

Chapter 21: A Dividing Nation

Which events of the mid-1800s kept the nation together and which events pulled it apart?

P R E V I E W

In 1858, Abraham Lincoln warned, “A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

Answer the following questions below:

1. What do you think the “house” in Lincoln’s statement represents?
2. What might be dividing this house?
3. What do you think Lincoln meant by his statement?

Section 2

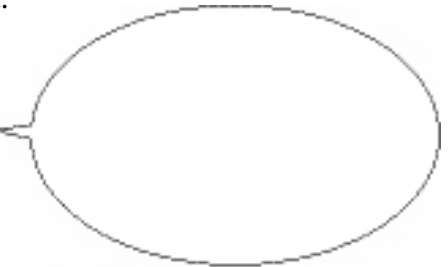
1. Label the map to show how the Northwest Ordinance regulated slavery.



2. Fill in the speech bubbles to show two arguments in the debate over Missouri statehood.



Northerner



Southerner

3. Why was it important to Southerners to keep an equal number of senators from free states and slave states in Congress?

Section 3

1. What were the three decisions in the Missouri Compromise?

I.)

II.)

III.)

2. Rewrite John Quincy Adams’s diary entry to explain how he felt about the Missouri Compromise.

I have favored this Missouri compromise, believing it to be all that could be effected [accomplished] under the present Constitution, and from extreme unwillingness to put the Union at hazard [risk]. If the Union must be dissolved, slavery is precisely the question on which it ought to break. For the present, however, the contest is laid asleep.

March 3, 1820

Section 4

1. What was John Quincy Adams's 1839 antislavery proposal? What was the gag rule, and how did it affect his proposal?

Wilmot Proviso:

2. How did the fugitive slave issue and the Wilmot Proviso pull the nation apart?

Fugitive slave issue:

3. Why did Northerners in Congress accept California's application for statehood while Southerners rejected it?

Section 5

1. List four details of Henry Clay's plan to end the deadlock over the issue of California statehood.

I.)

II.)

III.)

IV.)

Section 6

List two key details to describe each event in the chart. Also explain how each event pulled the nation apart.

Events After the Compromise of 1850	Two Key Details	How the Event Pulled the Nation Apart
Fugitive Slave Act passed		
<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> published		
Kansas-Nebraska Act passed		
Raid on Lawrence, Kansas		
Beating of Senator Sumner		

Section 7

1. Why did Dred Scott argue that he should be freed from slavery?

2. Choose and explain the two most important decisions that came out of the Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision.

3. Fill in the speech bubbles to show two different reactions to the Dred Scott decision.

The illustration shows two women in profile, facing each other. On the left is a woman with her hair in an updo, wearing a high-collared dress, labeled "Northerner". On the right is a woman with a powdered wig and a high-collared dress, labeled "Southerner". Between them are two large, empty oval speech bubbles, one pointing towards the Northerner and one pointing towards the Southerner.

Section 8

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Besides helping Stephen Douglas win the 1858 Senate race in Illinois, what were two other results of the Lincoln-Douglas debates? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Why did John Brown attempt to seize the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia? |
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Section 9

1. How did most Southerners react to the election of Lincoln in 1860.

2. What happened in the South on each of these dates?

December 20, 1860:

February 1861:

3. What did Lincoln state about secession in his inaugural address on March 4, 1861? What was his appeal to the rebellious Southern states?

4. How did most Northerners react to the events at Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina.