A Divided Nation

Free printable US history and geography activities for grades 3-8



When
From 1820 to 1865: the Missouri Compromise, the road to the Civil War and the end of slavery.

Big ideas
How free and slave states split the nation, the Underground Railroad, the Compromise of 1850 and the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation.

Where
The states as they were in 1850, 1854 and 1861, the border states, and the routes from slavery to freedom in the North and Canada.

JigsawGeo Teaching Resources

Download on the App Store

Want to explore geography digitally? Try JigsawGeo for iPhone and iPad.

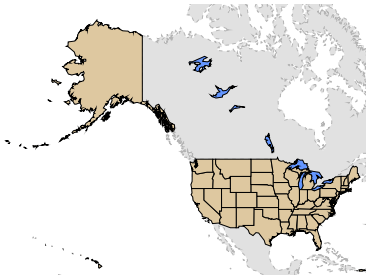


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Take Geography Beyond the Worksheet

Enjoying these free printable activities? There's a digital way to explore the United States, too.

JigsawGeo turns the maps behind A Divided Nation into interactive puzzles for iPhone and iPad. Assemble the United States state by state, explore borders and capitals, and learn geography at your own pace - at home or in the classroom. Missions from Traveler to Cartographer, with as much or as little help as you like, let the app grow with your students from grade 2 through grade 8.



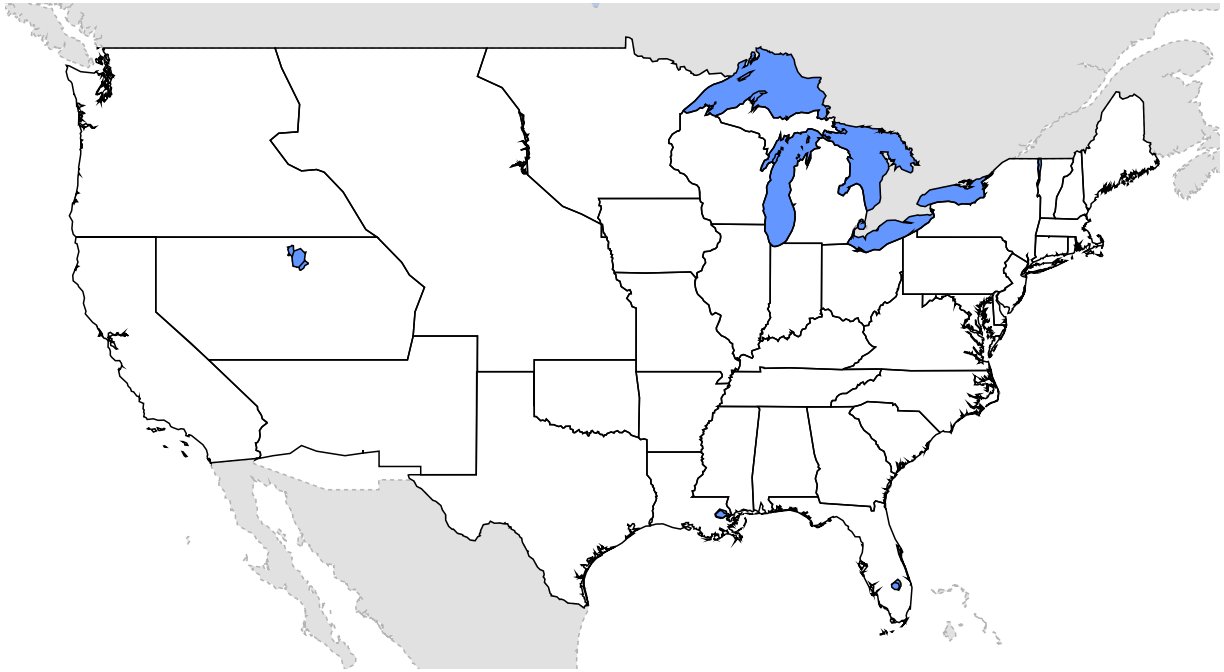
JigsawGeo - Interactive geography for curious minds.

Download on the App Store

Scan to learn more or download JigsawGeo.

Free States and Slave States, 1850

First color each legend box with a color you choose. Then color each state and territory to match its box.



☐ Free (slavery not allowed)

California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota Territory, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon Territory, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Unorganized Territory, Vermont, Wisconsin

☐ Slavery legal

Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia

☐ Settlers to decide

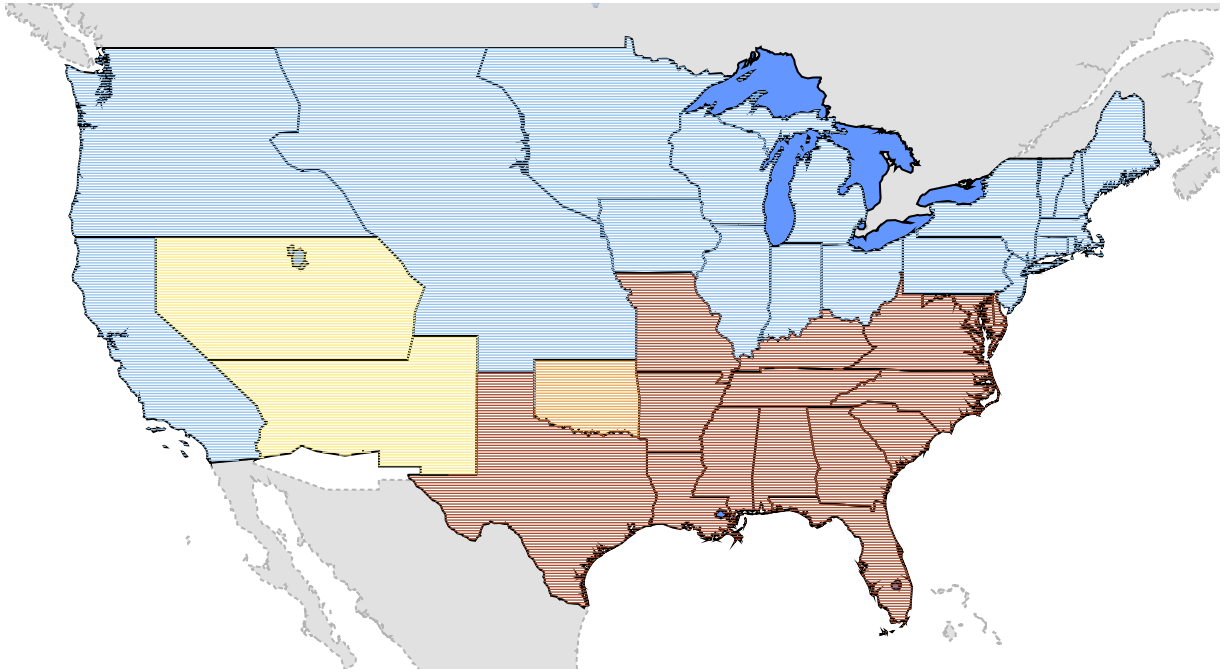
New Mexico Territory, Utah Territory

☐ Indian Territory (Native nations)

Indian Territory

1850: 16 free states and 15 slave states. Congress let settlers in the new Utah and New Mexico Territories decide about slavery. In Indian Territory each Native nation made its own laws, and the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Seminole nations allowed slavery. Territory borders are simplified. New Jersey counts as a free state, but a few people there were still held in bondage after its 1846 law.

Free States and Slave States, 1850 Answer Key

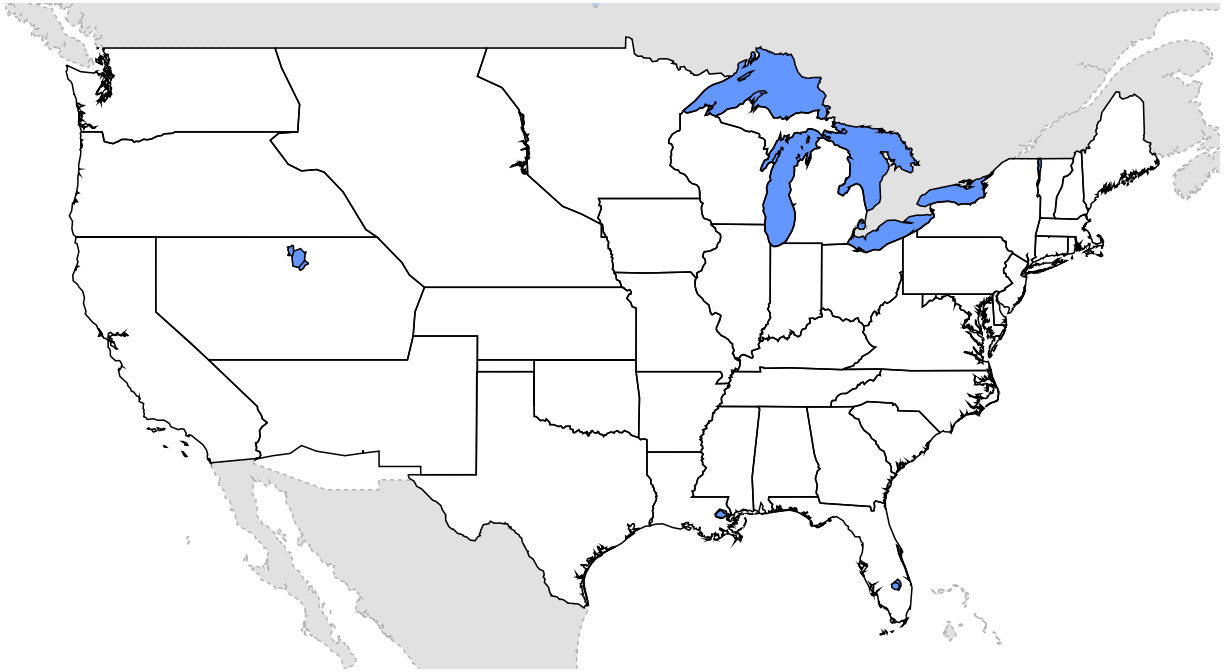


- Free (slavery not allowed)
- Slavery legal
- Settlers to decide
- Indian Territory (Native nations)

1850: 16 free states and 15 slave states. Congress let settlers in the new Utah and New Mexico Territories decide about slavery. In Indian Territory each Native nation made its own laws, and the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Seminole nations allowed slavery. Territory borders are simplified. New Jersey counts as a free state, but a few people there were still held in bondage after its 1846 law.

The States in 1854: Kansas-Nebraska Act

First color each legend box with a color you choose. Then color each state and territory to match its box.



☐ Free (slavery not allowed)

California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota Territory, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon Territory, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Unorganized Territory, Vermont, Washington Territory, Wisconsin

☐ Slavery legal

Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah Territory, Virginia

☐ Settlers to decide

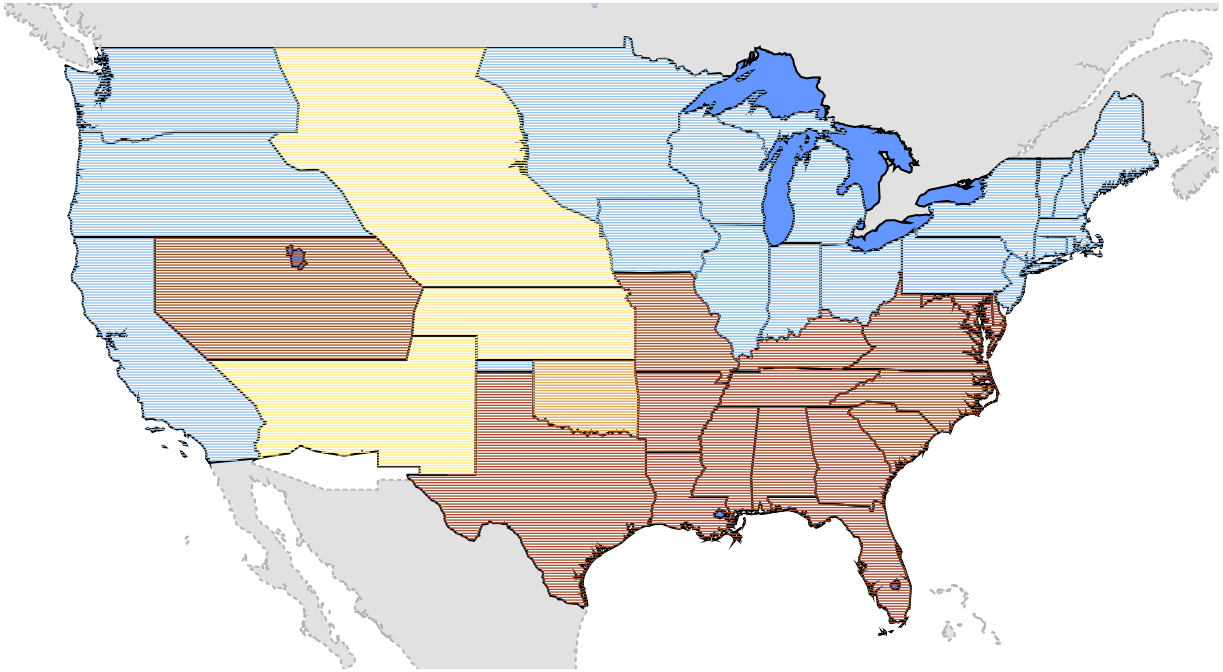
Kansas Territory, Nebraska Territory, New Mexico Territory

☐ Indian Territory (Native nations)

Indian Territory

In 1854 Congress let settlers in the new Kansas and Nebraska Territories decide about slavery. Nebraska Territory stretched north to Canada and west to the Rocky Mountains. Utah Territory made slavery legal in 1852. The small strip south of Kansas had no government, and no law there allowed slavery. In Indian Territory each Native nation made its own laws, and the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Seminole nations allowed slavery. Territory borders are simplified. New Jersey counts as a free state, but a few people there were still held in bondage after its 1846 law.

The States in 1854: Kansas-Nebraska Act Answer Key

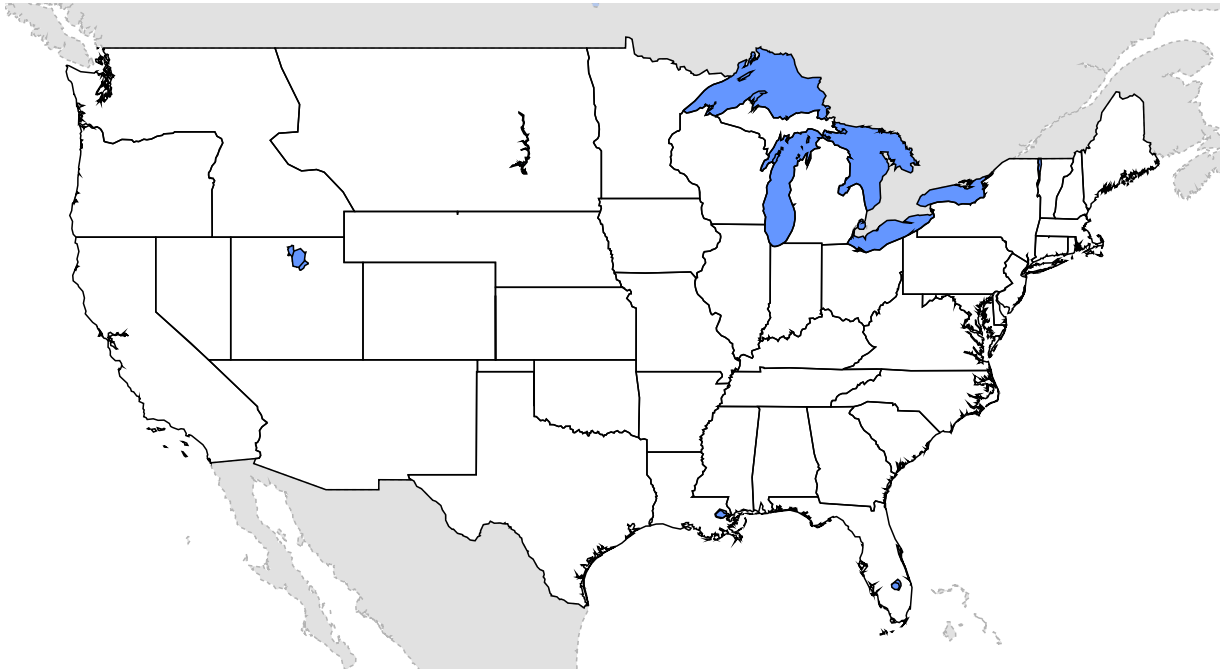


- Free (slavery not allowed)
- Slavery legal
- Settlers to decide
- Indian Territory (Native nations)

In 1854 Congress let settlers in the new Kansas and Nebraska Territories decide about slavery. Nebraska Territory stretched north to Canada and west to the Rocky Mountains. Utah Territory made slavery legal in 1852. The small strip south of Kansas had no government, and no law there allowed slavery. In Indian Territory each Native nation made its own laws, and the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Seminole nations allowed slavery. Territory borders are simplified. New Jersey counts as a free state, but a few people there were still held in bondage after its 1846 law.

