Causes of the Civil War

• Benchmark:
  • SS.8.A.5.1 – Explain the causes, course, and consequences of the Civil War (sectionalism, slavery, states’ rights, balance of power in the Senate)

• Essential Questions:
  • Why does conflict develop?
  • What motivates people to act?

• Learning Goal:
  • I will be able to identify the causes of the Civil War.

• Key Question:
  • Which event or topic gives the best evidence that the Civil War was inevitable?

• Homework:
  • Read Ch. 16, Lesson 2 and answer questions 1-6 on pg. 444 (complete sentences) – Due Thursday 4/23
Quiz: Causes of the Civil War

Thursday 4/23
Primary Source Activity: Causes of the Civil War

Directions

1. Take turns reading the document aloud.
2. While one group member is reading, the other students should be identifying information and writing it down.
3. Answer all questions before the time runs out.
4. Once time runs out, move tables and repeat the process.

---

1. Nat Turner’s Rebellion
   Date of Event/Time Period:

   What important facts can I learn from this document?

   Overall, what is the main idea of this document?

   How could the information described in this document help cause the Civil War?
Primary Source Activity: Causes of the Civil War

Which event or topic gives the best evidence that the Civil War was inevitable?
Nat Turner’s Rebellion

“The slaves’ prospects for achieving anything substantial through organized rebellion at any time between 1815 and 1860 were, in short about as bleak as could be – as both Nat Turner and John Brown tragically learned- and why most of them, having developed understandings and interpretations of the course of national and international events, waited until their imagined allies struck the first blow.”

- Excerpt from *The Political Worlds of Slavery and Freedom* by Steven Hahn, 2009
Blacks were less than 1 percent of the Northern population, but accounted for 10 percent of the Union army. Eighty-five percent of all eligible blacks enlisted.

- **180,000 African-Americans** fought for the Union
- **25% of Union soldiers** were immigrants or second-generation Americans
- **400+ women** disguised their identities and secretly served
- **10,000+ Native Americans** fought in the war — on both sides
The Abolition Movement

The abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison thought the U.S. Constitution was the result of a terrible bargain between freedom and slavery. Calling the Constitution a "covenant with death" and "an agreement with Hell," he refused to participate in American electoral politics because to do so meant supporting "the pro-slavery, war sanctioning Constitution of the United States." Instead, under the slogan **"No Union with Slaveholders,"** the Garrisonians repeatedly argued for a dissolution of the Union.
Video: Are We Free: The Abolitionist Movement (4:26)
The Compromise of 1850 is composed of five statues enacted in September of 1850:

1. The acts called for the admission of California as a “free state”
2. provided for a territorial government for Utah and New Mexico
3. established a boundary between Texas and the United States
4. called for the abolition of slave trade in Washington, DC
5. amended the Fugitive Slave Act.
Fugitive Slave Act

• It required that all escaped slaves were, upon capture, to be returned to their masters and that officials and citizens of free states had to cooperate in this law.

• Abolitionists nicknamed it the "Bloodhound Law" for the dogs that were used to track down runaway slaves.
Uncle Tom’s Cabin

- Anti-slavery novel by Harriet Beecher Stowe
- Bestseller
- Helped fuel anti-slavery cause
“...when admitted as a State or States, the said Territory or any portion of the same, shall be received into the Union with [or] without slavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of the admission...” Excerpt from Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)
Bleeding Kansas

“Bleeding Kansas” is the term used to described the period of violence during the settling of the Kansas territory.

In 1854 the Kansas-Nebraska Act overturned the Missouri Compromise and instead, using the principle of popular sovereignty, decreed that the residents would determine whether the area became a free state or a slave state.

Proslavery and free-state settlers flooded into Kansas to try to influence the decision.

Violence soon erupted as both factions fought for control.
Sumner-Brooks Affair

Considered symbolic of the "breakdown of reasoned discourse" that eventually led to the American Civil War.
Video: A House Divided: The Events Leading to Secession

(4:09)
Chapter 16, Lesson 2: Challenges to Slavery

Read pgs. 439-444 (10 min)
Dred v. Sandford (1857)

“They had for more than a century before been regarded as beings of an inferior order, and altogether unfit to associate with the white race, either in social or political relations, and so far unfit that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect.”

- Majority Opinion from Chief Justice Roger B. Taney

• Taney reached the conclusion that no person descended from an American slave had ever been a citizen.

