

Name: _____

SUMMER HOMEWORK – INCOMING 8TH GRADERS

THE ABOLITIONIST MOVEMENT AND EVENTS LEADING TO THE CIVIL WAR

Answer the following questions typed on a Google document or written on a sheet of loose leaf paper. Be sure to restate the question, answer in complete sentences, give plenty of detail, and keep it neat. You can certainly do further research to back up your answers. We will discuss these questions when we return in September, and this will be counted as three homework assignments.

Sources:

Crash Course #13 Slavery – U. S. History

Crash Course #7 – War and Expansion – U.S. History

Crash Course #18 Election of 1860 and the Road to Disunion – U. S. History

Questions:

1. Define the word abolition. Explain how this word was associated with slavery.
2. Explain how southerners try to defend the institution of slavery. Consider some political, economic, and social arguments.
3. Why was the admission of the state of Missouri as a state controversial?
4. What were the terms of the Missouri Compromise of 1820? How did this affect westward expansion?
5. Describe the terms of the Compromise of 1850, clarifying what the North and South gained in the agreement.
6. Explain why The Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 was controversial and angered northerners.
7. Stephen A. Douglas supported a concept called “popular sovereignty.” Explain what it was and how it was connected to the statehood of Kansas and Nebraska.
8. What events took place in Kansas, which eventually became known as “Bleeding Kansas?”
9. Who was John Brown, and what did he do both in Kansas and Harper’s Ferry, Virginia?
10. Explain how and why the Republican Party was formed. What were its core beliefs?
11. Who was Dred Scott, and what was the situation concerning his status as a slave?
12. What was the Dred Scott Decision, and what was the reaction of abolitionists and northerners to this decision?
13. How did the Lincoln-Douglas debates help Abraham Lincoln’s long term public career?
14. Why was Abraham Lincoln able to win the Election of 1860?
15. What state was the first to leave the United States, and what did other southern states eventually form?