

**APUSH**  
**Chapter 18 EQs**

- 1) What urgent issues created the crisis leading up to the Compromise of 1850?
- 2) What was the effect of the morally powerful slavery debate on American political parties? What caused the demise of the Whig party, and the rise of the Free Soil and Republican parties?
- 3) How did the Compromise of 1850 attempt to deal with the most difficult issues concerning slavery? Was the Compromise a “success?” By what standard?
- 4) Why were proslavery southerners so eager to push for further expansion in Nicaragua, Cuba, and elsewhere in the 1850s?
- 5) What fundamentally motivated the new American engagement with China and Japan in the 1840s and 1850s? Were the treaties negotiated by Caleb Cushing and Matthew Perry expressions of the expansionist spirit of “manifest destiny” and general Western imperialism, or were Americans genuinely interested in economic and cultural exchange with East Asia?
- 6) What were the causes and consequences of the Kansas-Nebraska Act?
- 7) How similar was the Compromise of 1850 to the Missouri Compromise of 1820? (See chapter 13.) How did each sectional compromise affect the balance of power between North and South? Why could sectional issues be compromised in 1820 and 1850, but not in 1854?
- 8) Because Senator Stephen A. Douglas’s Kansas-Nebraska Act re-ignited the slavery issue after the Compromise of 1850, should he bear responsibility as an instigator of the Civil War? How and why might Civil War have come even if Douglas’s bill had not been enacted?