• The Court then held the Missouri Compromise unconstitutional, hoping to end the slavery question once and for all.
“Cotton is King”

“If I am right in my calculations...there is not a nation on the face of the earth, with any numerous population, that can compete with us [The South] in produce per capita.”
“A House Divided”

- Of the 1,000 Republican delegates who met in Springfield, Illinois, for the Republican State Convention, Lincoln was chosen to be the candidate for the United States Senate.
- He was running against Democrat Stephen A. Douglas.
- Many thought this speech was too radical. Leonard Sweet, a fellow attorney, said Lincoln lost the Senate campaign because of this speech.

“A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free.

I do not expect the Union to be dissolved — I do not expect the house to fall — but I do expect it will cease to be divided.

It will become all one thing or all the other.
- Abraham Lincoln, June 16, 1858
• In 1859, Brown and 21 of his followers attacked and occupied the federal arsenal in Harpers Ferry.
• Their goal was to capture supplies and use them to arm a slave rebellion.
• Brown was captured during the raid and later hanged, but not before becoming an anti-slavery icon.
### 1860 Future Confederate State Populations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Date of Secession</th>
<th>Slaves</th>
<th>Free Blacks</th>
<th>Total Blacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH CAROLINA</td>
<td>Dec. 20, 1860</td>
<td>57.2%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>58.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MISSISSIPPI</td>
<td>Jan. 9, 1861</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>55.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLORIDA</td>
<td>Jan. 10, 1861</td>
<td>44.0%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALABAMA</td>
<td>Jan. 11, 1861</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>45.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA</td>
<td>Jan. 19, 1861</td>
<td>43.7%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>44.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOUISIANA</td>
<td>Jan. 26, 1861</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate Populations</td>
<td></td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Aggregate Populations of the First Six States to Secede**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Date of Secession</th>
<th>Slaves</th>
<th>Free Blacks</th>
<th>Total Blacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TEXAS</td>
<td>Feb. 1, 1861</td>
<td>30.2%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIRGINIA</td>
<td>Apr. 17, 1861</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARKANSAS</td>
<td>May 6, 1861</td>
<td>25.5%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TENNESSEE</td>
<td>May 7, 1861</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>25.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH CAROLINA</td>
<td>May 11, 1861</td>
<td>33.4%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>36.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Aggregate Populations of the Last Five States to Secede**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Date of Secession</th>
<th>Slaves</th>
<th>Free Blacks</th>
<th>Total Blacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KENTUCKY</td>
<td></td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARYLAND</td>
<td></td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DELAWARE</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MISSOURI</td>
<td></td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Aggregate Populations of the Nonseceding Slave States**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Date of Secession</th>
<th>Slaves</th>
<th>Free Blacks</th>
<th>Total Blacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Immediate Causes of Secession (South Carolina)

- Following the election of President Abraham Lincoln, many Southern states began to consider seceding from the Union.
- On December 20, 1860 South Carolina organized a convention on the issue of secession and became the first state to leave the Union.

[The President] has declared that that "Government cannot endure permanently half slave, half free," and that the public mind must rest in the belief that slavery is in the course of ultimate extinction...

...The slaveholding States will no longer have the power of self-government, or self-protection, and the Federal Government will have become their enemy...
“I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists...
...the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of power...of our political fabric depend”

Lincoln’s First Inaugural Address

- Lincoln’s First Inaugural Address was delivered on March 4, 1861, during “secession winter.”
- This speech was presented almost a month after Jefferson Davis delivered his inaugural address as President of the Confederate States of America.
- According to Lincoln, this address was his last effort to reunite the states.
Fort Sumter

- The first engagement of the Civil War took place at Fort Sumter on April 12 and 13, 1861 when Confederates attacked.
- After 34 hours of fighting, the Union surrendered the fort to the Confederates.
Video: 4:30AM April 12, 1861: The Civil War Begins (5:00)
Chapter 16, Lesson 2: Challenges to Slavery

Assignment:
• Read pgs. 439-444
• Answer questions 1-6 on page 444 in complete sentences.
• Homework if you don’t finish.
• Due Thursday 4/23

1. Use the word *arsenal* in a sentence about Harpers Ferry.
2. Explain the meaning of *martyr* as it relates to John Brown.
3. **Specifying** What issue led to the formation of the Republican Party, and what stand did the party take on the issue?
4. **Explaining** What reasons did Taney give for why he believed Dred Scott was an enslaved person?
5. **Identifying** How did the Lincoln-Douglas debates benefit Lincoln?
6. **Making Inferences** Why do you think the raid on Harpers Ferry by just a few men was so threatening to Southerners?