

Social Studies Virtual Learning

8th Grade American History Lesson #25

April 24, 2020



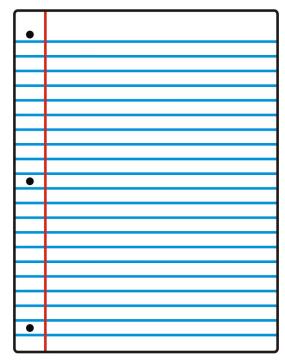
8th Grade American History Lesson: April 24, 2020

Objective/Learning Target: I can describe the Election of 1860.

Make sure you have a piece of paper and a pencil available to complete this lesson:

During this lesson you will be asked to complete the tasks below - make sure you record your thinking on a piece a paper so you can review it later.

- Warm up
- Lesson Activity
- Practice
- Reflection



Warm Up

The list on the right depicts the steps to the Presidential election process. However, these steps are out of order. Use your prior knowledge and context clues to try to unscramble this list into the correct order.



- Each Presidential nominee and their running mate campaign throughout the country to gain support from the general population
- The nominee to gain 270 or more electors wins the race
- Electoral College- Electors from each state (number varies per state) use the votes to decide which nominee wins their election
- Primary/Caucus- party members decide who should represent their party
- Election Day- people from each state cast their vote
- Many candidates campaign to try to win their party's nomination
- The newly elected President and Vice President are inaugurated on Jan. 20th
- National Convention- each party (Democrats and Republicans) announce their nominee and the Presidential nominees announce their running mates (Vice President choice)

Warm Up

The list on the right depicts the steps to the Presidential election process. However, these steps are out of order. Use your prior knowledge and context clues to try to unscramble this list into the correct order.

Answer Key



- 1. Many candidates campaign to try to win their party's nomination
- 2. Primary/Caucus- party members decide who should represent their party
- 3. National Convention- each party (Democrats and Republicans) announce their nominee and the Presidential nominees announce their running mates (Vice President choice)
- Each Presidential nominee and their running mate campaign throughout the country to gain support from the general population
- 5. Election Day- people from each state cast their vote
- 6. Electoral College- Electors from each state (number varies per state) use the votes to decide which nominee wins their election
- 7. The nominee to gain 270 or more electors wins the race
- 8. The newly elected President and Vice President are inaugurated on Jan. 20th

Today, we will discuss another divisive event leading up to the Civil War, the **Election of 1860**. We will start by watching a video, reviewing previous events we have discussed, how they led up to this election, and then we will examine how this election was so consequential.



During the video, **take notes** on the following...

- 3 Facts you recall from previous lessons
- **2** Facts about the Election of 1860
- **1** Question you still have about events leading up to the Civil War
 - 1. Double-click on the video to make it larger
 - 2. Use the CC to turn on captions
 - 3. Use Settings and then Playback speed to slow it down
- 4. Play and pause the video as needed



Take notes on the additional information about the Election of 1860

Parties-

- Democratic Party
 - Northern Democrats- Believed slavery should be decided by popular sovereignty
 - Southern Democrats- Believed slavery should be protected by federal law
- Republican Party
 - Fairly new party developed in response to Kansas-Nebraska Act and the Dred Scott ruling
 - Replaced the dwindling Whig party
- Constitutional Union Party
 - Former Whigs and Know Nothings
 - Wanted to push aside the issue of slavery to avoid secession

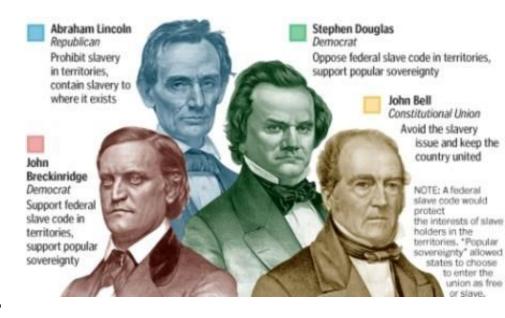
Answer the following questions about the graphic...