The States in 1861

First color each legend box with a color you choose. Then color each state and territory to match its box.



☐ Union free state

California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin

☐ Union border state

Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri

☐ Confederate state

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia

☐ Union territory

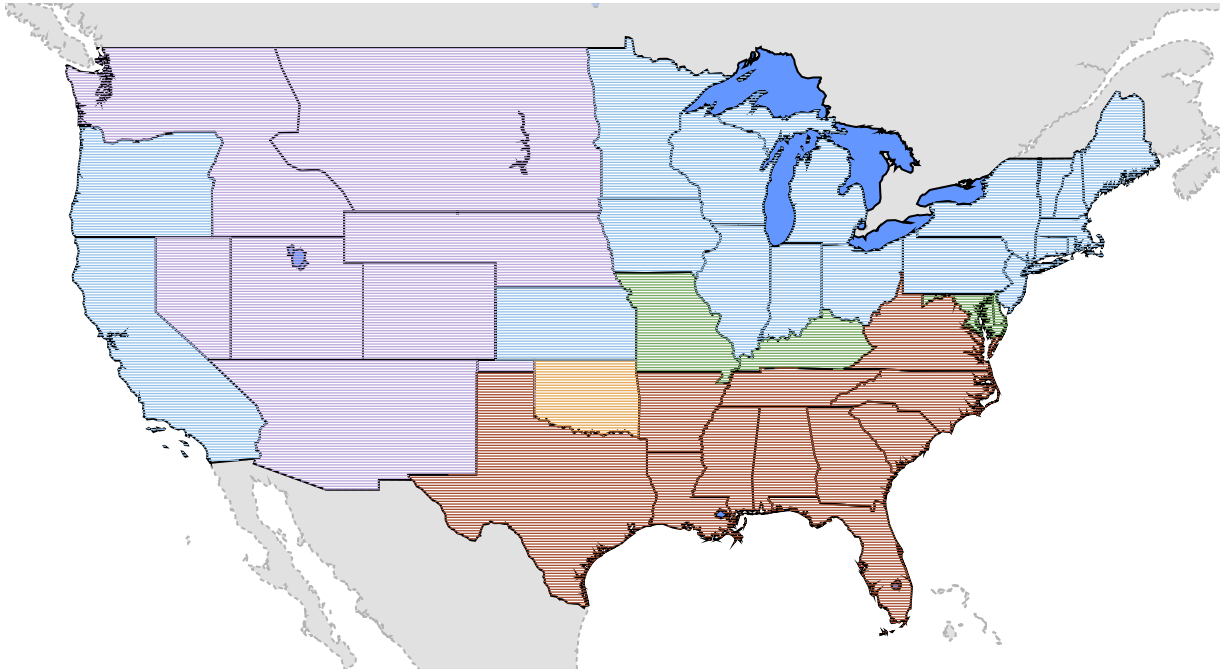
Colorado Territory, Dakota Territory, Nebraska Territory, Nevada Territory, New Mexico Territory, Unorganized Territory, Utah Territory, Washington Territory

☐ Indian Territory (Native nations)

Indian Territory

Virginia is drawn with what is now West Virginia, which split off in 1863. In July 1861 every territory was still in the Union, but slavery was legal in Utah and New Mexico Territories. In Indian Territory each Native nation made its own laws, and the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Seminole nations allowed slavery. Territory borders are simplified. New Jersey counts as a free state, but a few people there were still held in bondage after its 1846 law.

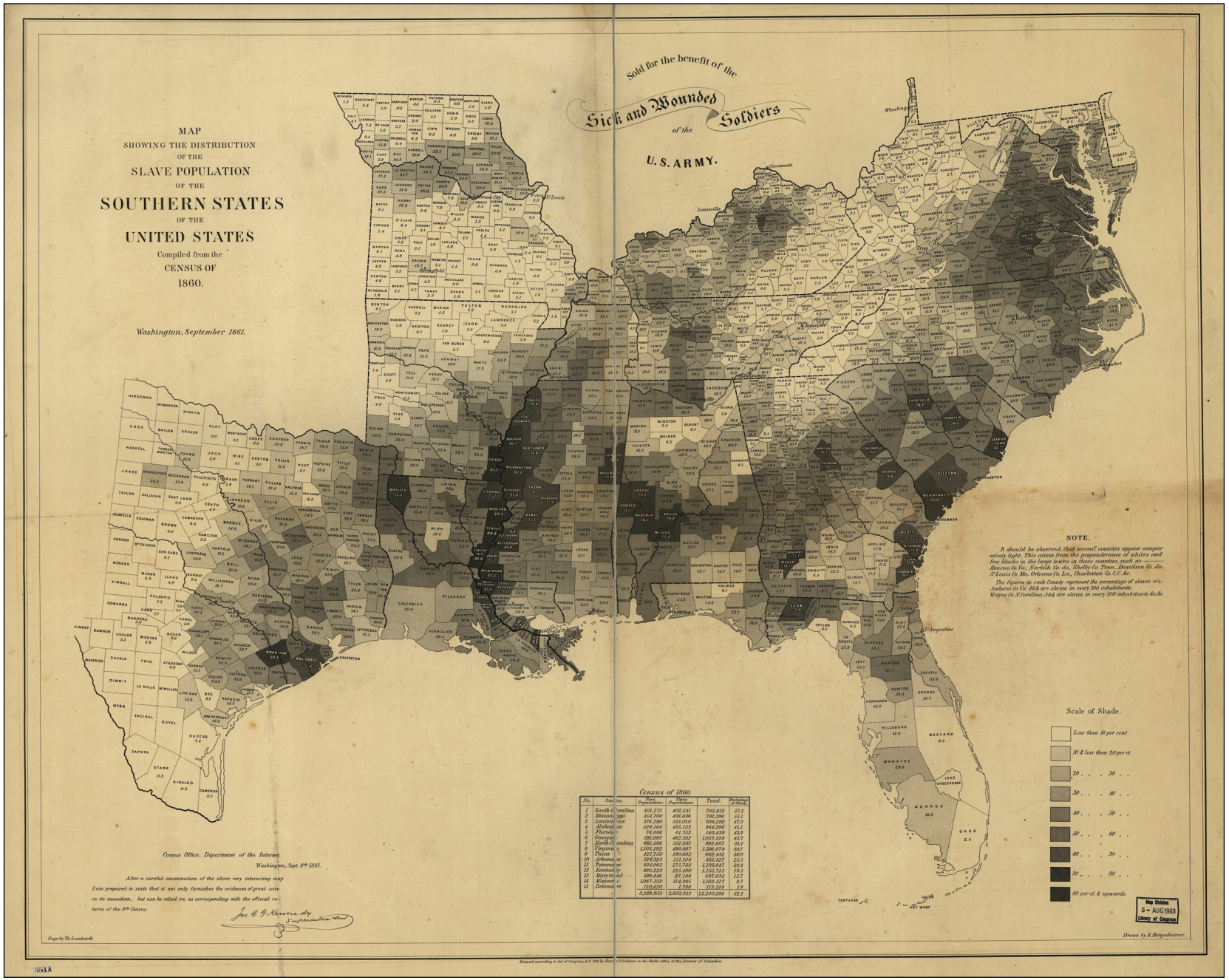
The States in 1861 Answer Key



- Union free state
- Union border state
- Confederate state
- Union territory
- Indian Territory (Native nations)

Virginia is drawn with what is now West Virginia, which split off in 1863. In July 1861 every territory was still in the Union, but slavery was legal in Utah and New Mexico Territories. In Indian Territory each Native nation made its own laws, and the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Seminole nations allowed slavery. Territory borders are simplified. New Jersey counts as a free state, but a few people there were still held in bondage after its 1846 law.

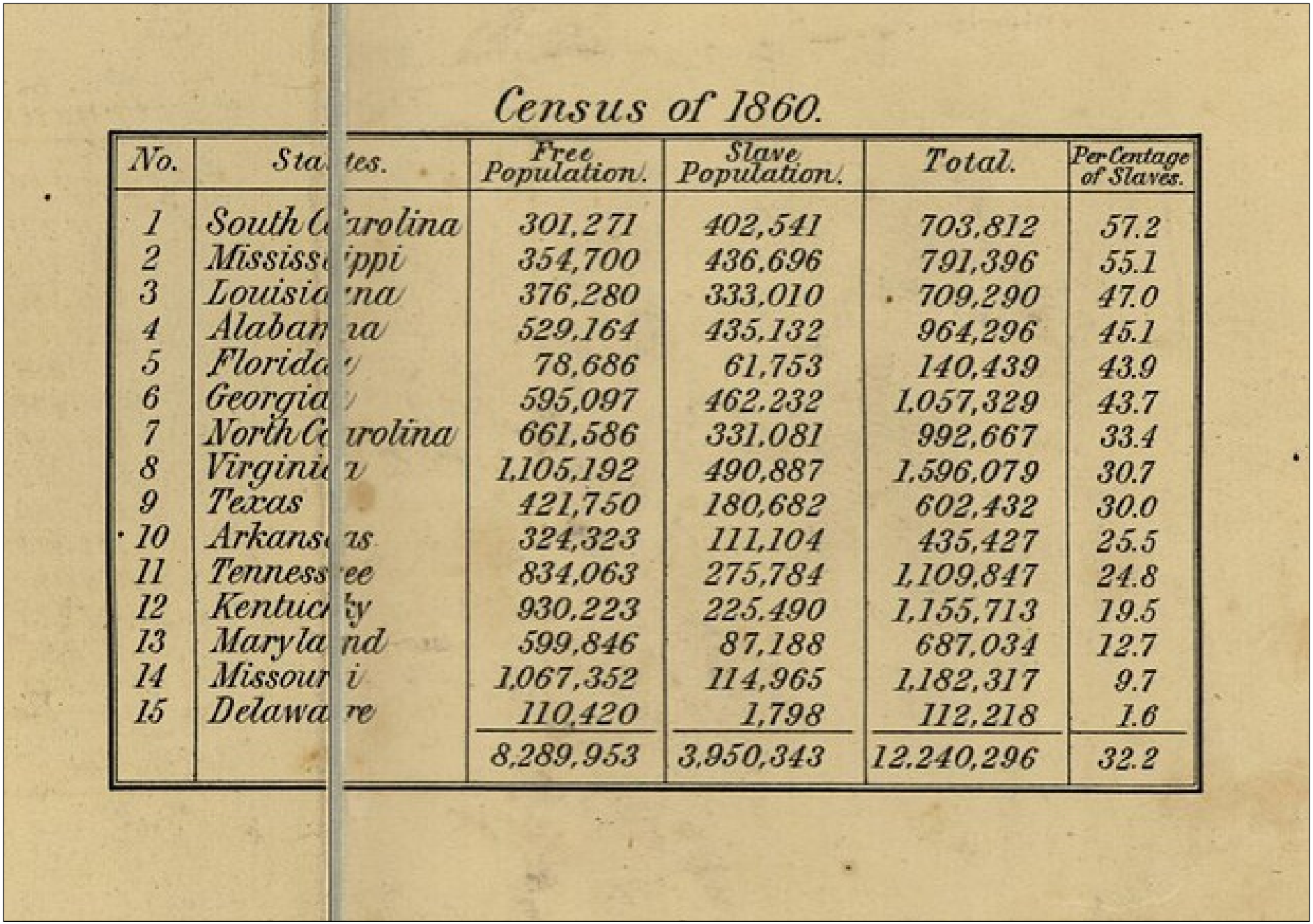
A Real Map from 1861



Map showing the distribution of the slave population of the southern states of the United States, compiled from the census of 1860, drawn by E. Hergesheimer, Washington, 1861. Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division. Public domain.

Teachers, see the original map on screen: https://www.loc.gov/item/99447026/

A Real Map from 1861: Close-up

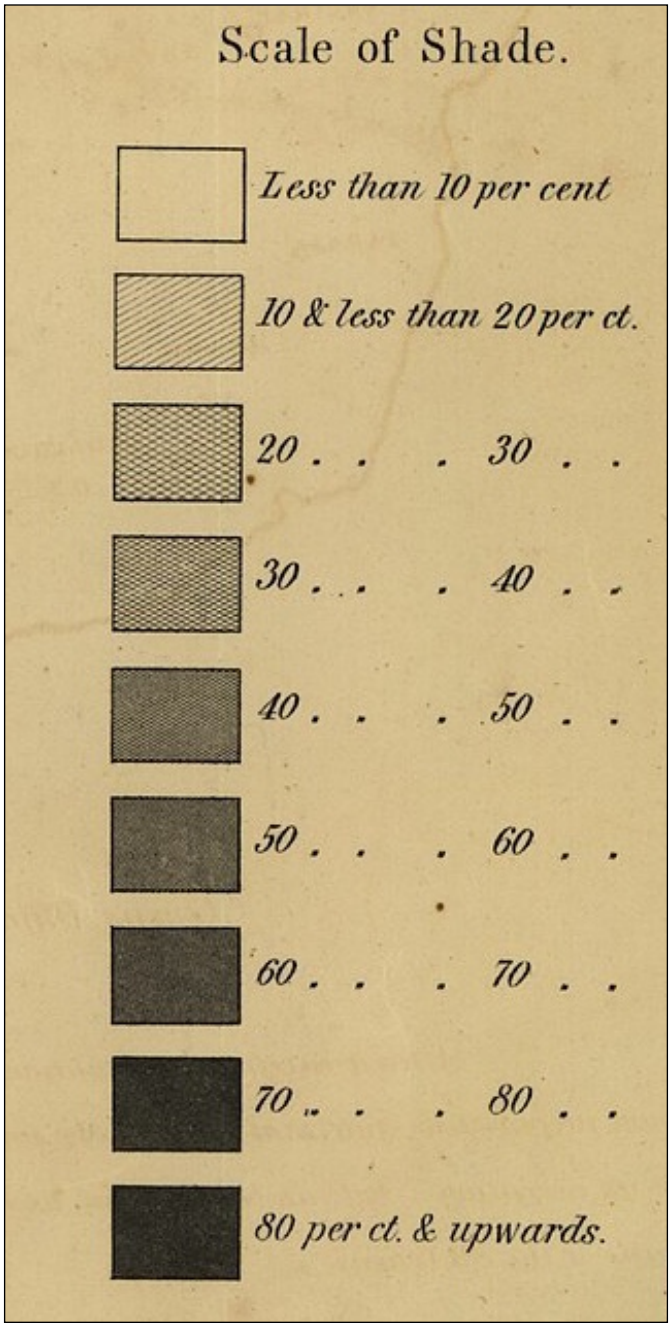


Census of 1860.

No.	States.	Free Population.	Slave Population.	Total.	Per Centage of Slaves.
1	South Carolina	301,271	402,541	703,812	57.2
2	Mississippi	354,700	436,696	791,396	55.1
3	Louisiana	376,280	333,010	709,290	47.0
4	Alabama	529,164	435,132	964,296	45.1
5	Florida	78,686	61,753	140,439	43.9
6	Georgia	595,097	462,232	1,057,329	43.7
7	North Carolina	661,586	331,081	992,667	33.4
8	Virginia	1,105,192	490,887	1,596,079	30.7
9	Texas	421,750	180,682	602,432	30.0
10	Arkansas	324,323	111,104	435,427	25.5
11	Tennessee	834,063	275,784	1,109,847	24.8
12	Kentucky	930,223	225,490	1,155,713	19.5
13	Maryland	599,846	87,188	687,034	12.7
14	Missouri	1,067,352	114,965	1,182,317	9.7
15	Delaware	110,420	1,798	112,218	1.6
		8,289,953	3,950,343	12,240,296	32.2

The Census of 1860 table printed at the bottom of the map: free and enslaved people in each state, and the percent enslaved. Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division. Public domain.

A Real Map from 1861: Close-up



The Scale of Shade from the lower right of the map: the darker the shade, the larger the share of enslaved people in a county. Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division. Public domain.

A Real Map from 1861: Questions

This map was made in 1861, the first year of the Civil War, from the census of 1860. Each county is shaded by the share of its people who were enslaved: the darker the shade, the larger the share. The number written in each county is that percent. Use the map, its Scale of Shade in the lower right, and the census table on the close-up page to answer the questions.

1. Read the title at the upper left. What does this map show, and which census did the numbers come from?

2. Find the Scale of Shade in the lower right. What does the darkest shade mean?

3. A band of very dark counties follows one big river through Mississippi and Louisiana. Use a modern map or globe to name the river.

4. Use the table on the close-up page. Which state had the highest percent of enslaved people, and what was the percent?

5. Which state in the table had the lowest percent?

6. Only two of these states had more than half of their people enslaved. Name them.

7. Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri were border states that stayed in the Union. Find the highest percent among those four, and the lowest percent among the 11 states that left the Union. Which group had the lower percents?

8. The Note on the map says some counties look light even in states with many enslaved people. It blames large towns. What do you think the note means?

9. The map was sold to help sick and wounded soldiers of the U.S. Army. Why might people in 1861 have wanted a map like this?

