Sectionalism and the Road to Civil War

APUSH Guide for American Pageant chapters 18 & 19 and AMSCO chapter 13

Directions
Print document and take notes in the spaces provided. Read through the guide before you begin reading the chapter. This step will help you focus on the most significant ideas and information as you read. This guide can earn bonus points PLUS the right to correct a quiz for ½ points back.

AMSCO: begin reading on page 2240
Pageant: begin on page 390

Goal:
Analyze social, political, and economic causes for Civil War and assess the extent to which the Civil War was inevitable.

During the 1850s, the battle between Abolitionists and “Pro-Slaverites” reached the end of the fuse. Identify and analyze some key events in this decade that led to war. Highlight your cues.

### LITERATURE

Written by Harriet Beecher Stowe in 1852, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* sold millions of copies. Its exposure of slavery helped sway popular opinion toward abolition.

*Did you know… what an “Uncle Tom” is?*
Uncle Tom, the title character, was initially seen as a noble, long-suffering Christian slave. In more recent years, however, his name has become an epithet directed towards African-Americans who are accused of selling out to whites. Stowe intended Tom to be a "noble hero and praiseworthy person. Throughout the book, far from allowing himself to be exploited, Tom stands up for his beliefs and is grudgingly admired even by his enemies.

Abraham Lincoln was thought to have said to Harriet Beecher Stowe in 1862, “So you’re the little woman who wrote the book that made this great war.” To what extent was this an accurate claim? (He likely said something to this effect but there is no evidence the two ever met.)

The supposed statement by Lincoln is/is not (circle one) fair to a ____________ extent because:

1. 
2. 
3. 

Five years after the introduction of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, Hinton R. Helper wrote *The Impending Crisis of the South* in 1857. Helper hated both slavery and blacks so he attempted to prove by statistics that indirectly the nonslave-holding whites were the ones who suffered most from the millstone of slavery. Helper was unable to secure a publisher for the book in the South but was finally able to find one in the North. These “dirty allusions” made the book banned in the South while Republicans distributed the book in the North as campaign literature.

Explain the different concepts of emancipation and equality in regards to the abolition movement.

What post Civil War social battle does *The Impending Crisis of the South* foreshadow?

Horace Greeley (an abolitionist who also started the New York Tribune; very influential newspaper) distributed this book across the South in an effort to increase southern white support for abolition. Why would an abolitionist embrace this book?

The New England Emigrant Aid Co. was the most famous anti-slavery organization that sent about two thousand people to the troubled area to forestall the South, but also to make a profit. It was a transportation company (profit) that helped populate Kansas with abolitionists.

Explain the significance of westward expansion in the 1850s and eventual war.
COMPROMISE OF 1850

Compromise of 1850 provisions...

California entered as:_________________

Territories of New Mexico and Utah would be decided by ____________________  ________

Part of New Mexico came from land taken from the slave-holding state of ________________.

______________________ was outlawed in the District of Columbia.

Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 stated that ______________________

What happened to the balance of slave vs free states following this compromise?

Explain how the North responded to the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850. Cite at least three specific examples of their reaction.

To what extent was this compromise successful in resolving conflict over slavery?

Summarize the “before and after” of the Compromise. Use your knowledge of history as well as the maps at right in formulating your answer.

Peaceable secession! Peaceable secession! The concurrent agreement of all the members of this great republic to separate! A voluntary separation, with alimony on one side and on the other. Why, what would be the result? Where is the line to be drawn? What States are to secede? What is to remain American? What am I to be? An American no longer? Am I to become a sectional man, a local man, a separatist, with no country in common with the gentlemen who sit around me here, or who fill the other house of Congress? Heaven forbid! Where is the flag of the republic to remain? Where is the eagle still to tower? Or is he to cower, and shrink, and fall to the ground? Why, Sir, our ancestors, our fathers and our grandfathers, those of them that are yet living amongst us with prolonged lives, would rebuke and reproach us; and our children and our grandchildren would cry out shame upon us, if we of this generation should dishonor these ensigns of the power of the government and the harmony of that Union which is every day felt among us with so much joy and gratitude.

Seventh of March Speech, Daniel Webster, 1850
Lewis Cass, Democratic senator from Michigan, proposed a compromise to the conflict over western territory based on Popular Sovereignty, where the voters of a territory would decide the fate of their state.

