

Name: _____ Date: _____

Unearthing the Crisis of the 1850s: A 10th Grade Civil War Quest

Sophomores will synthesize primary source perspectives from the Lecompton Constitution through the Crittenden Compromise to evaluate the breakdown of national discourse.

1. Which specific provision of the Compromise of 1850 proved most polarizing, as it required citizens in free states to assist in the recovery of freedom-seekers, effectively federalizing the protection of property in humans?

- A. The admission of California as a free state
- B. The Fugitive Slave Act
- C. The abolition of the slave trade in D.C.
- D. The implementation of popular sovereignty in Utah

2. The 1860 Constitutional Union Party, led by John Bell, campaigned primarily on a platform that explicitly endorsed the expansion of slavery into all Western territories.

- A. True
- B. False

3. During the 1850s, the concept of _____, championed by Stephen Douglas, suggested that local residents should decide the legal status of slavery within their territory.

- A. Manifest Destiny
- B. Nullification
- C. Popular Sovereignty
- D. Judicial Review

4. The 1862 Homestead Act is often analyzed as a wartime measure. How did this legislation serve Union interests during the Civil War?

- A. It funded the construction of ironclad warships
- B. It incentivized Western settlement with free land, promoting a vision of 'free labor' territories
- C. It mandated the drafting of all farmers into the Union Army
- D. It provided immediate financial reparations to border states

5. Which post-war labor system emerged as a compromise between former planters' desire for controlled labor and freedpeople's desire for independence, yet often led to cycles of debt?

- A. The Encomienda System
- B. Industrial Apprenticeship
- C. Convict Leasing
- D. Sharecropping

6. The _____ Amendment, ratified in 1870, prohibited the denial of suffrage based on 'race, color, or previous condition of servitude' but notably omitted gender as a protected category.

Name: _____ Date: _____

- A. Thirteenth
- B. Fourteenth
- C. Fifteenth
- D. Sixteenth

7. The 'Redeemers' were a political coalition in the South during the 1870s that sought to protect the civil rights advancements of the Radical Republicans.

- A. True
- B. False

8. Assess the impact of the Morrill Land-Grant Act of 1862. What was its primary contribution to American society during and after the war?

- A. It established a national banking system
- B. It provided federal land to states to finance agricultural and mechanical colleges
- C. It funded the first transcontinental telegraph line
- D. It offered a path to citizenship for European immigrants who joined the Union

9. General William T. Sherman's Special Field Orders, No. 15, is famous for suggesting the policy of _____, which briefly distributed land to freed families along the coast.

- A. Containment
- B. Forty Acres and a Mule
- C. The Freedman's Bank
- D. Reclamation

10. What was the primary constitutional justification used by Radical Republicans in Congress to oversee Military Reconstruction in the South?

- A. The 'state suicide' theory, suggesting Southern states had forfeited their rights
- B. The Second Amendment's right to bear arms
- C. The President's role as Commander in Chief
- D. The inherent powers of the Supreme Court to legislate from the bench