A Real Map from 1861 Answer Key

Map showing the distribution of the slave population of the southern states of the United States, compiled from the census of 1860, drawn by E. Hergesheimer, Washington, 1861. Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division. Public domain. Teachers, see the original map on screen: https://www.loc.gov/item/99447026/

1. Read the title at the upper left. What does this map show, and which census did the numbers come from?
It shows how enslaved people were spread across the Southern states, county by county. The numbers come from the census of 1860.

2. Find the Scale of Shade in the lower right. What does the darkest shade mean?
80 percent or more: at least 80 of every 100 people in that county were enslaved.

3. A band of very dark counties follows one big river through Mississippi and Louisiana. Use a modern map or globe to name the river.
The Mississippi River.

4. Use the table on the close-up page. Which state had the highest percent of enslaved people, and what was the percent?
South Carolina, with 57.2 percent.

5. Which state in the table had the lowest percent?
Delaware, with 1.6 percent.

6. Only two of these states had more than half of their people enslaved. Name them.
South Carolina (57.2 percent) and Mississippi (55.1 percent).

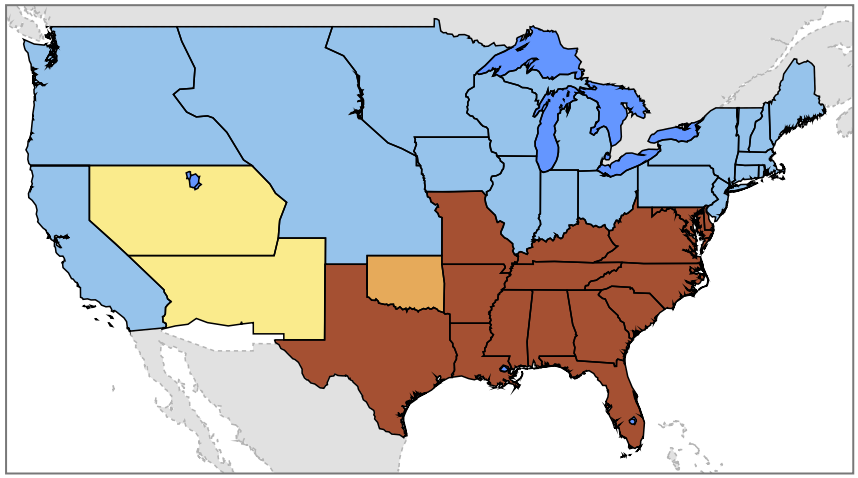
7. Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri were border states that stayed in the Union. Find the highest percent among those four, and the lowest percent among the 11 states that left the Union. Which group had the lower percents?
The highest border state percent is Kentucky, 19.5. The lowest percent among the 11 Confederate states is Tennessee, 24.8. The border states had lower percents.

8. The Note on the map says some counties look light even in states with many enslaved people. It blames large towns. What do you think the note means?
Counties that held a large town, such as Charleston, Memphis or New Orleans, had many white and free Black residents, so the share of enslaved people was lower than in the country around them.

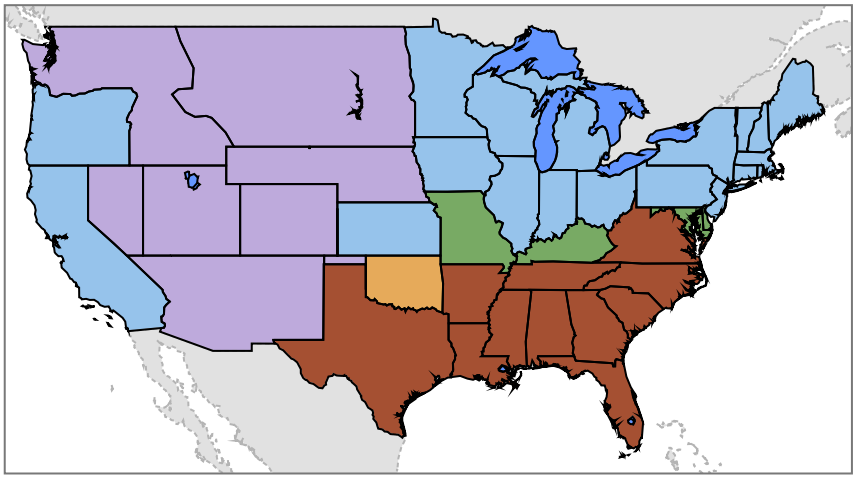
9. The map was sold to help sick and wounded soldiers of the U.S. Army. Why might people in 1861 have wanted a map like this?
Answers will vary. It showed where slavery was most common, which helped people see the divide between North and South and where the war would be fought.

1850 and 1861

1850



1861



Free (slavery not allowed) | Slavery legal | Settlers to decide | Indian Territory (Native nations) | Union free state | Union border state | Confederate state | Union territory

1. Was Kansas a state in 1850?

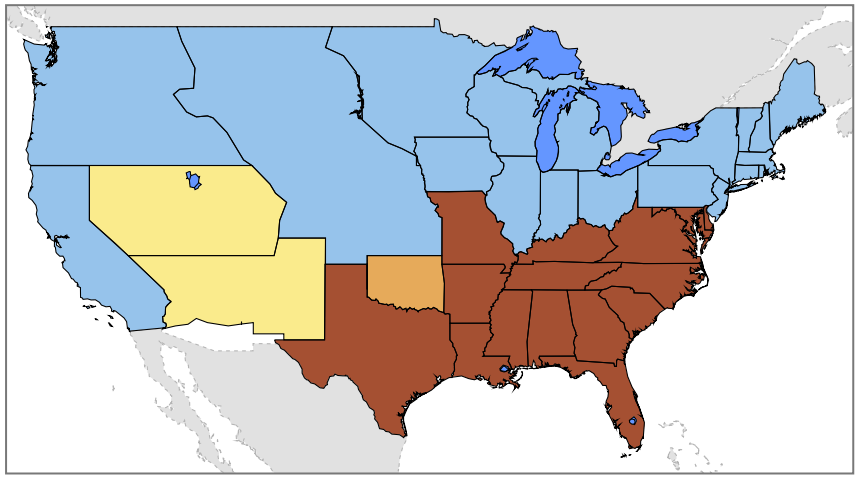
2. Which 3 free states joined from 1850 to 1861?

3. How many Confederate states are on the 1861 map?

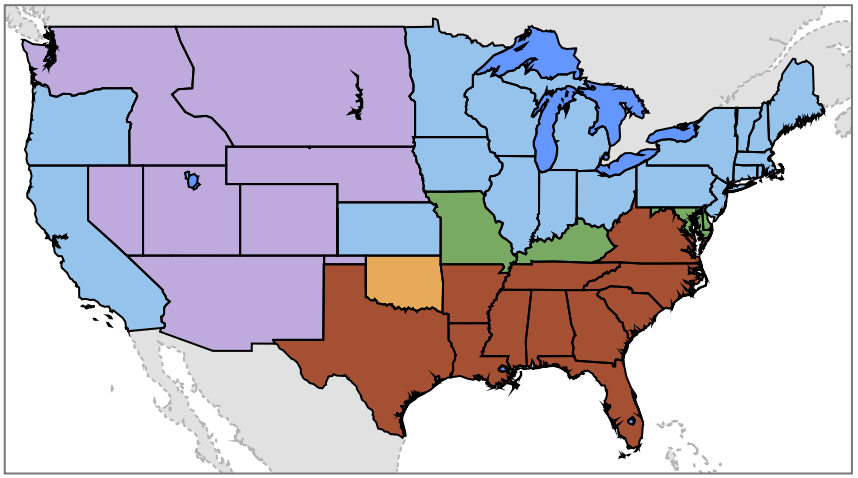
4. Which 4 slave states of 1850 stayed in the Union?

1850 and 1861 Answer Key

1850



1861

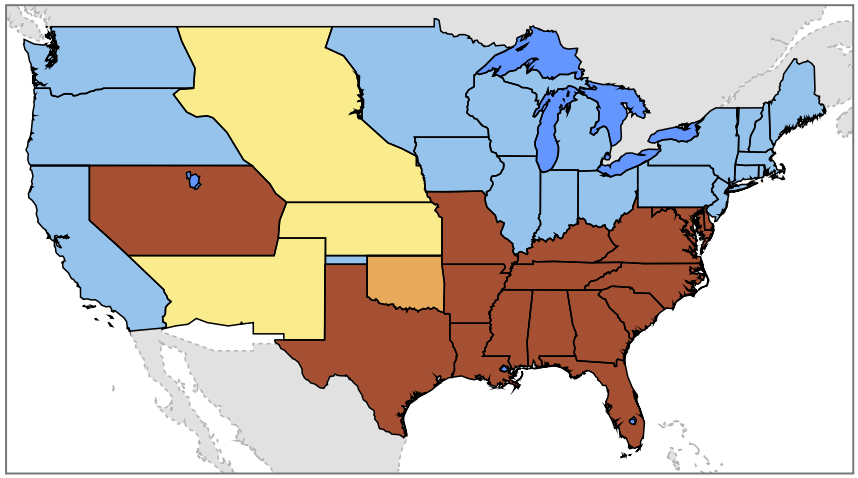


Free (slavery not allowed) | Slavery legal | Settlers to decide | Indian Territory (Native nations) | Union free state | Union border state | Confederate state | Union territory

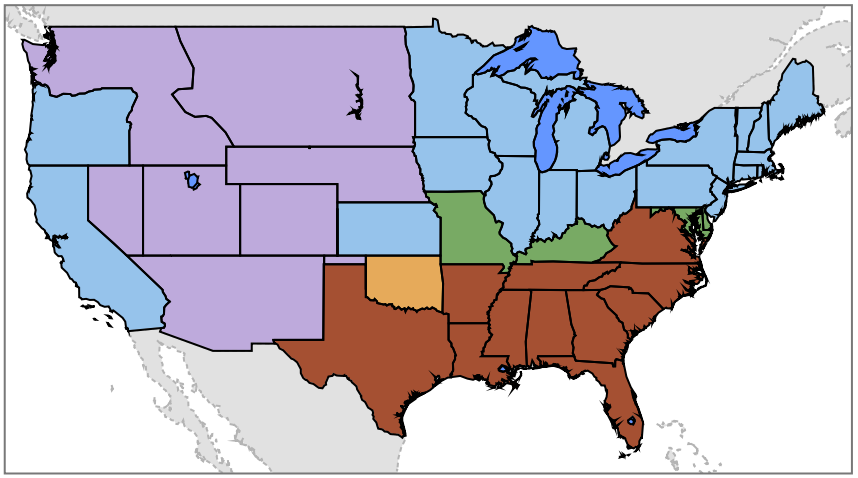
1. Was Kansas a state in 1850?
   No, it was not yet a state
2. Which 3 free states joined from 1850 to 1861?
   Minnesota, Oregon and Kansas
3. How many Confederate states are on the 1861 map?
   11
4. Which 4 slave states of 1850 stayed in the Union?
   Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, Missouri

1854 and 1861

1854



1861



Free (slavery not allowed) | Slavery legal | Settlers to decide | Indian Territory (Native nations) | Union free state | Union border state | Confederate state | Union territory

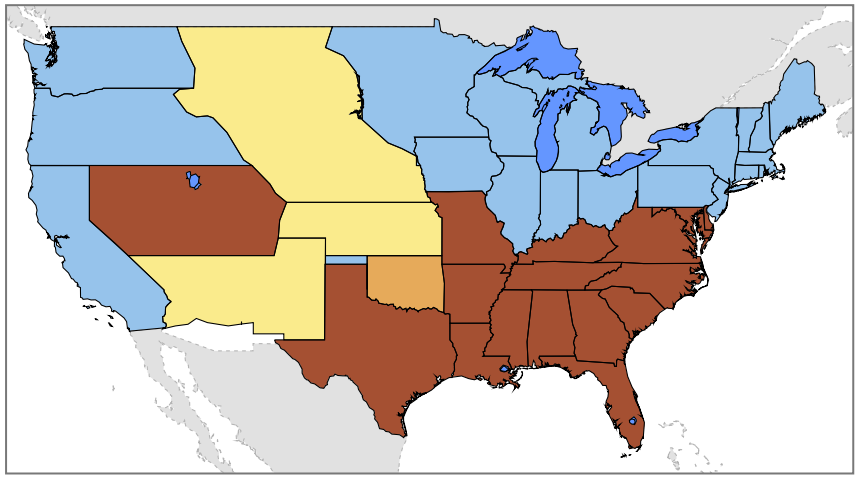
1. Which two new territories could vote on slavery in 1854?

2. Was Kansas a free or slave state in 1861?

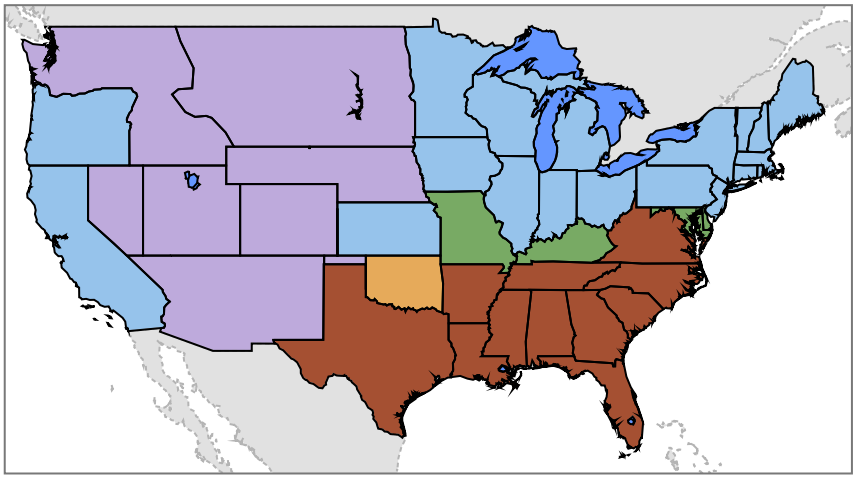
3. How many more free states in 1861 than 1854?

1854 and 1861 Answer Key

1854



1861

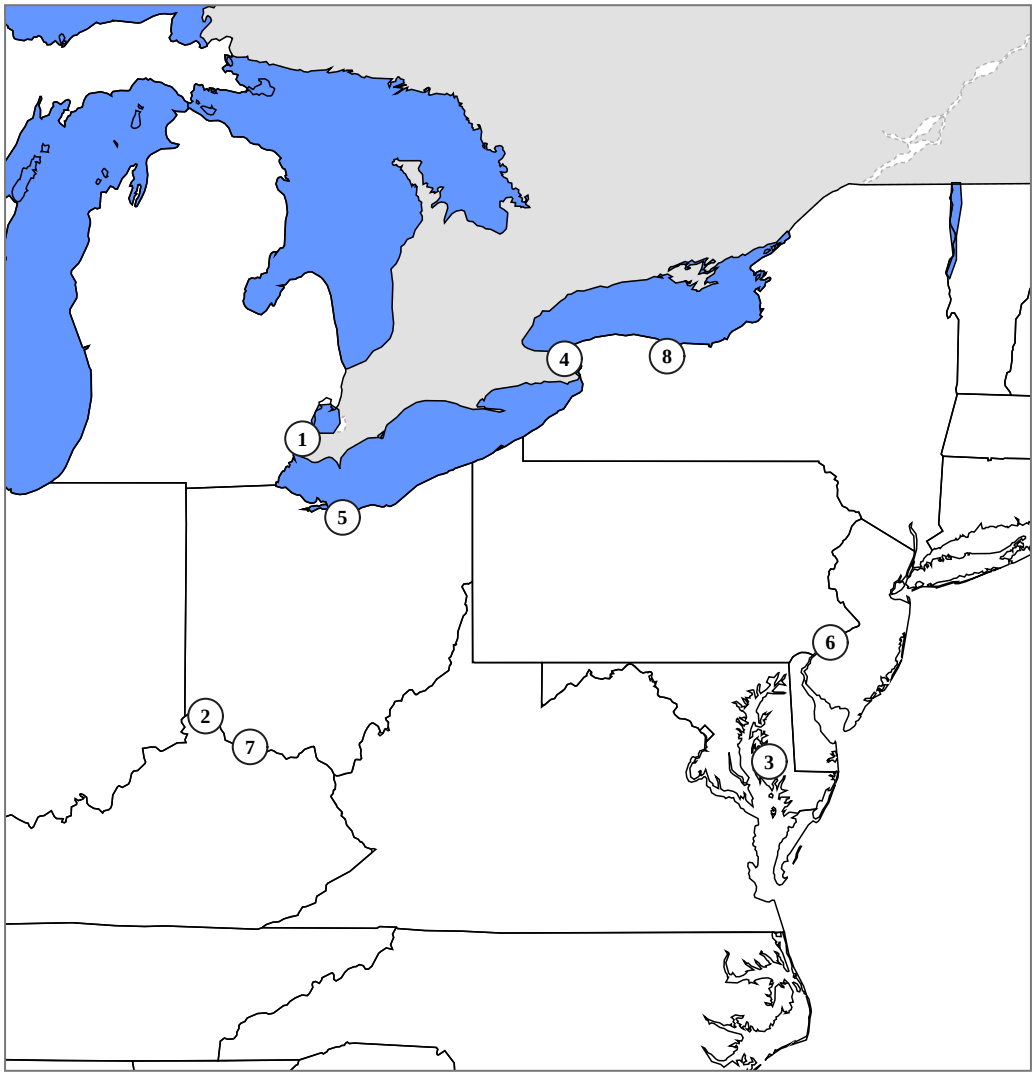


Free (slavery not allowed) | Slavery legal | Settlers to decide | Indian Territory (Native nations) | Union free state | Union border state | Confederate state | Union territory

1. Which two new territories could vote on slavery in 1854?
   Kansas and Nebraska
2. Was Kansas a free or slave state in 1861?
   A free state
3. How many more free states in 1861 than 1854?
   3 (16 and 19)

Paths to Freedom

Read each logbook. Find its places on the Places page, then join the numbered pins to trace the route.