What other compromises occurred up until this point (1848) as efforts to quell potential rebellion?

"The great principle of self government is at stake, and surely the people of this country are never going to decide that the principle upon which our whole republican system rests is vicious and wrong."
-Stephen Douglas, Senator from Illinois

Explain Douglas’s argument and outline IN DETAIL what resulted from it.

Sam Houston’s response to this result was, "Maintain the Missouri Compromise! Stir not up agitation! Give us peace!" What did Houston fear?

What political party emerged largely due to this result?

In 1855 it was time to elect members of the first territorial legislature (Kansas) and proslavery “border ruffians” poured in from Missouri to vote early and often. Slavery supporters triumphed, setting up their own government at Shawnee Mission; free-soilers established their own regime in Topeka.

Define the following terms:

Border ruffian:
Free-soiler:

To what extent were free-soilers racist?

An 1854 cartoon depicts a giant free soiler being held down by James Buchanan and Lewis Cass standing on the Democratic platform marked "Kansas," "Cuba" and "Central America".
Franklin Pierce also holds down the giant’s beard as Stephen A. Douglas shoves a black man down his throat.

James Buchanan was…
Lewis Cass was…
Franklin Pierce was…
Stephen Douglas was…
“Old John Brown” led a band of his followers to Pottawatomie Creek, Kansas in May 1856. There they literally hacked five surprised men to pieces who were pro-slaveryites.

Who is John Brown?

What exactly are the Jayhawkers and Bushwackers actually fighting over?

Is it fairer to consider “Bleeding Kansas” was a foreshadowing of the Civil War or that the Civil War began in Kansas?

Proslavery forces in Kansas created the Lecompton Constitution which said people were not allowed to vote for or against the constitution as a whole, but for the constitution “with slavery” or “without slavery”. If the people voted against slavery, the constitution would protect the owners of slaves already in Kansas, so whichever way the people voted slavery would still exist in Kansas.

Explain the significance and outcome of the Lecompton Constitution.
(Keep in mind that this is a proposal by the pro-slavery side who set up their capital in Lecompton... the opposing group set up their capital in Topeka and submitted their own constitution to Congress for statehood).

An abolitionist, Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner delivered an infamous speech, “The Crime Against Kansas,” in which he condemned supporters of slavery. After he insulted Senator Andrew Butler of South Carolina Preston S. Brooks, a Representative from South Carolina, approached Sumner and beat him with a cane until it broke. Sumner fell bleeding and unconscious. This attack showed how dangerously unstable the Northern and Southern relations were.

To what extent did the conflict between Senator Sumner and Senator Brooks mirror what happened nationwide?

“Saint John” Brown also led the attacks at Harper’s Ferry, a federal arsenal in Virginia, trying to begin a rebellion of slaves. He was tried and convicted for murder and treason, but there was much protest against his execution. His unflinching devotion to his work and the poise and character that he showed up until the second he died helped send Brown into martyrdom.

What does this painting celebrate?

John Stuart Curry, Tragic Prelude, A mural in the Kansas State Capitol, Topeka, Kansas depicting John Brown.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1859</th>
<th>John Brown: Murder or Martyr?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1859...John Brown: Murder or Martyr?  
At Harpers Ferry John Brown seized the federal arsenal in October 1859, killing seven innocent people. Brown wanted the slaves to join him in an uproar, but they failed to rise. Brown and his followers were captured by the U.S. Marines led by Lieutenant Lee. He was executed for his crime. | |
The Elections... explain the significant issues of each election.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1848</th>
<th>Zachary Taylor</th>
<th>Lewis Cass</th>
<th>Martin Van Buren</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Party</td>
<td>Whig</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>Free Soil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home state</td>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running mate</td>
<td>Millard Fillmore</td>
<td>William O. Butler</td>
<td>Charles F. Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral vote</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States carried</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular vote</td>
<td>1,361,393</td>
<td>1,223,460</td>
<td>291,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>47.3%</td>
<td>42.5%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What were the main issues in 1848?

