
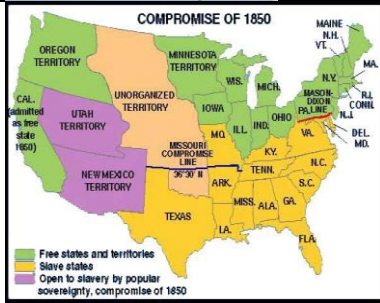


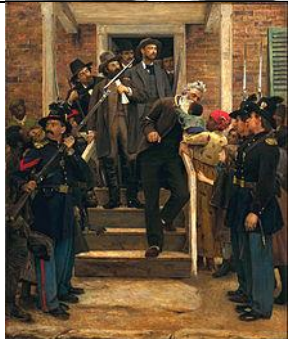
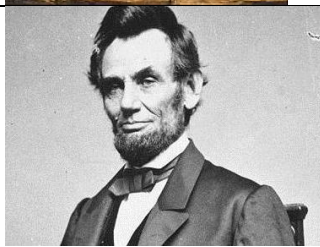


## CAUSES OF THE CIVIL WAR

Place the letter of the result from page 2 next to the corresponding event on the chart below.

EVENT		RESULT
<p><b>Mexican War (1846-1848)</b> – Southerners generally supported the war against Mexico while northerners generally opposed it because many believed it was an effort to expand southward and westward so that more land could be acquired for plantation agriculture which would mean the spread of slavery.</p>		<p>1.</p> <p>2.</p>
<p><b>Passage of the Fugitive Slave Act</b> – Soon after the United States won territory in the Mexican War, California applied for admission to the union as a free state. This would mean that there would be 16 free states and 15 slave states giving the north more power in the United States Senate. To get southern Congressman to agree, Congress, as part of the “Compromise of 1850” passed a strict <b>FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT</b> that made it much easier to capture slaves who had escaped from the South and to kidnap free African-Americans and force them into slavery.</p>		
<p><b>The Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)</b> – Slavery had been prohibited in the territories of Kansas and Nebraska in the Missouri Compromise of 1820. The Kansas-Nebraska Act repealed the Missouri Compromise and allowed slavery in those territories under the principle of popular sovereignty – in other words people in the territory could vote to allow or prohibit slavery</p>		
<p><b>Dred Scott v. Sanford (1857)</b> – The Supreme Court ruled that African-American were not citizens of the United States and therefore could not sue in its courts. Additionally, they said that while state governments could prohibit slavery, slavery must be allowed in Western Territories.</p>		
<p><b>John Brown’s Raid on Harper’s Ferry Virginia</b> – Abolitionist John Brown and his followers attempted to seize weapons at the federal arsenal in Harpers Ferry Virginia and start a slave rebellion across the South. Brown was captured, convicted of treason against the State of Virginia and hanged.</p>		
<p><b>Election of 1860</b> – Four major candidates competed in the election – the <u>Republican Abraham Lincoln</u>, who believed that while states had the right to decide the status of slavery within their boundaries, slavery should be prohibited in the western territories; <u>northern Democrat Stephen Douglas</u>, who supported popular sovereignty; <u>southern Democrat John Breckinridge</u> who believed that slavery must be allowed in the territories; and, <u>Constitutional Union Candidate John Bell</u> who did not take a position on the issue.</p>		<p>1.</p> <p>2.</p>

**MATCH THE RESULTS BELOW WITH THE APPROPRIATE EVENT ON THE FIRST PAGE.**

- A. The south rejoiced, while many Northern abolitionists declared the decision immoral. Some abolitionists even suggested that the Free states should leave the union.
- B. Many southerners believed that this radical abolitionist was representative of most northerners. In reality, the majority of northerners probably did not support the immediate end to slavery nor did they support bringing an end to it through violence.
- C. The State of Massachusetts passed a series of resolutions refusing to support the effort saying that it was “a war to spread the slave power.”
- D. Fighting, known as “Bleeding Kansas,” broke out between pro-slavery people who were in the territory to support slavery and anti-slavery people who were there to make it free.
- E. As a result of this event, the United States acquired territory that includes the present-day states of California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and parts of Colorado.
- F. Abraham Lincoln is elected President with only 41% of the vote nationally and less than 2% of the vote in slave states.
- G. South Carolina votes to secede from the Union. In its Declaration of Causes of Secession, the state blames abolitionists, the election of Lincoln, and the refusal of Northern States to follow the Fugitive Slave Act as the reasons for its decision to leave the union.
- H. Many Northern states passed “personal liberty laws” which protected fugitive slaves from captors and prohibited Northern officials from following the federal law

**QUESTIONS –**

- 1. What were TWO major issues that led the south to secede from the union?**
  
- 2. Which of the events above do you think was the most important in leading to South Carolina’s decision to secede from the union? Why?**

### **Aim – Why did 11 southern states secede from the union in 1860-61?**

**Motivation** – Show map of the U.S. in 1861. What time period does it show? How do you know? Define terms such as “Union”, “Confederacy”, “Border States.”

This was the last topic you studied in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. What do you know about the Civil War and the South’s decision to leave the union?

### Group Assignment –

Break class into groups of four. Distribute hand-outs; have them complete and discuss.

- Discuss student responses and issues leading to the civil war

Issues –

Slavery

Actions of abolitionist (Harriet Tubman, John Brown, William Lloyd Garrison, Harriet Beecher Stowe

Westward expansion and the spread of slavery into the territories.

Other Issues

Economic and cultural differences between the north and south

“states rights” – south sought to protect itself from a potentially oppressive federal government

- Should the South have been allowed to leave the union? Should a state have the right to leave if it wants to?
  - o Discuss the importance of people having the right to choose their own government but also the importance of the minority to accept the will of the majority in an election
- Why was Lincoln willing to use force to keep the south in the union?
  - o Believed that democracy could not exist if people did not accept the outcome of legitimate elections – that they would inevitably fall apart because you are always going to have people unhappy with the outcome of an election.