From Maryland to St. Catharines From the Ohio River to Windsor From Ripley to Lake Erie and Canada

Paths to Freedom: Places

Use these numbers to find each place on the map.

1. Amherstburg & Detroit & Windsor
2. Cincinnati
3. Dorchester County, Maryland
4. Niagara Falls & St. Catharines
5. Oberlin & Sandusky
6. Philadelphia
7. Ripley
8. Rochester

Paths to Freedom: Logbooks

Each logbook is a clue. Which places does it name, in order?

A Traveler to Freedom

From Maryland to St. Catharines

A traveler's log: My journey begins in Dorchester County, Maryland, where I am held in slavery.

People who want to help guide me north to Philadelphia, where William Still helps travelers and writes down their stories.

I go on to Rochester, where Frederick Douglass prints his newspaper, the North Star.

Near Niagara Falls I cross the Niagara River into Canada.

I find safety and a new life in St. Catharines, Ontario.

This is one example. Real journeys to freedom followed many different routes.

A Traveler to Freedom

From the Ohio River to Windsor

A traveler's log: I begin in Cincinnati, a city on the Ohio River. Many people cross this river to reach a free state.

In Oberlin, Ohio, I meet people who speak out against slavery.

I travel on to Detroit, on a river that is a short crossing into Canada.

I cross the river to Windsor, Ontario, where I can be free.

This is one example. Real journeys to freedom followed many different routes.

A Traveler to Freedom

From Ripley to Lake Erie and Canada

A traveler's log: I begin in Ripley, Ohio, on the Ohio River, where families help travelers.

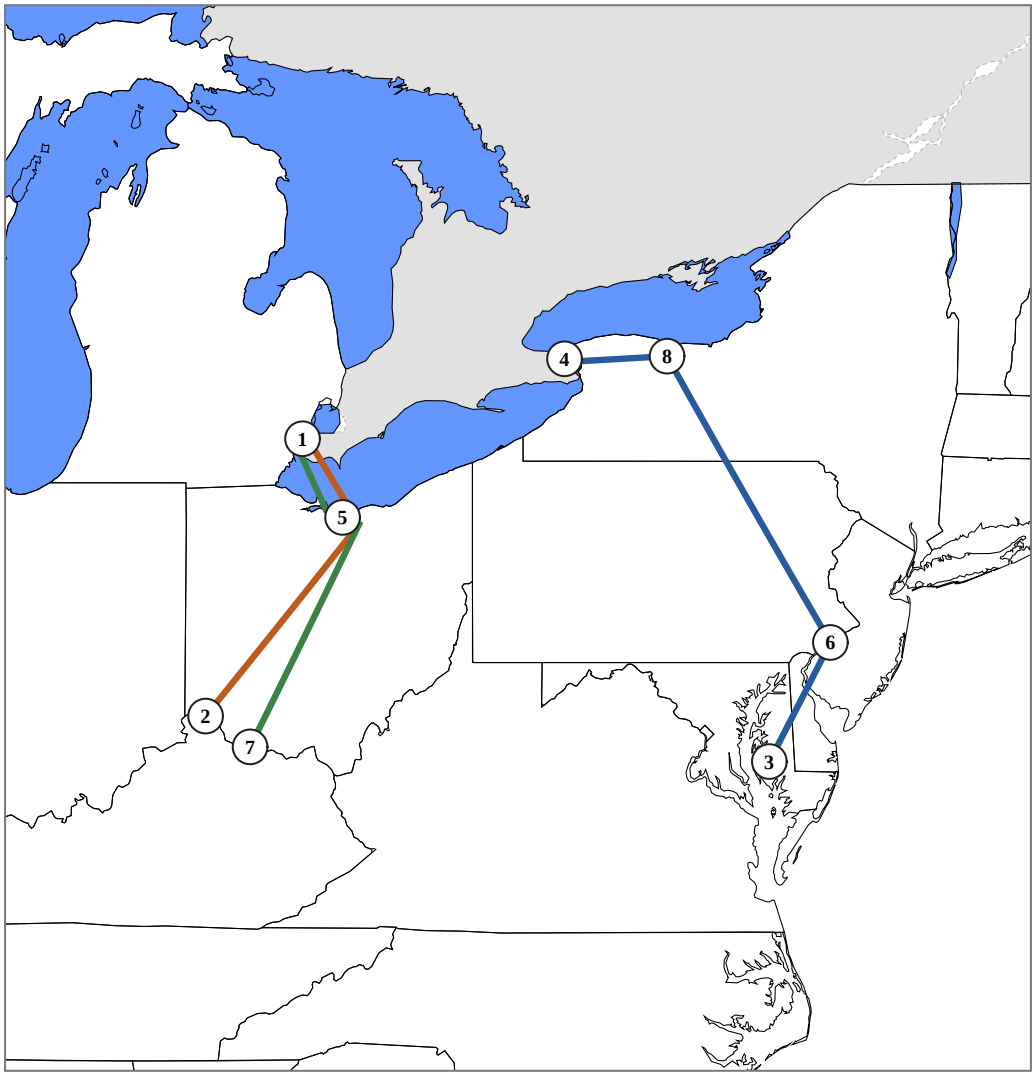
I make my way to Oberlin, a town where many people speak out against slavery.

At the port of Sandusky, on Lake Erie, some travelers take boats to Canada.

I cross the water and land at Amherstburg, Ontario.

This is one example. Real journeys to freedom followed many different routes.

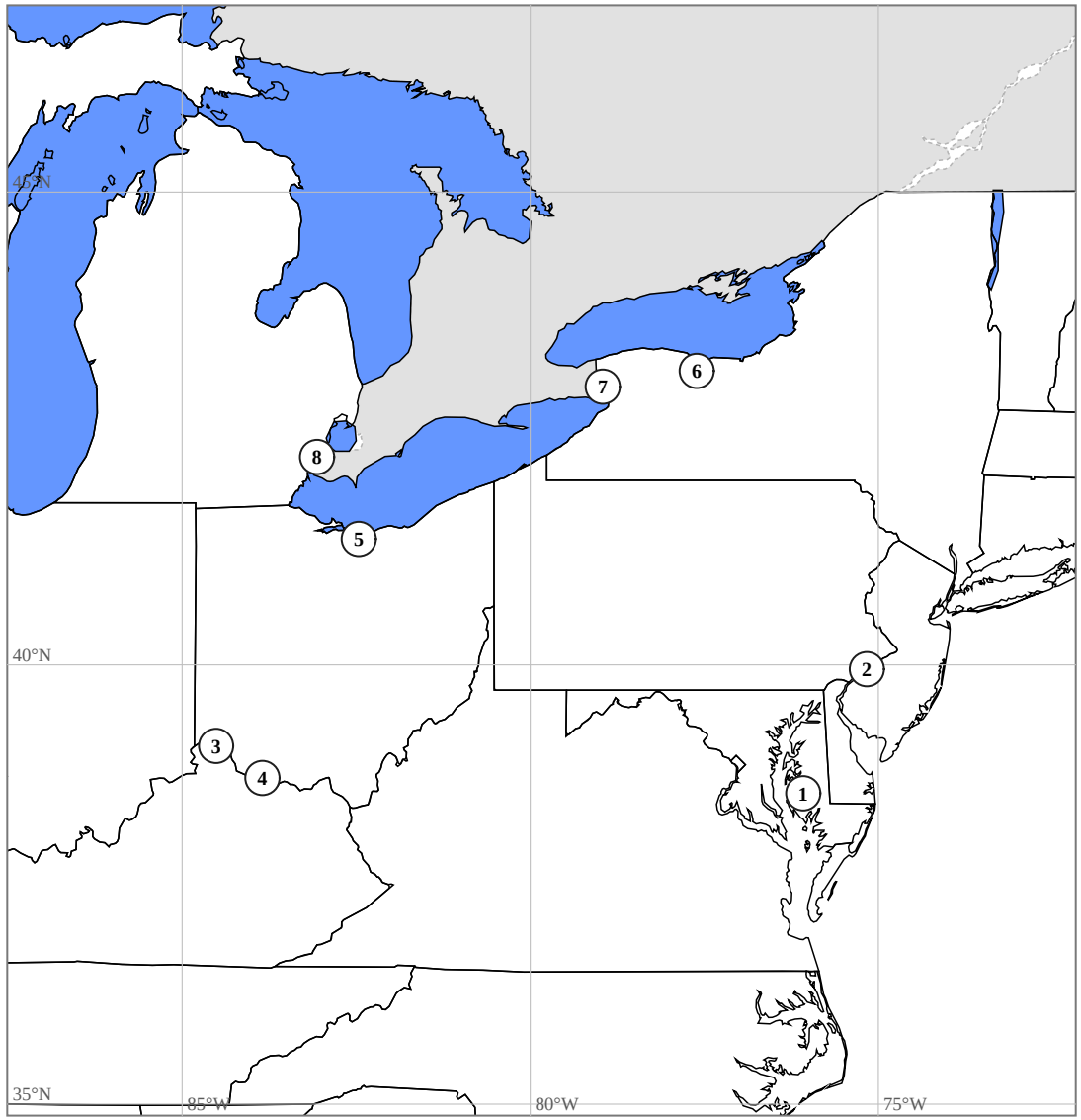
Paths to Freedom Answer Key



From Maryland to St. Catharines From the Ohio River to Windsor From Ripley to Lake Erie and Canada

Where on Earth Is It?

Use the grid to estimate each numbered place's latitude and longitude. The questions are on the next page.



Where on Earth Is It? Questions

Find each place on the map. Write its latitude and longitude to the nearest degree.

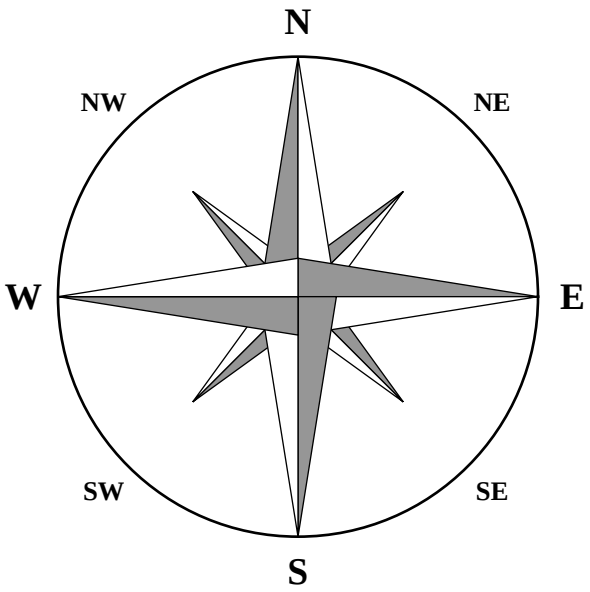
1. Dorchester County, Maryland _____
2. Philadelphia _____
3. Cincinnati _____
4. Ripley _____
5. Oberlin & Sandusky _____
6. Rochester _____
7. Buffalo & Niagara Falls _____
8. Detroit & Windsor & Amherstburg _____

Where on Earth Is It? Answer Key

1. Dorchester County, Maryland	39°N, 76°W
2. Philadelphia	40°N, 75°W
3. Cincinnati	39°N, 85°W
4. Ripley	39°N, 84°W
5. Oberlin & Sandusky	Oberlin 41°N, 82°W; Sandusky 41°N, 83°W
6. Rochester	43°N, 78°W
7. Buffalo & Niagara Falls	43°N, 79°W
8. Detroit & Windsor & Amherstburg	42°N, 83°W

Which Way? Compass Directions

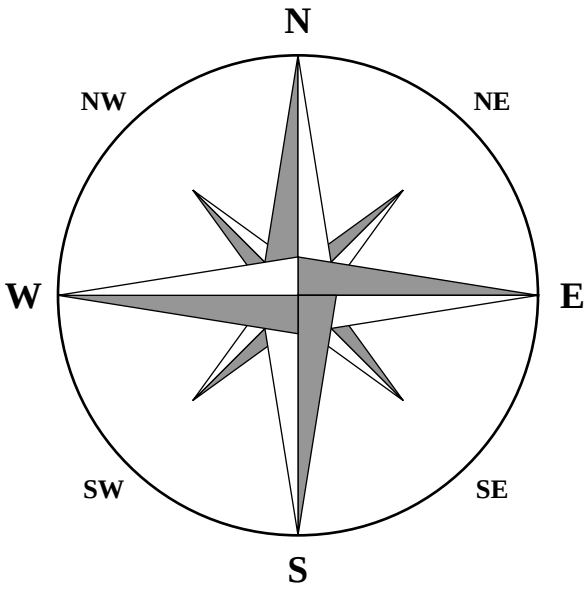
Use the compass rose. For each trip, decide which way you travel to get from the first place to the second. The latitude and longitude numbers can help you. Then estimate about how many miles the trip is, using a map or atlas.



#	From	To	Which way?	Miles (about)
1	**Cincinnati** *39.1°N, 84.5°W*	**Windsor** *42.3°N, 83.0°W*	_____	_____
2	**Dorchester County, Maryland** *38.6°N, 76.1°W*	**Rochester** *43.2°N, 77.6°W*	_____	_____
3	**Springfield** *39.8°N, 89.7°W*	**Cincinnati** *39.1°N, 84.5°W*	_____	_____
4	**Rochester** *43.2°N, 77.6°W*	**Buffalo** *42.9°N, 78.9°W*	_____	_____
5	**Washington, DC** *38.9°N, 77.0°W*	**Richmond** *37.5°N, 77.4°W*	_____	_____
6	**Philadelphia** *40.0°N, 75.2°W*	**Washington, DC** *38.9°N, 77.0°W*	_____	_____

Which Way? Compass Directions Answer Key

The direction is the starting direction of the shortest path, rounded to the nearest of the eight compass points. Miles are the shortest distance over the curve of the Earth, not the distance the travelers actually went.



#	From	To	Which way?	Miles (about)
1	**Cincinnati** *39.1°N, 84.5°W*	**Windsor** *42.3°N, 83.0°W*	**north**	**235**
2	**Dorchester County, Maryland** *38.6°N, 76.1°W*	**Rochester** *43.2°N, 77.6°W*	**north**	**327**
3	**Springfield** *39.8°N, 89.7°W*	**Cincinnati** *39.1°N, 84.5°W*	**east**	**278**
4	**Rochester** *43.2°N, 77.6°W*	**Buffalo** *42.9°N, 78.9°W*	**west**	**67**
5	**Washington, DC** *38.9°N, 77.0°W*	**Richmond** *37.5°N, 77.4°W*	**south**	**97**
6	**Philadelphia** *40.0°N, 75.2°W*	**Washington, DC** *38.9°N, 77.0°W*	**southwest**	**123**

Draw the Timeline

Use the dates on the next page. Draw a dot on the line for each date. Write its number and short phrase above or below the dot.

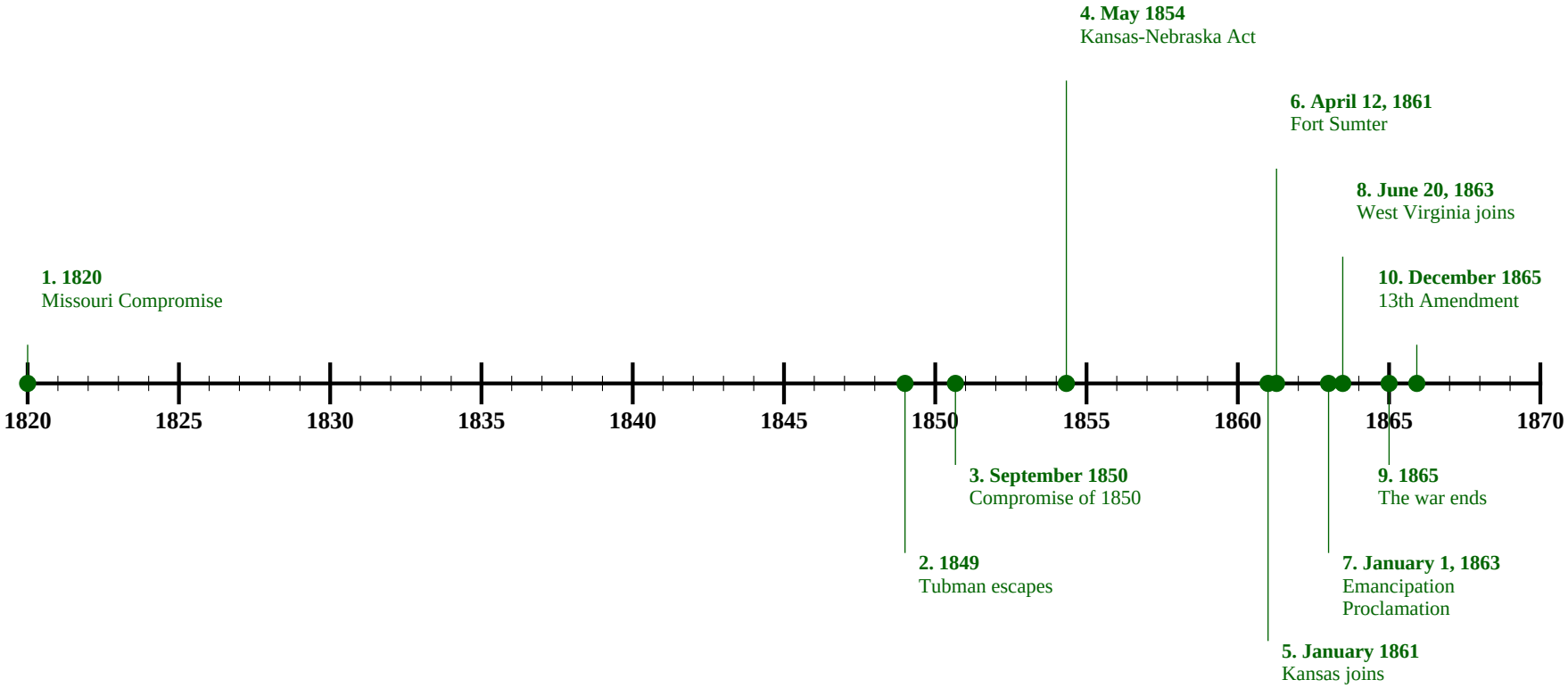


Dates to Mark on the Timeline

Find each date on your timeline. Mark it with a dot, then write its number and short phrase.

#	Date	Short phrase	What happened
1	**1820**	**Missouri Compromise**	Congress agreed that Maine would join as a free state and Missouri as a slave state. A line at 36 degrees 30 minutes north was set: slavery was not allowed north of it in the rest of the Louisiana land.
2	**1849**	**Tubman escapes**	Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery in Maryland and reached freedom in the North. She went on to guide many others along the Underground Railroad.
3	**September 1850**	**Compromise of 1850**	Congress passed five laws, called the Compromise of 1850, to settle arguments over slavery. One was a harsher Fugitive Slave Act. California joined the Union as a free state.
4	**May 1854**	**Kansas-Nebraska Act**	A new law let settlers in Kansas and Nebraska vote on whether to allow slavery. It led to bitter fighting in Kansas.
5	**January 1861**	**Kansas joins**	Kansas became a free state after years of conflict. It joined the Union as the 34th state.
6	**April 12, 1861**	**Fort Sumter**	Southern states had left the Union, mainly to protect slavery, and formed the Confederacy. Confederate forces fired on Fort Sumter in South Carolina. The Civil War had begun.
7	**January 1, 1863**	**Emancipation Proclamation**	President Lincoln declared that enslaved people in the states still fighting the Union were free, except in places the Union army already held. Slavery in the loyal border states was not affected. It also let Black men join the Union army and navy.
8	**June 20, 1863**	**West Virginia joins**	West Virginia broke away from Virginia and became the 35th state. It joined the Union during the Civil War.
9	**1865**	**The war ends**	The Civil War ended after four years of fighting, and the Union was kept together.
10	**December 1865**	**13th Amendment**	The 13th Amendment to the Constitution became law. It ended slavery across the United States, except as a punishment for a crime.

Draw the Timeline Answer Key



Who Was Who?

Draw a line from each person to the group they belong to.



Harriet Tubman (c. 1822-1913)



Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896)



Levi Coffin (1798-1877)



William Lloyd Garrison (1805-1879)



Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)



Frederick Douglass (1818-1895)



Henry Clay (1777-1852)



Sojourner Truth (c. 1797-1883)

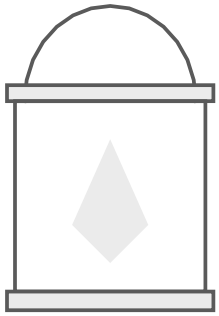


William Still (1821-1902)



Franklin Pierce (1804-1869)

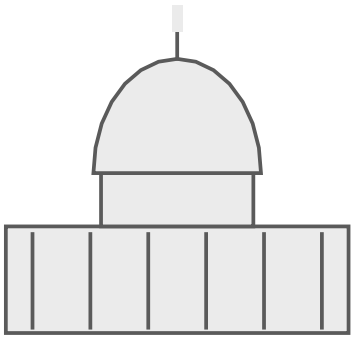
Helped people find freedom



Wrote and spoke for freedom



Led the country or made its laws



Who Was Who? Answer Key

Helped people find freedom
Harriet Tubman (c. 1822-1913); William Still (1821-1902); Levi Coffin (1798-1877)

Wrote and spoke for freedom
Frederick Douglass (1818-1895); Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896); Sojourner Truth (c. 1797-1883); William Lloyd Garrison (1805-1879)

Led the country or made its laws
Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865); Henry Clay (1777-1852); Franklin Pierce (1804-1869)

Divided Nation Math

Look up each event in the table, find its year, then subtract the earlier year from the later year.

Event	Date
Harriet Tubman escapes to freedom	1849
President Lincoln signs the Emancipation Proclamation	January 1, 1863
The 13th Amendment ends slavery	December 1865
The Constitution is signed	September 17, 1787
The Kansas-Nebraska Act	May 1854
The Missouri Compromise	1820
The colonies declare independence	July 4, 1776
The war begins at Fort Sumter	April 12, 1861
The war ends	1865

1. How many years passed from "The colonies declare independence" to "The war begins at Fort Sumter"? _____

2. How many years passed from "The Constitution is signed" to "The Missouri Compromise"? _____

3. How many years passed from "The Missouri Compromise" to "The war ends"? _____

4. How many years passed from "Harriet Tubman escapes to freedom" to "The 13th Amendment ends slavery"? _____

5. How many years passed from "The Kansas-Nebraska Act" to "The war ends"? _____

6. In 1850 there were 31 states, and each state had 2 senators. How many senators were there? _____

7. In 1860 the United States had about 31 million people. In 1850 it had about 23 million. How many more millions of people lived there in 1860? _____

Divided Nation Math Answer Key

Event	Date
Harriet Tubman escapes to freedom	1849
President Lincoln signs the Emancipation Proclamation	January 1, 1863
The 13th Amendment ends slavery	December 1865
The Constitution is signed	September 17, 1787
The Kansas-Nebraska Act	May 1854
The Missouri Compromise	1820
The colonies declare independence	July 4, 1776
The war begins at Fort Sumter	April 12, 1861
The war ends	1865

1. How many years passed from "The colonies declare independence" to "The war begins at Fort Sumter"?

1861 - 1776 = 85 years.

2. How many years passed from "The Constitution is signed" to "The Missouri Compromise"?

1820 - 1787 = 33 years.

3. How many years passed from "The Missouri Compromise" to "The war ends"?

1865 - 1820 = 45 years.

4. How many years passed from "Harriet Tubman escapes to freedom" to "The 13th Amendment ends slavery"?

1865 - 1849 = 16 years.

5. How many years passed from "The Kansas-Nebraska Act" to "The war ends"?

1865 - 1854 = 11 years.

6. In 1850 there were 31 states, and each state had 2 senators. How many senators were there?

31 x 2 = 62 senators.

7. In 1860 the United States had about 31 million people. In 1850 it had about 23 million. How many more millions of people lived there in 1860?

31 million - 23 million = 8 million people.

Divided Nation Math Challenge

These problems use real numbers from history sources. Multiply or divide to solve each one.

1. In 1858 Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas held seven debates. Each one lasted about three hours. How many hours of debating was that in all? How many minutes?

2. At Gettysburg in 1863, Edward Everett spoke for about 120 minutes. President Lincoln then spoke for about two minutes. Everett's speech was how many times as long as Lincoln's?

3. On October 3, 1849, a slaveholder's notice offered a $100 reward for each of three people who had escaped slavery: Minty (Harriet Tubman) and her brothers Ben and Harry, if they were caught outside Maryland. How many dollars were offered in all?

4. Henry "Box" Brown mailed himself to freedom in a box 37 inches long and 24 inches wide. How many square inches was its floor?

5. In 1864 about 60,000 soldiers marched with General Sherman across Georgia, followed by about 2,500 supply wagons. About how many soldiers were there for each wagon?

6. About 51,000 soldiers were killed, wounded, captured or missing in the three days of the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863. If about the same number were lost each day, how many soldiers were lost in one day?

Divided Nation Math Challenge Answer Key

1. In 1858 Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas held seven debates. Each one lasted about three hours. How many hours of debating was that in all? How many minutes?

7 x 3 = 21 hours. 21 x 60 = 1,260 minutes. (Source: Wikipedia, "Lincoln-Douglas debates".)

2. At Gettysburg in 1863, Edward Everett spoke for about 120 minutes. President Lincoln then spoke for about two minutes. Everett's speech was how many times as long as Lincoln's?

120 / 2 = 60 times as long. (Source: Wikipedia, "Gettysburg Address".)

3. On October 3, 1849, a slaveholder's notice offered a $100 reward for each of three people who had escaped slavery: Minty (Harriet Tubman) and her brothers Ben and Harry, if they were caught outside Maryland. How many dollars were offered in all?

3 x $100 = $300. (Source: National Park Service, Harriet Tubman fact sheet.)

4. Henry "Box" Brown mailed himself to freedom in a box 37 inches long and 24 inches wide. How many square inches was its floor?

37 x 24 = 888 square inches. (Source: National Park Service, Henry "Box" Brown.)

5. In 1864 about 60,000 soldiers marched with General Sherman across Georgia, followed by about 2,500 supply wagons. About how many soldiers were there for each wagon?

60,000 / 2,500 = 24 soldiers per wagon. (Source: New Georgia Encyclopedia, Sherman's March to the Sea.)

6. About 51,000 soldiers were killed, wounded, captured or missing in the three days of the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863. If about the same number were lost each day, how many soldiers were lost in one day?

51,000 / 3 = 17,000 soldiers. (Source: National Park Service, Gettysburg National Military Park.)

Border States Quiz

Use the 1861 map to answer.

1. At the start of the Civil War, four slaveholding states stayed in the Union. Name them.

---

2. Which border state is across the Ohio River from Ohio?

---

3. Which border state is the smallest?

---

4. Did the border states leave the Union?

---

5. Which border state touches Washington, DC?

---

6. Which border state is just south of Iowa?

---

7. Which two border states touch the Mississippi River?

---

8. Was slavery legal in the border states in 1850?

Border States Quiz Answer Key

1. At the start of the Civil War, four slaveholding states stayed in the Union. Name them.

Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, Missouri

2. Which border state is across the Ohio River from Ohio?

Kentucky

3. Which border state is the smallest?

Delaware

4. Did the border states leave the Union?

No, they stayed in the Union

5. Which border state touches Washington, DC?

Maryland

6. Which border state is just south of Iowa?

Missouri

7. Which two border states touch the Mississippi River?

Kentucky and Missouri

8. Was slavery legal in the border states in 1850?

Yes

Free or Slave in 1850?

Check one box in each row: was the state free or slave in 1850? Use the 1850 map.

	Free	Slave
California	☐	☐
Georgia	☐	☐
Illinois	☐	☐
Kentucky	☐	☐
Maryland	☐	☐
Missouri	☐	☐
New York	☐	☐
Ohio	☐	☐
Pennsylvania	☐	☐
Texas	☐	☐

Free or Slave in 1850? Answer Key

Check one box in each row: was the state free or slave in 1850? Use the 1850 map.

	Free	Slave
California	☑	☐
Georgia	☐	☑
Illinois	☑	☐
Kentucky	☐	☑
Maryland	☐	☑
Missouri	☐	☑
New York	☑	☐
Ohio	☑	☐
Pennsylvania	☑	☐
Texas	☐	☑

Following the North Star

1. The North Star stays in the north all night. Why could it help a traveler?

2. Look at the two stars at the end of the Big Dipper's bowl. Explain how a line through them points to the North Star.

3. Frederick Douglass named his newspaper the North Star. Why do you think he chose that name?

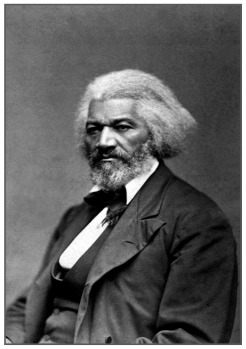
4. Describe a path north and three places where a traveler could rest.

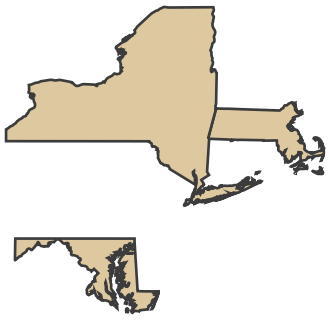
5. On the back of this sheet draw the Big Dipper and the line that points to the North Star.



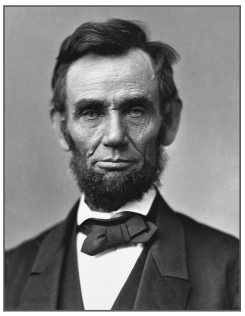


I was born enslaved on Maryland's Eastern Shore. I escaped in 1849, then went back about 13 times to guide others to freedom. Who am I?





I escaped slavery in 1838 and became a famous speaker and writer. In 1847 I started a newspaper called the North Star. Who am I?





I was elected president in 1860. In 1863 I signed the Emancipation Proclamation. Who am I?



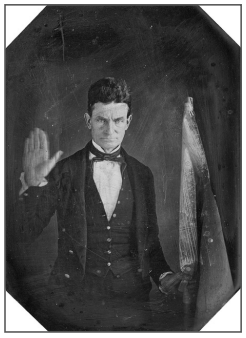


In 1831 I started a newspaper called The Liberator in Boston. It demanded that slavery end right away. Who am I?





I wrote a famous 1852 novel about the cruelty of slavery. It sold hundreds of thousands of copies. Who am I?





I believed slavery had to be ended by force. In 1859 I led a raid on a federal armory. Who am I?

Frederick Douglass

Born enslaved in Maryland.

Escaped in 1838 and lived in New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Started the North Star newspaper in Rochester, New York, in 1847.

Spoke and wrote against slavery.

Harriet Tubman

Born enslaved in Maryland.

Escaped to Pennsylvania in 1849.

Guided about 70 people north on the Underground Railroad.

Later lived in Auburn, New York.

William Lloyd Garrison

Born in Newburyport, Massachusetts.

Published The Liberator in Boston from 1831 to 1865.

Demanded an immediate end to slavery.

Abraham Lincoln

Born in a log cabin in Kentucky.

Grew up in Kentucky and Indiana, then moved to Illinois.

Elected the 16th president in 1860.

Signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863.

John Brown

Born in Connecticut and lived in Ohio.

Fought proslavery settlers in Kansas in 1856; his group killed five of them.

Raided the federal armory at Harpers Ferry, Virginia (now West Virginia), in 1859.

Was executed at Charles Town, Virginia (now West Virginia), that December.

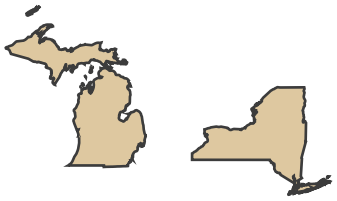
Harriet Beecher Stowe

Born in Litchfield, Connecticut.

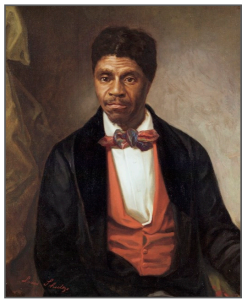
Lived in Cincinnati, Ohio, across the river from a slave state.

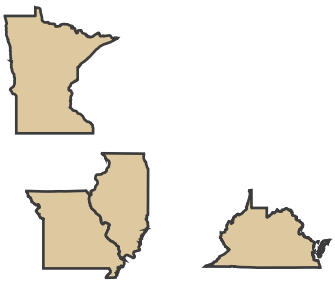
Wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin in Maine. It ran in a magazine in 1851 and came out as a book in 1852.



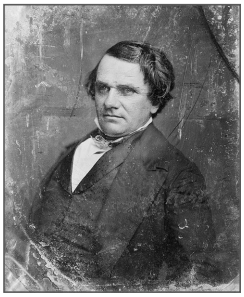


I was born enslaved and walked away to freedom in 1826. I became a traveling speaker for freedom and women's rights. Who am I?