How did the Free-Soil Party affect the election results?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1852</th>
<th>Franklin Pierce</th>
<th>Winfield Scott</th>
<th>John P. Hale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Party</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>Whig</td>
<td>Free Soil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home state</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral vote</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States carried</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular vote</td>
<td>1,607,510</td>
<td>1,386,942</td>
<td>155,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>50.8%</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What were the issues in 1852??

What was happening to the Whig Party?

What actions did President Pierce take in Cuba?

Nicaragua?

What was the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty?

Treaty with Japan?

Ostend Manifesto and the Northern response?
Presidential Elections Continued

### 1856

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>James Buchanan</th>
<th>John C. Frémont</th>
<th>Millard Fillmore</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Party</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>Know Nothing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home state</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running mate</td>
<td>John C. Breckinridge</td>
<td>William L. Dayton</td>
<td>Andrew J. Donelson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral vote</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States carried</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular vote</td>
<td>1,836,072</td>
<td>1,342,345</td>
<td>873,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>45.3%</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1860

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Abraham Lincoln</th>
<th>Stephen A. Douglas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Party</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home state</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running mate</td>
<td>Hannibal Hamlin</td>
<td>Herschel V. Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral vote</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States carried</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular vote</td>
<td>1,865,908</td>
<td>1,380,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>39.8%</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What were the issues of 1856?

Who were the Know-Nothings?

Notice the Republicans? 😊

Third and final two-party system!

Explain what is meant by “Lincoln was a minority president.”

Is it fair to call the presidential election of 1860 “the most fateful in American history”? Why?
Republican Party... a review...

1. Formed in 1854 when a coalition of Independent Democrats, Free Soilers, and Conscience Whigs united in opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska Bill.
2. Stressed free labor and opposed the extension of slavery in the territories ("Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men!").
3. Moderates, like Abraham Lincoln, could, therefore, oppose slavery on "moral" grounds as wrong, while admitting that slavery had a "right" to exist where the Constitution originally allowed it to exist.
4. John C. Fremont was the first Republican presidential candidate in the election of 1856.

The Election of 1860

Democrats

1. Split at its 1860 Convention in Charleston, South Carolina when a platform defending slavery was defeated and Deep South delegates walked out.
2. At a splinter convention held at Baltimore, Maryland, Stephen Douglas of Illinois was nominated as presidential candidate on a platform opposing any Congressional interference with slavery.
3. Southern delegates met and nominated John Breckenridge of Kentucky as a candidate on a pro-slavery platform.

Republicans

1. The Republicans, by this time a overtly sectional and decidedly opposed to slavery draw in most northerners with a platform favoring a homestead act, a protective tariff, and transportation improvements.
2. The platform opposed the extension of slavery but defended the right of states to control their own "domestic institutions."
3. Abraham Lincoln is nominated presidential candidate on the third ballot.

Impact of Lincoln's election:

Fellow-Citizens of the United States:

...Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican Administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that--
I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so.

...My countrymen, one and all, think calmly and 'well' upon this whole subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. If there be an object to 'hurry' any of you in hot haste to a step which you would never take 'deliberately', that object will be frustrated by taking time; but no good object can be frustrated by it. Such of you as are now dissatisfied still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and, on the sensitive point, the laws of your own framing under it; while the new Administration will have no immediate power, if it would, to change either. If it were admitted that you who are dissatisfied hold the right side in the dispute, there still is no single good reason for precipitate action. Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him who has never yet forsaken this favored land are still competent to adjust in the best way all our present difficulty.

...In 'your' hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in 'mine', is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assault 'you'. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. 'You' have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the Government, while I shall have the most solemn one to "preserve, protect, and defend it."

I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

Following secession, Jefferson Davis was elected the president of the Confederate States of America. Davis was a member of the U.S. Senate from Mississippi who was skilled in both military and administration. He also suffered from chronic ill health and a frustrated ambition to be a Napoleonic strategist.

Was Jefferson Davis doomed to failure?

The Crittenden amendments were designed by Senator Crittenden to appease the South from seceding. Slavery was to be prohibited in the territories north of the 36' 30" but south of that line it was to be given federal protection in all territories existing or "hereafter to be acquired" (like Cuba). Future states could choose whether they did or didn't want slavery.

Why didn't the Crittenden Compromise work at preventing secession/war?

Why didn't Lincoln's speech (inaugural) work at preventing secession/war?