., *The National Experience: A History of the United States*, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1981 (adapted)

16. What is the most accurate title for this map?

- (1) Closing the Frontier
- (2) Results of Reconstruction
- (3) A Nation Divided
- (4) Compromise of 1850

Critical Thinking Question:
 Could the Civil War have been prevented?