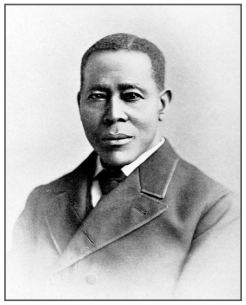


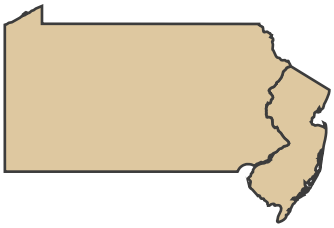
I sued for my freedom because I had lived in places where slavery was not allowed. In 1857 the Supreme Court ruled against me. Who am I?



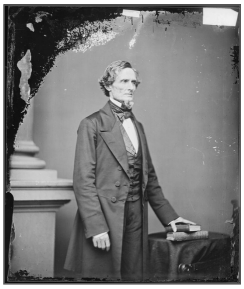


I was a senator who wrote the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. In 1858 I debated Abraham Lincoln seven times. Who am I?



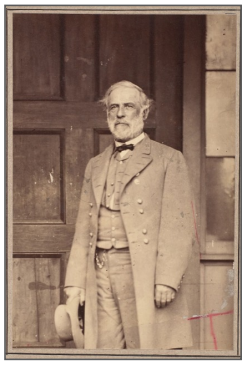


I helped hundreds of freedom seekers in Philadelphia and wrote down their stories. In 1872 I published them in a book. Who am I?





In 1861 I was chosen to lead the Confederate States of America. Before that I served in the U.S. Senate. Who am I?





I led the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. I surrendered at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. Who am I?

Dred Scott

Born enslaved in Virginia.

Lived in St. Louis, Missouri.

Lived for a time in Illinois and at Fort Snelling, in today's Minnesota.

The Supreme Court ruled in 1857 that he was not a citizen.

Sojourner Truth

Born enslaved in Ulster County, New York.

Freed in New York in 1827.

Gave powerful speeches across the North.

Later lived in Battle Creek, Michigan.

William Still

Born free in New Jersey.

Worked in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Helped hundreds of people escape slavery.

Published The Underground Railroad in 1872.

Stephen A. Douglas

Born in Brandon, Vermont.

Represented Illinois in the U.S. Senate.

Wrote the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854.

Debated Lincoln in 1858 and ran for president in 1860.

Robert E. Lee

Born in Virginia.

Led the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia.

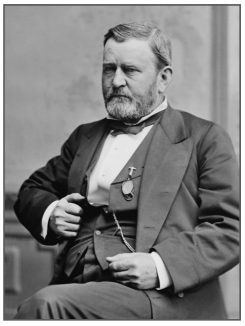
Surrendered to General Grant on April 9, 1865.

Jefferson Davis

Born in Kentucky.

Lived in Mississippi and served as its U.S. senator.

Was the only president of the Confederacy, 1861 to 1865.







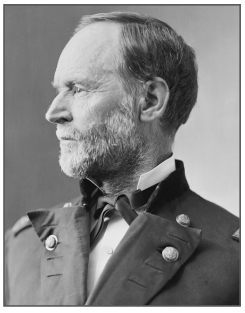
I won the Union victory at Vicksburg in 1863. In 1864 I became the general in chief of all Union armies. Who am I?







I carried supplies to wounded soldiers and nursed them on the battlefield. After the war I started the American Red Cross. Who am I?







In 1864 my Union army captured Atlanta and then marched about 285 miles to the sea. Who am I?

Clara Barton

Born in Oxford, Massachusetts.

Brought help to wounded soldiers, including at Antietam in Maryland.

Founded the American Red Cross in 1881.

Ulysses S. Grant

Born in Ohio.

Lived in Galena, Illinois, before the war.

Won at Vicksburg, Mississippi, in 1863.

Accepted Lee's surrender in 1865.

William T. Sherman

Born in Lancaster, Ohio.

Captured Atlanta, Georgia, in 1864.

Led the March to the Sea to Savannah, Georgia.

Destroyed railroads and supplies.

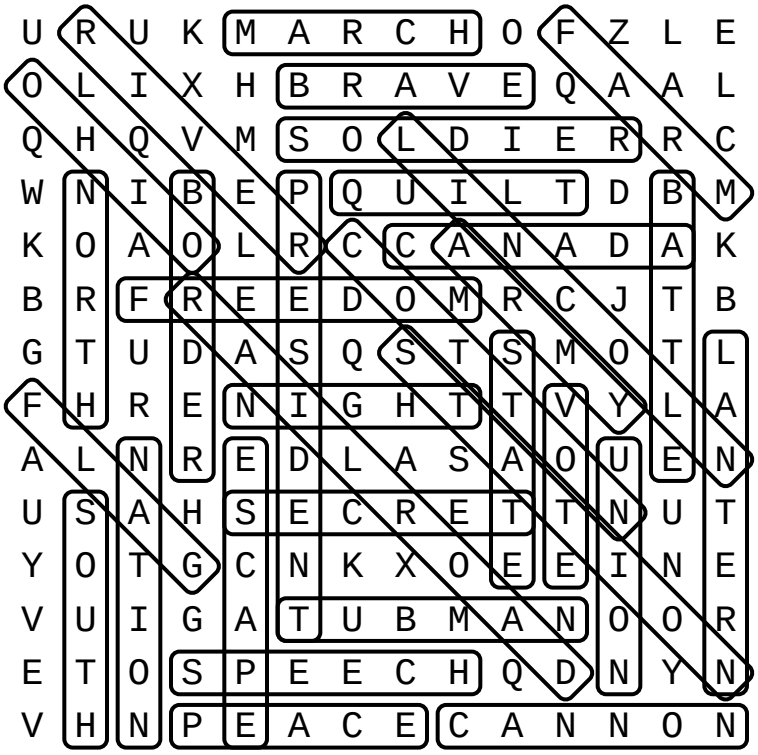
A Divided Nation Word Search (Set 1)

U R U K M A R C H O F Z L E
O L I X H B R A V E Q A A L
Q H Q V M S O L D I E R R C
W N I B E P Q U I L T D B M
K O A O L R C C A N A D A K
B R F R E E D O M R C J T B
G T U D A S Q S T S M O T L
F H R E N I G H T T V Y L A
A L N R E D L A S A O U E N
U S A H S E C R E T T N U T
Y O T G C N K X O E E I N E
V U I G A T U B M A N O O R
E T O S P E E C H Q D N Y N
V H N P E A C E C A N N O N

Words to find:

Canada
Lincoln
Ohio
Tubman
Union
army
battle
border
brave
cannon
cotton
escape
farm
flag
freedom
lantern
march
nation
night
north
peace
president
quilt
railroad
river
secret
soldier
south
speech
state
station
vote

A Divided Nation Word Search (Set 1) Answer Key



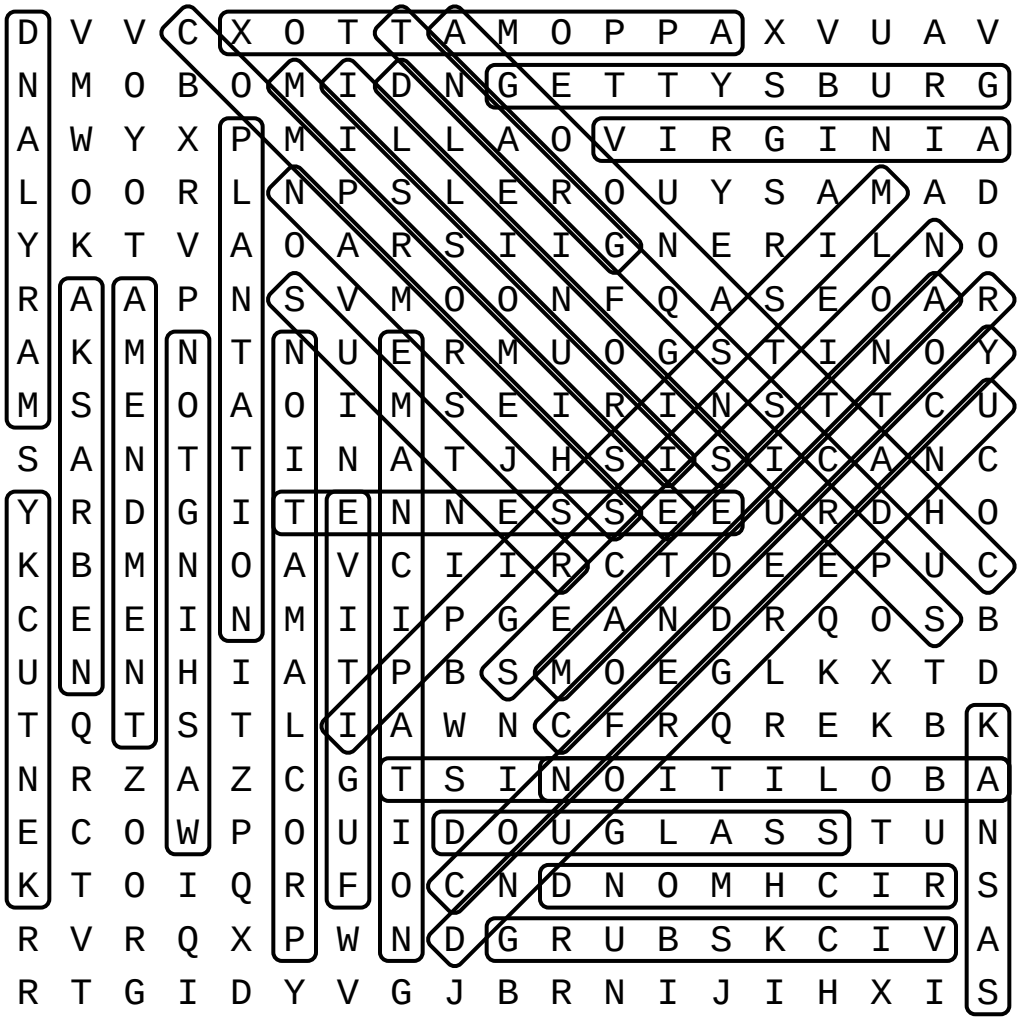
A Divided Nation Hard Word Search (Set 2)

D V V C X O T T A M O P P A X V U A V
N M O B O M I D N G E T T Y S B U R G
A W Y X P M I L L A O V I R G I N I A
L O O R L N P S L E R O U Y S A M A D
Y K T V A O A R S I I G N E R I L N O
R A A P N S V M O O N F Q A S E O A R
A K M N T N U E R M U O G S T I N O Y
M S E O A O I M S E I R I N S T T C U
S A N T T I N A T J H S I S I C A N C
Y R D G I T E N N E S S E E U R D H O
K B M N O A V C I I R C T D E E P U C
C E E I N M I I P G E A N D R Q O S B
U N N H I A T P B S M O E G L K X T D
T Q T S T L I A W N C F R Q R E K B K
N R Z A Z C G T S I N O I T I L O B A
E C O W P O U I D O U G L A S S T U N
K T O I Q R F O C N D N O M H C I R S
R V R Q X P W N D G R U B S K C I V A
R T G I D Y V G J B R N I J I H X I S

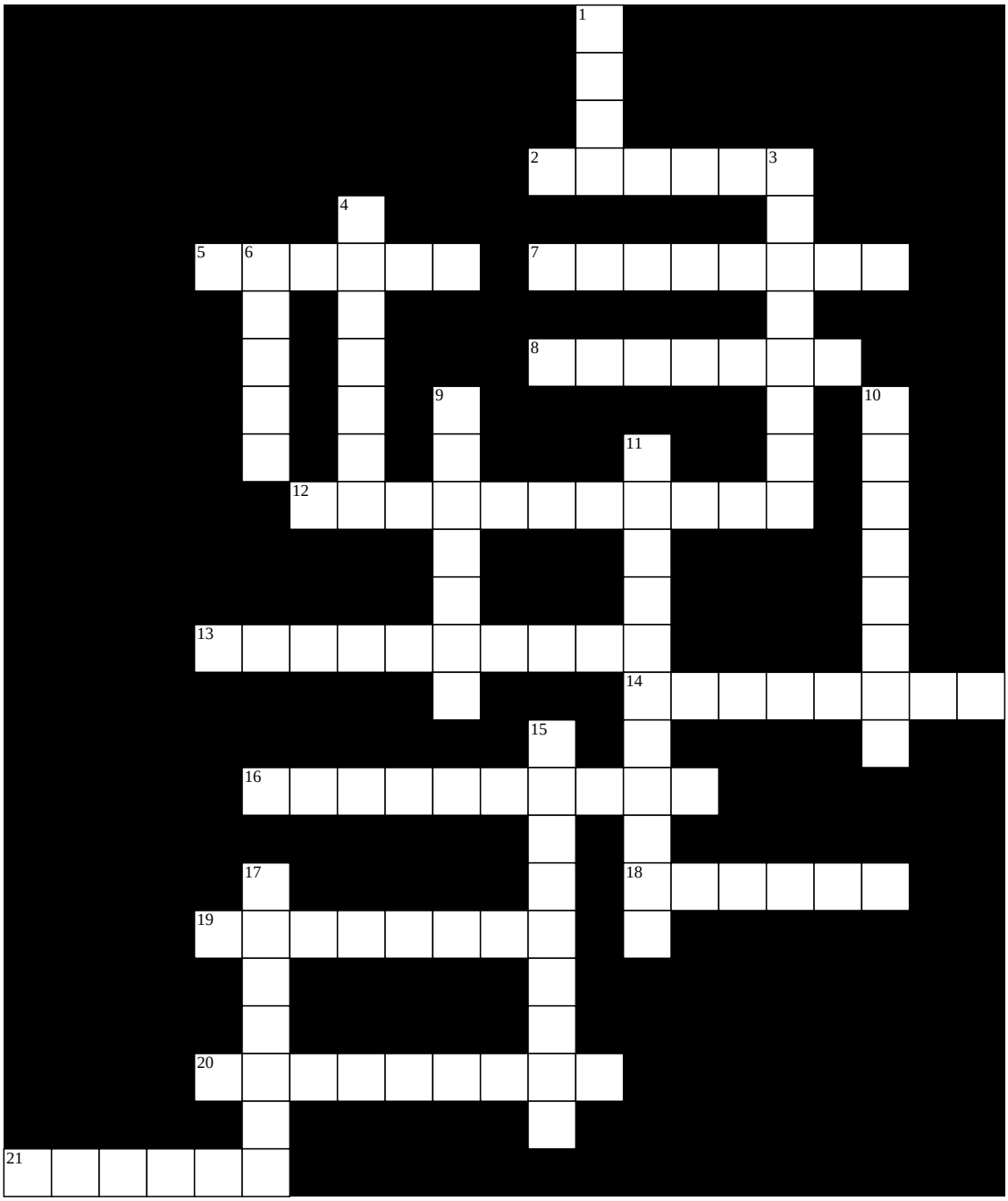
Words to find:

Antietam
Appomattox
Chattanooga
Confederacy
Douglass
Gettysburg
Grant
Illinois
Kansas
Kentucky
Maryland
Mississippi
Missouri
Nebraska
Richmond
Sherman
Springfield
Sumter
Tennessee
Underground
Vicksburg
Virginia
Washington
abolition
abolitionist
amendment
compromise
conductor
emancipation
fugitive
plantation
proclamation
secession

A Divided Nation Hard Word Search (Set 2) Answer Key



A Divided Nation Crossword



A Divided Nation Crossword Clues

Clues

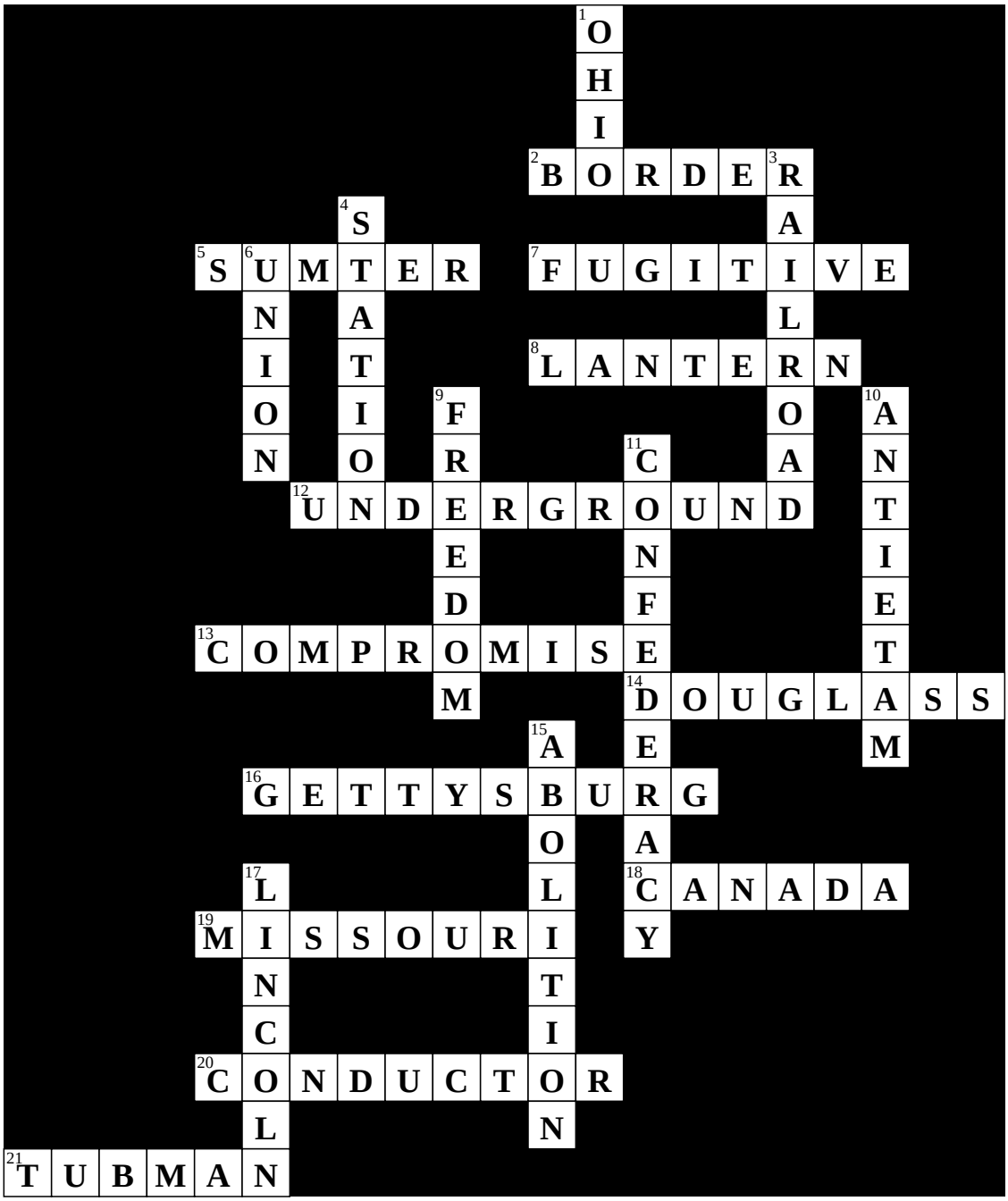
ACROSS

12. Hidden and secret; the first word in the name of a famous network.
13. An agreement where each side gives up something.
16. In 1863, Lincoln gave a famous short speech at a battlefield in this Pennsylvania town.
20. A guide who helped freedom seekers travel along an Underground Railroad route.
19. This state joined as a slave state in 1821 after a compromise.
14. Frederick ___ was a writer and speaker who printed the North Star.
7. A person who runs away to escape, such as people who fled slavery to find freedom.
8. A lamp you can carry to see at night.
2. Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri were this kind of state.
18. The country north of the United States, where slavery ended in 1834.
21. Harriet ___ was a brave guide who led people north.
5. Fort ___ in South Carolina is where the first shots of the Civil War were fired in 1861.

DOWN

11. The government Southern states formed in 1861, mainly to protect slavery; 11 states in all joined it.
15. The act of ending slavery.
3. A secret network of helpers had this name, but it had no real tracks.
10. A battle in Maryland in 1862 that was the bloodiest single day of the Civil War.
9. Being able to make your own choices, and not being owned by anyone.
4. A safe stop where freedom seekers could rest along an Underground Railroad route.
17. The president when the war began in 1861.
6. The side of the United States government in 1861.
1. This free state lies north of Kentucky.

A Divided Nation Crossword Answer Key



A Divided Nation Word Scramble

1. OTRDNUOCC
2. ERUBSYGTGT
3. AEECORNDFCY
4. RISOUSMI
5. EFITVIUG
6. MTAAITNE
7. UMNATB
8. RLANTNE
9. NOLILNC
10. OITSATN
11. IOOH
12. DBROER
13. CANAAD
14. AROALRID
15. OOTBINLAI
16. GUOSLASD
17. REUMST
18. EOUNUGNRRDD
19. OPEMOICSRM
20. OINUN
21. DFOREEM

A Divided Nation Word Scramble Answer Key

1. conductor
2. Gettysburg
3. Confederacy
4. Missouri
5. fugitive
6. Antietam
7. Tubman
8. lantern
9. Lincoln
10. station
11. Ohio
12. border
13. Canada
14. railroad
15. abolition
16. Douglass
17. Sumter
18. Underground
19. compromise
20. Union
21. freedom

Focus on Indian Territory

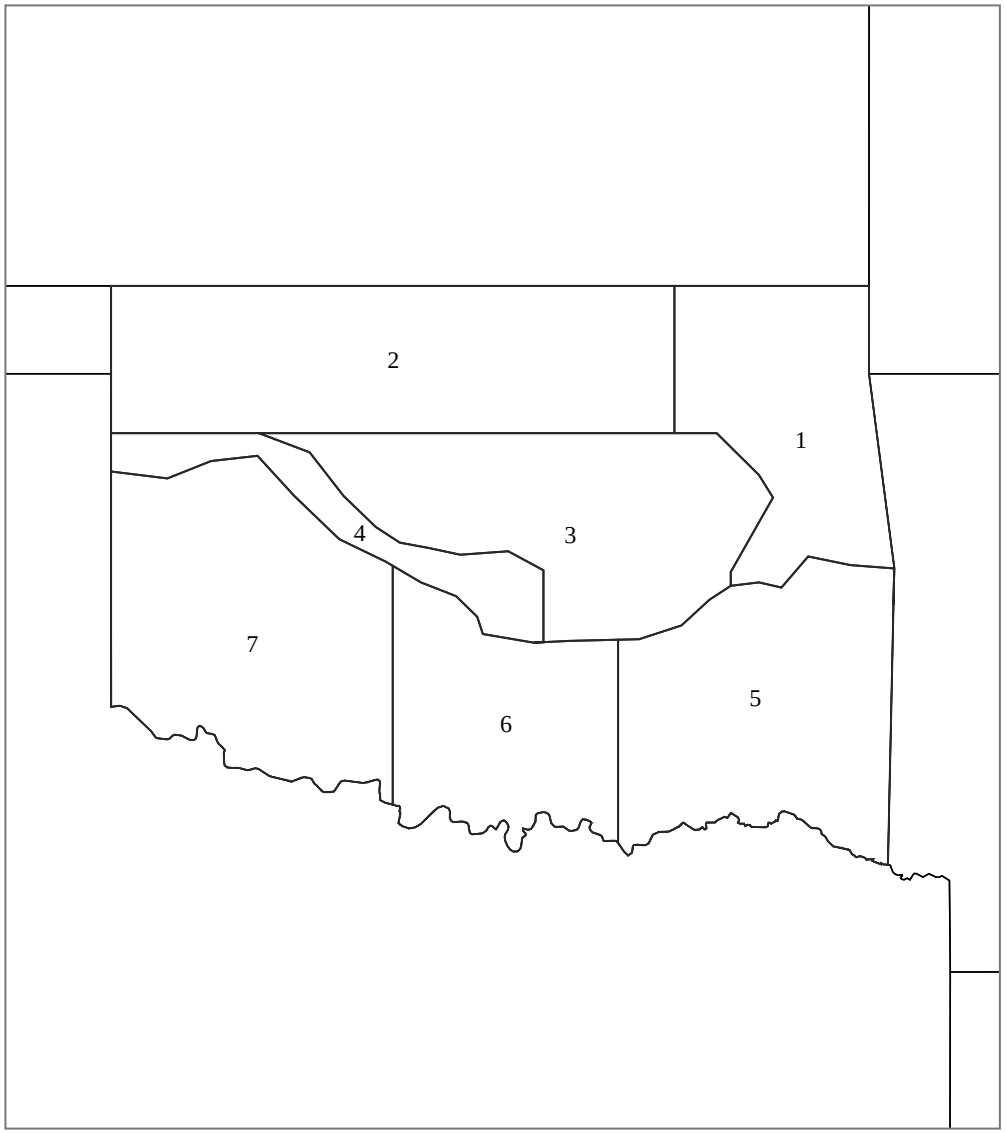
Five Native nations had their own governments in Indian Territory, today's Oklahoma. Color a map of their lands in 1861, read how each nation's laws treated slavery, and match each fact to its nation.

For teachers: these pages are about slavery inside the Native nations. They are written for grades 5-8, avoid graphic detail, and name their sources on the References page. Please read them before sharing them.

Pages 60-64

Focus on Indian Territory: The Nations' Lands, 1861

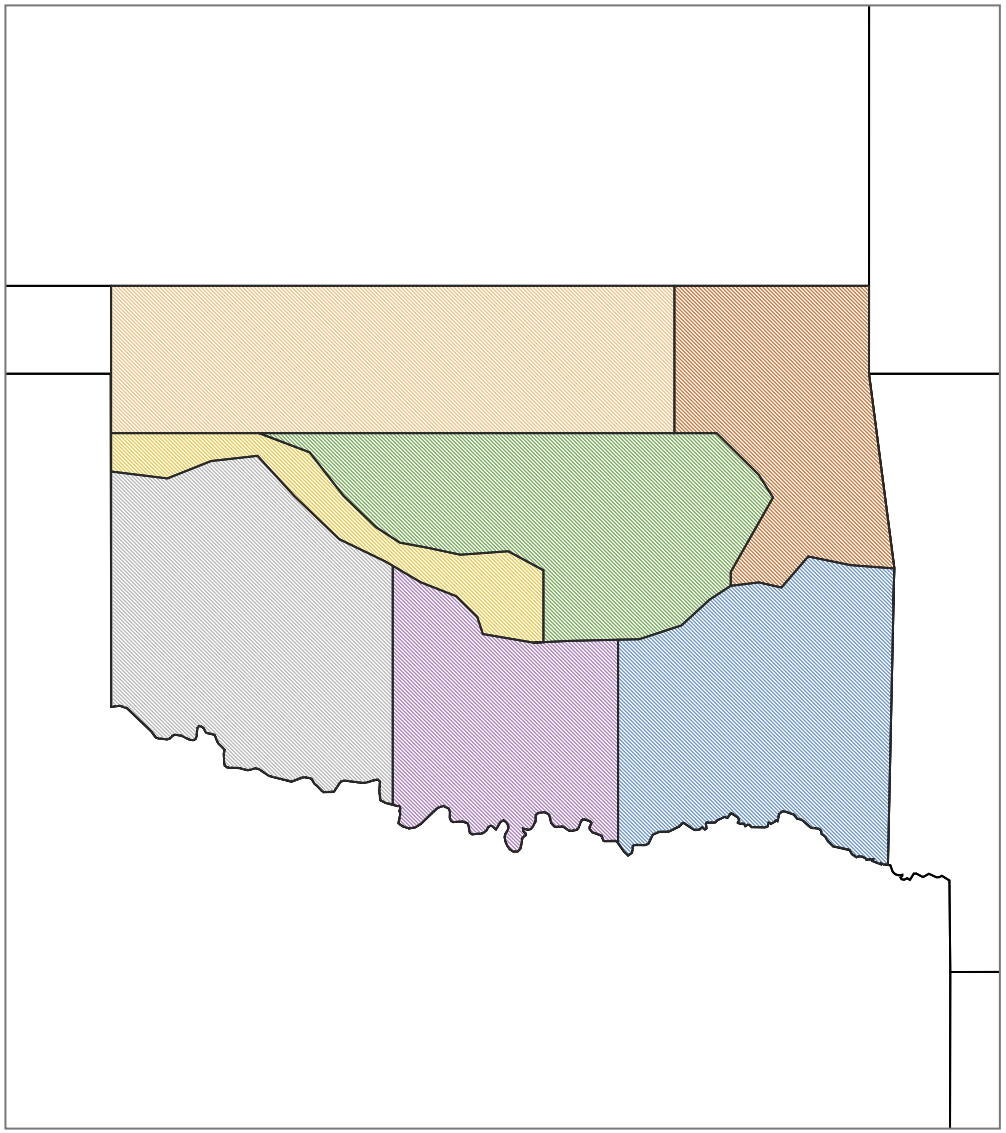
First color each legend box with a color you choose. Then color each numbered area to match its box.



- ☐ 1. Cherokee Nation
- ☐ 2. Cherokee Outlet (a Cherokee path to the west)
- ☐ 3. Creek Nation
- ☐ 4. Seminole Nation (the lands of 1856)
- ☐ 5. Choctaw Nation
- ☐ 6. Chickasaw Nation
- ☐ 7. Leased District (leased to the U.S. in 1855)

Borders are simplified from the treaties of 1828 to 1856. The small lands of the Quapaw, Seneca and Shawnee in the northeast corner are drawn as part of the Cherokee Nation. Texas also claimed the land south of the North Fork of the Red River.

Focus on Indian Territory: The Nations' Lands, 1861 Answer Key



1. Cherokee Nation
2. Cherokee Outlet (a Cherokee path to the west)
3. Creek Nation
4. Seminole Nation (the lands of 1856)
5. Choctaw Nation
6. Chickasaw Nation
7. Leased District (leased to the U.S. in 1855)

Borders are simplified from the treaties of 1828 to 1856. The small lands of the Quapaw, Seneca and Shawnee in the northeast corner are drawn as part of the Cherokee Nation. Texas also claimed the land south of the North Fork of the Red River.

Focus on Indian Territory: How the Nations Handled Slavery

Beginning in the 1830s, the United States forced five Native nations, the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek (Muscogee) and Seminole, to leave their homelands in the Southeast and move west to Indian Territory. Each nation had its own government, its own laws and its own ways to settle disputes. The state maps show Indian Territory as one block, but it was really five nations side by side.

Slavery was legal in all five nations.
Some families held Black people in slavery, and they brought enslaved people with them on the hard journey west. By 1860 more than 7,000 enslaved people lived in Indian Territory, about one person in every seven.

Each nation made its own slavery laws, called slave codes.
In 1841 the Cherokee council made it against the law to teach enslaved people to read or write. The Chickasaw Nation's constitution of 1856 protected slavery. Many Choctaw leaders held slaves, and the Choctaw Nation was one of the strongest supporters of the South.

Life was different in the Seminole and Creek nations.
Many enslaved Black people in the Seminole Nation lived in their own homes, farmed their own fields and gave part of their harvest each year. Some Black Seminoles became leaders. Some Black people married into Seminole and Creek families. Many Black Seminoles lived in their own towns and had more freedom than enslaved people in the other nations.

Enslaved people worked for their own freedom.
In 1842 a group of enslaved people in the Cherokee Nation took horses and guns and tried to reach Mexico, where slavery was against the law. In 1850 the Seminole leader Wild Cat and the Black Seminole leader John Horse led a group that included about 300 Black people to a new home in Mexico.

The Civil War divided the nations.
In 1861 leaders of all five nations signed treaties with the Confederacy. Many people disagreed. Many Creeks followed Opothleyahola, who refused to join the South. In February 1863 a Cherokee council that had turned back to the Union passed a law freeing every enslaved person in the Cherokee Nation. Many slaveholders ignored the law, and it did not make the freed people Cherokee citizens.

Slavery ended in 1866.
In 1866 the nations signed new treaties with the United States that ended slavery in all five nations. The freed people and their children were called Freedmen. Many of them spent years working to be counted as full citizens of the nations they lived in.

For teachers: sources give different counts of enslaved people in Indian Territory, from more than 7,000 in 1860 (National Park Service) to about 10,000 in 1861 (Oklahoma Historical Society). They also differ on when the Cherokee law took effect; this page gives the month the council passed it. The References page lists every source.

Focus on Indian Territory: Which Nation?

Read How the Nations Handled Slavery. Check the nation each sentence is about.

	Cherokee	Choctaw	Chickasaw	Creek	Seminole
1. Its council made a law in 1841 against teaching enslaved people to read.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. Its constitution of 1856 protected slavery.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3. Its leaders were among the strongest supporters of the South.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. Many enslaved people here lived in their own homes and gave part of their harvest each year.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. Its leader Wild Cat led a group to a new home in Mexico in 1850.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. Many of its people followed Opothleyahola, who refused to join the South.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7. In 1863 its council passed a law freeing every enslaved person.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8. Its lands included a long strip called the Outlet.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9. In 1855 a treaty gave it its own government, separate from the Choctaw.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Focus on Indian Territory: Which Nation? Answer Key

Read How the Nations Handled Slavery. Check the nation each sentence is about.

	Cherokee	Choctaw	Chickasaw	Creek	Seminole
1. Its council made a law in 1841 against teaching enslaved people to read.	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. Its constitution of 1856 protected slavery.	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐
3. Its leaders were among the strongest supporters of the South.	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐
4. Many enslaved people here lived in their own homes and gave part of their harvest each year.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑
5. Its leader Wild Cat led a group to a new home in Mexico in 1850.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑
6. Many of its people followed Opothleyahola, who refused to join the South.	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐
7. In 1863 its council passed a law freeing every enslaved person.	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐
8. Its lands included a long strip called the Outlet.	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐
9. In 1855 a treaty gave it its own government, separate from the Choctaw.	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐

Secret Messages of the Underground Railroad

People who helped others reach freedom sometimes wrote in code. They used everyday railroad words to make a letter harder for outsiders to understand. Use the code words to read each message.