1. Who was the Southern Democrat nominee?

2. Who was the Northern Democrat nominee?

3. Who was the Republican nominee?

4. Who was the Constitutional Union nominee?



Answer Key

1. Who was the Southern Democrat nominee?

John Breckinridge

2. Who was the Northern Democrat nominee?

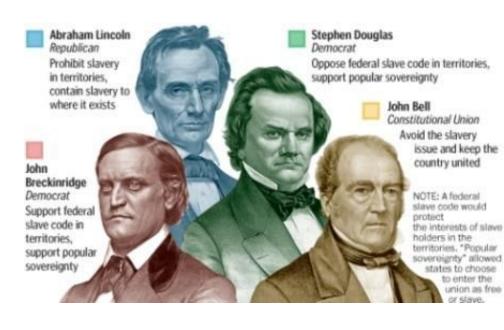
Stephen Douglas

3. Who was the Republican nominee?

Abraham Lincoln

4. Who was the Constitutional Union nominee?

John Bell



Practice

To understand the significance of the Election of 1860, what set it aside from previous elections, we will **compare and contrast** electoral maps from before, during, and after the Election of 1860 and **answer questions** to show our understanding. Please answer each question in **at least one complete sentence**.



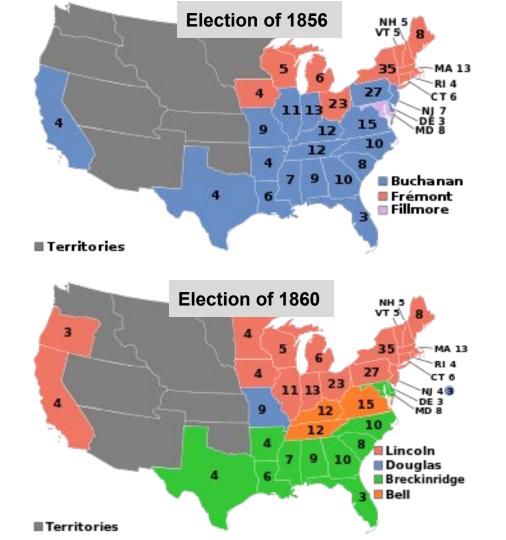
Practice

Compare and contrast the two maps and answer the following questions...

1. What differences do you see between the two electoral maps?

2. What events led to these changes in political views?

3. Who won the Election of 1860? (count the numbers for each party)

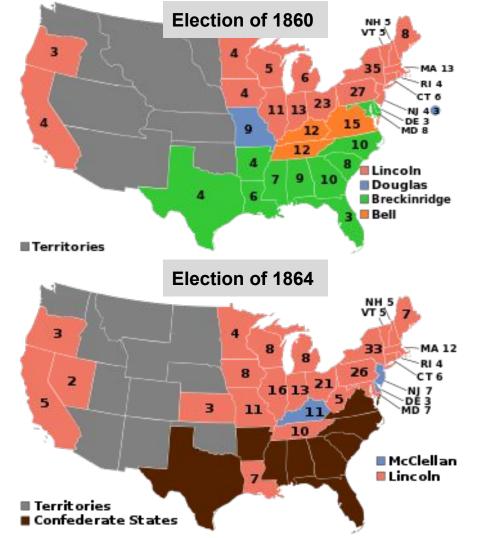


Practice

Compare and contrast the two maps and answer the following questions...

1. What differences do you see between the two electoral maps?

What can we infer led to the **secession** of the Confederate States?



secession- the withdrawal of states from the Union

Reflection

Many southern states were afraid the election of Abraham Lincoln would mean the end of slavery across the entire nation. On December 20, 1860 (one month and 14 days after Lincoln was elected President), South Carolina seceded from the United States (Union), and issued the statement to the right. Soon after, many more southern states followed, leading to the start of the Civil War.

Read the source on the right and **reflect** on the following question...

Was the Election of 1860 the final straw for southern states to secede or was it already inevitable?

"We, the people of the State of South Carolina, in convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained. That the ordinance adopted by us in convention on the twenty-third day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, whereby the Constitution of the United States of America was ratified, and also all acts and parts of acts of the General Assembly of this State ratifying amendments of the said Constitution, are hereby repealed; and that the union now subsisting between South Carolina and other States, under the name of the "United States of America," is hereby dissolved."

Done at Charleston the twentieth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty.