

## Ch. 19 Study Guide

*Drifting Toward Disunion 1854-1861*

## AP US History

**Theme:** A series of major North-South crises in the late 1850s culminated in the election of the antislavery Republican Lincoln to the presidency in 1860. His election caused seven southern states to secede from the union and form the Confederate States of America.

### Summary:

The 1850s were punctuated by successive confrontations that deepened sectional hostility until it broke out in the Civil War.

Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* fanned northern antislavery feeling. In Kansas, proslavery and antislavery forces fought a bloody little preview of the Civil War. Buchanan's support of the proslavery Lecompton Constitution alienated moderate northern Democrats like Douglas. Congressman Brooks' beating of senator Sumner aroused passions in both sections.

The 1856 election signaled the rise of the sectionally based Republican Party. The Dred Scott case delighted the South, while northern Republicans pledged defiance. The Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 deepened the national controversy over slavery. John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry made him a heroic martyr in the North but caused outraged southerners to fear a slave uprising.

The Democratic Party split along sectional lines, allowing Lincoln to win the four-way 1860 election. Seven southern states quickly seceded and organized the Confederate states of America.

As southerners optimistically cast off their ties to the hated North, lame-duck President Buchanan proved unable to act. The last-minute Crittenden Compromise effort failed because of Lincoln's opposition.

### Key Terms:

Harriet Beecher Stowe

*Uncle Tom's Cabin*

Hinton R. Helper

*The Impending Crisis of the South*

New England Emigrant Aid Society

John Brown

Pottawatomie Creek massacre

"Bleeding Kansas"

Lecompton Constitution

Sumner-Brooks affair

James Buchanan

John C. Fremont

American (Know-Nothing) party

Dred Scott decision

Roger B. Taney

Panic of 1857

Lincoln-Douglas debates

Freeport Doctrine

Harpers Ferry raid

John C. Breckenridge

Constitutional Union party

John Bell

Abraham Lincoln

Jefferson Davis

Crittenden Compromise

### Thought Provokers::

1. How did "**bleeding Kansas**" serve as a preview of the Civil War?
2. **Lincoln-Douglas debates:** Compare and Contrast the two candidates in the Illinois senatorial election of 1858 and their positions on slavery in new territories. How did the debates affect the slavery controversy and the election of 1860?
3. The U. S. government had a history of avoiding secession with the passage of several compromises. Relate the **Crittenden Compromise** to these legislative landmarks. Why did this diplomatic/democratic solution fail in 1860-1861?

**Identification** *Supply the correct identification for each numbered description.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. A powerful, personal novel that altered the course of American politics
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Book by a southern writer that argued that slavery oppressed poor whites
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Rifles paid for by New England abolitionists and brought to Kansas by antislavery pioneers
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Term that described the territory where a small-scale civil war erupted in 1856
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Tricky proslavery document designed to bring Kansas into the Union but blocked by Stephen A. Douglas
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Anti-immigrant party headed by former President Fillmore that competed with republicans and Democrats in the election of 1856
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Controversial Supreme Court ruling that blacks had no rights and that Congress could not prohibit slavery in the territories
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Sharp economic decline that increased northern demands for a high tariff and convinced southerners that the North was economically vulnerable
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Thoughtful political discussions during an Illinois Senate campaign that sharply defined national issues concerning slavery
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Middle-of-the-road party of elderly politicians that sought compromise in the 1860 but carried only three border states
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. First states to secede from the Union in December 1860
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. A new political entity that proclaimed its independence in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1861
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. A last-ditch plan to save the Union by providing guarantees for slavery in the territories
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Four-way race for the presidency that resulted in the election of a sectional minority president
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Period between Lincoln's election and his inauguration, during which the ineffectual President Buchanan remained in office

**Putting Things in Order** *Put the following events in correct order by numbering them from 1 to 5.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ A black slave's attempt to win freedom produces a controversial Supreme Court decision
- \_\_\_\_\_ A newly organized territory becomes a bloody battleground between proslavery and antislavery forces
- \_\_\_\_\_ The hanging of a financially violent abolitionist makes him a martyr in the North and a hated symbol in the South
- \_\_\_\_\_ A "black Republican" whose minority sectional victory in a presidential election provokes southern secession
- \_\_\_\_\_ The fictional tale of a black slave's vicious treatment by the cruel Simon Legree touched millions of northerners' hearts and creates stronger opposition to slavery
- \_\_\_\_\_ A group of states calling itself a new southern nation declares its independence and chooses its first president

### Matching People, Places and Events

Match the person, place or event in the left column with the proper description in the right column by inserting the correct letter on the blank line.

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|--|---|
| ____ 1. Harriet Beecher Stowe            | <b>A.</b> Southern congressman whose bloody attack on a northern senator fueled sectional hatred                      |
| ____ 2. Hinton R. Helper                 | <b>B.</b> Leading northern Democrat whose presidential hopes fell victim to the conflict over slavery                 |
| ____ 3. New England Emigrant Aid Company | <b>C.</b> Black slave whose unsuccessful attempt to win his freedom deepened the sectional controversy                |
| ____ 4. John Brown                       | <b>D.</b> Former United States senator who in 1861 became the president of what called itself a new nation            |
| ____ 5. James Buchanan                   | <b>E.</b> “The little woman who wrote the book that made this great war” (the Civil War)                              |
| ____ 6. Charles Sumner                   | <b>F.</b> Fanatical and bloody-minded abolitionist martyr admired in the North and hated in the South                 |
| ____ 7. Preston Brooks                   | <b>G.</b> Southern-born author whose book attacking slavery’s effects on whites aroused northern opinion              |
| ____ 8. John C. Fremont                  | <b>H.</b> Scene of militant abolitionist John Brown’s massacre of proslavery men in 1856                              |
| ____ 9. Dred Scott                       | <b>I.</b> Site where seceding states united to declare their independence from the United States                      |
| ____ 10. Harpers Ferry, Virginia         | <b>J.</b> Romantic western hero and the first Republican candidate for president                                      |
| ____ 11. Stephen A. Douglas              | <b>K.</b> Abolitionist senator whose verbal attack on the South provoked a physical assault that severely injured him |
| ____ 12. Pottawatomie Creek, Kansas      | <b>L.</b> Site of a federal arsenal where a militant abolitionist attempted to start a slave rebellion                |
| ____ 13. John C. Breckenridge            | <b>M.</b> Buchanan’s vice president, nominated for president by breakaway southern Democrats in 1860                  |
| ____ 14. Montgomery, Alabama             | <b>N.</b> Weak Democratic president whose manipulation by proslavery forces divided his own party                     |
| ____ 15. Jefferson Davis                 | <b>O.</b> Abolitionist group that sent settlers and “Beecher’s Bibles” to oppose slavery in Kansas                    |

### Matching Cause and Effect

Match the historical cause in the left column with the proper effect in the right column by writing the correct letter on the blank line.

#### Cause

- \_\_\_\_ 1. H. B. Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- \_\_\_\_ 2. The exercise of "popular sovereignty" in Kansas
- \_\_\_\_ 3. Buchanan's support for the proslavery Lecompton Constitution
- \_\_\_\_ 4. The Dred Scott case
- \_\_\_\_ 5. The 1858 Illinois senate race
- \_\_\_\_ 6. John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry
- \_\_\_\_ 7. The splitting of the Democratic Party in 1860
- \_\_\_\_ 8. The election of Lincoln as president
- \_\_\_\_ 9. the "lame-duck" period and Buchanan's indecisiveness
- \_\_\_\_ 10. Lincoln's rejection of the Crittenden Compromise

#### Effect

- A.** Moved South Carolina to declare immediate secession from the Union
- B.** Shattered one of the last links between the sections and almost guaranteed Lincoln's victory in 1860
- C.** Convinced southerners that the North generally supported murder and slave rebellion
- D.** Made Lincoln a leading national Republican figure and hurt Douglas's presidential chances
- E.** Ended the last hopes of a peaceable sectional settlement and an end to secession
- F.** Paralyzed the North as the southern secessionist movement gained momentum
- G.** Infuriated Republicans and made them determined to defy the Supreme Court
- H.** Offended Senator Douglas and divided the Democratic Party
- I.** Persuaded millions of northerners and Europeans that the evil of slavery should be eliminated
- J.** Led to fierce and often violent competition between proslavery and antislavery groups

Answers:

#### Identification

- 1. *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- 2. *The Impending Crisis of the South*
- 3. Beecher's Bibles
- 4. "Bleeding Kansas"
- 5. Lecompton Constitution
- 6. Know-Nothing Party
- 7. Dred Scott Case
- 8. Panic of 1857
- 9. Lincoln-Douglas debates
- 10. Constitutional Union party
- 11. South Carolina
- 12. Confederate States of America
- 13. Crittenden Compromise
- 14. Election of 1860
- 15. "lame-duck" period

#### People, Places, Events

- 1. E
- 2. G
- 3. O
- 4. F
- 5. N
- 6. K
- 7. A
- 8. J
- 9. C
- 10. L
- 11. B
- 12. H
- 13. M
- 14. I
- 15. D

#### Putting Things in Order

- 3, 2, 4, 5, 1, 6

#### Cause and Effect

- 1. I
- 2. J
- 3. H
- 4. G
- 5. D
- 6. C
- 7. B
- 8. A
- 9. F
- 10. E