Code word	What it meant
conductor	a guide who led people to freedom
passenger	a person traveling to freedom
station	a safe house for travelers
stationmaster	the person who ran a safe house
train	a trip along the route to freedom

1. The conductor will bring two passengers to your station on Friday night.

2. The train leaves at dusk.

3. Stationmaster, please have supper and a bed ready for the passengers.

4. The next station is across the river.

5. The passengers are safe and the train is on time.

Secret Messages of the Underground Railroad Answer Key

Code word	What it meant
conductor	a guide who led people to freedom
passenger	a person traveling to freedom
station	a safe house for travelers
stationmaster	the person who ran a safe house
train	a trip along the route to freedom

1. The conductor will bring two passengers to your station on Friday night.

A guide will bring two travelers to your safe house on Friday night.

2. The train leaves at dusk.

The group starts the journey at dusk.

3. Stationmaster, please have supper and a bed ready for the passengers.

Safe house keeper, please have food and a place to sleep ready for the travelers.

4. The next station is across the river.

The next safe house is across the river.

5. The passengers are safe and the train is on time.

The travelers are safe and the journey is on schedule.

Crack the Code: Words From the War

Some spies and generals hid their messages by swapping letters. A codebreaker can crack this kind of code by counting letters: in long English texts, E, T and A are usually among the most common. Each message below is a line from a real Abraham Lincoln speech, given before or during the Civil War, with every letter swapped for another. Crack the code and write the real words. Example: in message 1, the first coded letter is R. It stands for A, so write A wherever you see R.

1. R WNHYB TFCFTBT RLRFMYQ FQYBUJ ARMMNQ YQRMT

2. JNHS YANSB RMT YBCBM DBRSY RLN

3. ZFQW ERUFAB QNZRST MNMB, ZFQW AWRSFQD JNS RUU

4. LNCBSMEBMQ NJ QWB KBNKUB, XD QWB KBNKUB, JNS QWB KBNKUB

Crack the Code: Words From the War Answer Key

Decoder ring: find a code letter in the top row. The real letter is beneath it.

Code letter	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Real letter	C	E	V	Y	M	I	Z	U	Q	F	P	G	N	O	J	K	T	A	R	D	L	X	H	B	S	W

1. R WNHYB TFCFTBT RLRFMYQ FQYBUJ ARMMNQ YQRMT

A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CANNOT STAND

2. JNHS YANSB RMT YBCBM DBRSY RLN

FOUR SCORE AND SEVEN YEARS AGO

3. ZFQW ERUFAB QNZRST MNMB, ZFQW AWRSFQD JNS RUU

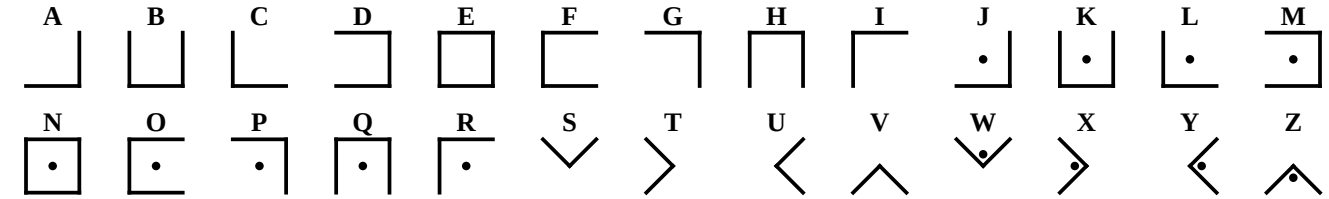
WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE, WITH CHARITY FOR ALL

4. LNCBSMEBMQ NJ QWB KBNKUB, XD QWB KBNKUB, JNS QWB KBNKUB

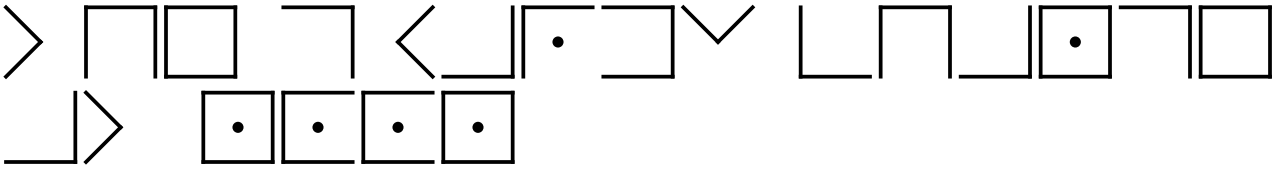
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE

Prison Notes: The Pigpen Cipher

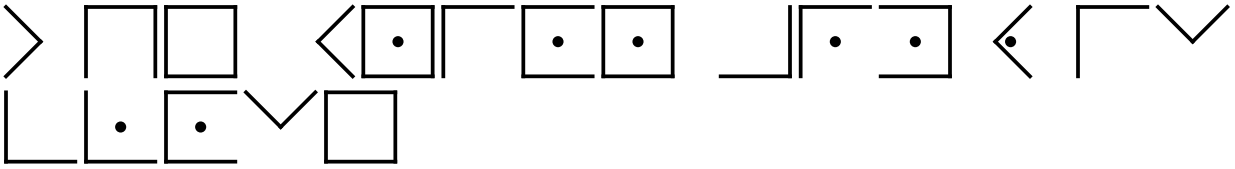
The pigpen cipher, also called the Freemason's cipher, swaps each letter for a symbol drawn from a tic-tac-toe grid or an X. A dot means the second time through. Fletcher Pratt's history of codes reports that Union prisoners of war used it to hide notes. Use the chart to read each practice message, then write the words.



1.



2.



3.



Prison Notes: The Pigpen Cipher Answer Key

Each message below, in plain English.

1. Message 1

THE GUARDS CHANGE AT NOON

2. Message 2

THE UNION ARMY IS CLOSE

3. Message 3

KEEP HOPE ALIVE

Confederate Cipher Disk

The Confederate Secret Service sent secret messages with a brass cipher disk and a key phrase, such as Manchester Bluff, Complete Victory or Come Retribution. In May 1863 General Johnston used Manchester Bluff to write to General Pemberton at Vicksburg, and Grant's scouts caught the message. Use the same key phrase to decode these practice messages, which were written for this page.



A Confederate cipher disk in the National Cryptologic Museum.

How the disk worked: the sender and the receiver shared a secret key phrase. Each letter of the phrase told them where to set the inner ring before they swapped one letter. The phrase repeated, so the same letter could be coded in different ways.

You can make a cipher disk of your own on the next page. Write the key phrase over your coded letters again and again, and turn the disk to each key letter in turn.

Key phrase: MANCHESTER BLUFF

1. EEAFT SJXWL QAFNJ EBLTH MD

2. FHRDY MVZIZ TYIYL GAEFL HLHRZ HSN

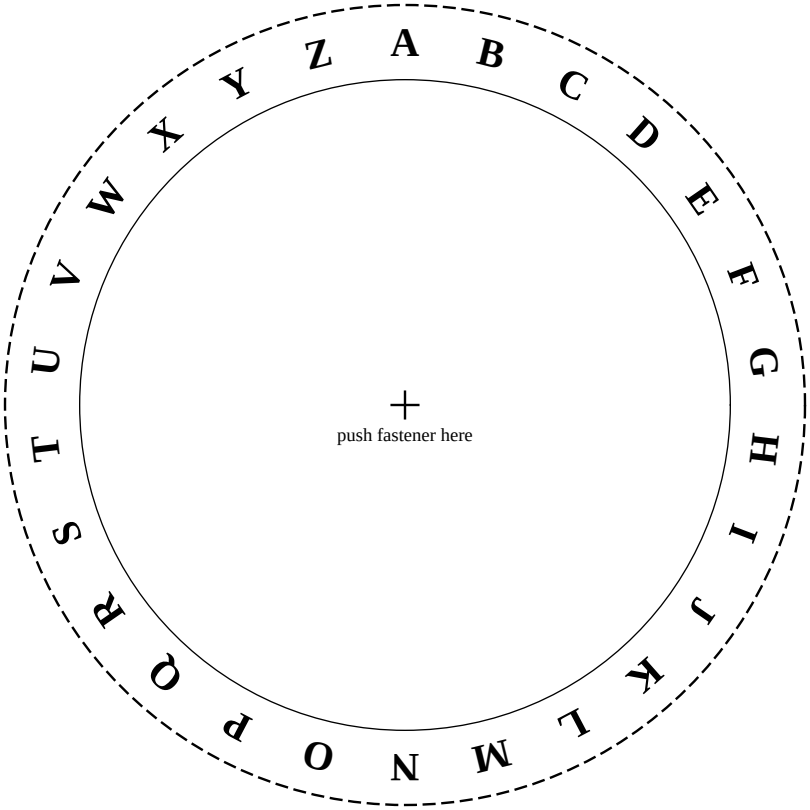
3. YERVH XLAIF MOGNQ XAGFH AF

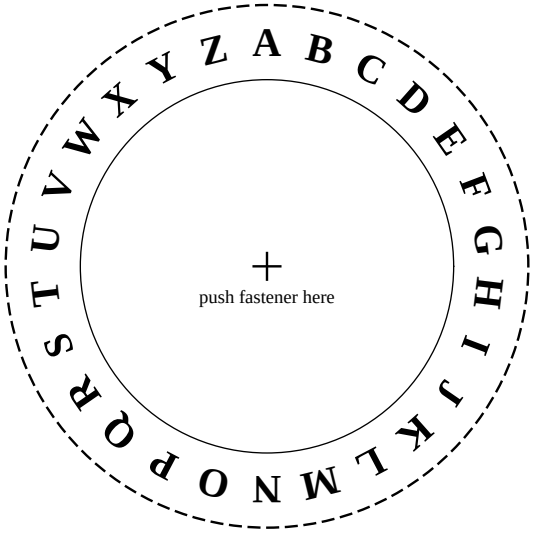
Make Your Own Cipher Disk

Cut out both circles along the dashed lines. Lay the small disk on the big one and push a brass fastener through the two center marks, so the small disk can turn.

To decode: turn the small disk until its A sits under the first letter of the key phrase. Find the coded letter on the big ring and read the real letter under it on the small ring. Turn the disk to the next letter of the key phrase for the next coded letter.

Example: the key phrase is MANCHESTER BLUFF, so the first key letter is M. Turn the small disk until its A sits under the M on the big ring. The first coded letter of message 1 is E. Find E on the big ring, and read the letter under it on the small ring. It is S, the first letter of the message. Next, turn the small disk to the second key letter, A, and decode the second coded letter the same way.





Confederate Cipher Disk Answer Key

Key phrase: MANCHESTER BLUFF. Each coded line is decoded below it.

1. EEAFT SJXWL QAFNJ EBLTH MD

SEND MORE SUPPLIES BY RAIL

2. FHRDY MVZIZ TYIYL GAEFL HLHRZ HSN

THE BRIDGE IS NOT GUARDED TONIGHT

3. YERVH XLAIF MOGNQ XAGFH AF

MEET AT THE OLD MILL AT DAWN

References

For teachers. Each section lists one kind of source behind this pack. Primary sources are documents made by people who were there; secondary sources are books, agencies and encyclopedias that study them. Where we worked from a secondary source, the primary source it cites is named so you can check it. We say plainly when a fact is disputed or a place is only approximate.

Primary sources (made by people who were there)

Emancipation Proclamation, January 1, 1863. National Archives, Washington, DC (archives.gov/exhibits/featured-documents/emancipation-proclamation).

13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, passed 1865. National Archives (archives.gov/milestone-documents/13th-amendment).

Abraham Lincoln, 'A House Divided' speech, June 16, 1858; Gettysburg Address, November 19, 1863; Second Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865. Quoted on the code-cracking page. Abraham Lincoln Papers, Library of Congress (loc.gov/collections/abraham-lincoln-papers).

William Still, The Underground Railroad (Philadelphia, 1872), the records he kept of the people he helped.

David Homer Bates, Lincoln in the Telegraph Office (Century Co., 1907). A first-hand account by a War Department telegraph operator, with the Union route ciphers and the Confederate Manchester Bluff message. Bates says the message is printed in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Series I, Volume 24, Part 1, pages 39-40 (we cite it through Bates and have not read the Official Records page).

Secondary sources (books, museums and agencies that study the primary ones)

National Park Service, Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park, and the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom (nps.gov): Tubman's escape in 1849, her trips back, and the code words of the Underground Railroad.

National Constitution Center, Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 (constitutioncenter.org); Library of Congress collections on the Missouri Compromise, Compromise of 1850 and Kansas-Nebraska Act (loc.gov).

United States Senate historical office (senate.gov) and the U.S. Census Bureau: dates of statehood, and the free and slave states of 1850, 1854 and 1861.

David Kahn, The Codebreakers (1967), pages 217 to 221: the Confederate cipher disk and its key phrases Manchester Bluff, Complete Victory and Come Retribution. We cite Kahn as reported by Wikipedia's article on the Vigenere cipher; we have not read Kahn's pages ourselves.

Pigpen cipher: used by Union prisoners of war, according to Wikipedia's article on the pigpen cipher, which cites Pratt, Secret and Urgent (1939), pages 142 to 143. We have not read Pratt, and no authentic pigpen message from a prisoner is known to us, so the three pigpen messages are practice messages written for this pack.

Wikimedia Commons, "Confederate cipher disk" (commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Confederate_cipher_disk.jpg): a photograph of a Confederate cipher disk at the National Cryptologic Museum.

Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division, "Map showing the distribution of the slave population of the southern states of the United States, compiled from the census of 1860" (loc.gov/item/99447026/): the map and the 1860 census table printed on it.

About the code pages

The four sentences on the Crack the Code page are real words from Lincoln's speeches (see the primary sources above). The practice messages on the pigpen and cipher disk pages were written for this pack, in the style of messages people sent; they are not copies of real ones.

Many real Confederate and Union ciphers were harder than a letter swap. The pages show how they worked, with a key phrase you are given so a student can finish by hand.

References (continued)

Challenge numbers

National Park Service (Harriet Tubman fact sheet; Henry Box Brown); New Georgia Encyclopedia (Sherman's March to the Sea: about 60,000 soldiers and 2,500 wagons); Encyclopaedia Britannica (the march of about 285 miles); National Constitution Center (Fugitive Slave Act of 1850).

Maps

The maps show the states as they were in each year, drawn with simplified territory borders and today's outlines for each state that existed then. Virginia is drawn with West Virginia inside it until 1863. Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico were not part of the United States then and are left out.

The lakes are drawn from public geographic data with a few small lakes added by hand.

Indian Territory

Treaty with the Choctaw and Chickasaw, June 22, 1855 (ratified 1856): the borders of the two nations, the 98th and 100th meridians, and the lease of the land west of the 98th meridian for the Wichita and other tribes. Oklahoma State University, Tribal Treaties Database (treaties.okstate.edu). A primary source.

Treaty with the Creeks and Seminoles, August 7, 1856: the Seminole lands between the Canadian River and its North Fork, and the Creek borders. 11 Stat. 699; Oklahoma State University, Tribal Treaties Database (treaties.okstate.edu). A primary source.

Cherokee National Council, An Act Providing for the Abolition of Slavery in the Cherokee Nation, February 18-19, 1863. Transcription at the American Battlefield Trust (battlefields.org/learn/primary-sources/cherokee-emancipation-proclamation). A primary source. The Oklahoma Historical Society's Freedmen entry dates the freeing to June 1863, when fines on slaveholders who kept people enslaved took effect (June 25, 1863).

Oklahoma Historical Society, The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture (okhistory.org), entries Slavery (slave codes in all five nations, the 1842 escape, Seminole practice, Wild Cat in 1850), Freedmen (Creek and Seminole freedoms, the 1866 treaties), Choctaw, Chickasaw (the 1856 constitution) and Leased District.

National Park Service, Race, Slavery, and Freedom: A Snapshot of Antebellum Slavery in the South, Indian Territory, and Border States (nps.gov): more than 7,000 enslaved people, about 14 percent of the people, in Indian Territory by 1860.

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Iti Fabvssa, A New Chahta Homeland: A History by the Decade, 1850-1860 (choctawnation.com): the 1855 separation from the Chickasaw and the Choctaw constitutions of 1857 and 1860.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Confederate States treaties with Indian nations (treatiesportal.unl.edu): Albert Pike's 1861 treaties with the Creek (July 10), Choctaw and Chickasaw (July 12), Seminole (August 1) and Cherokee (October 7).

The Cherokee law of October 22, 1841 against teaching enslaved people to read or write: Laws of the Cherokee Nation, in the Native American Rights Fund's National Indian Law Library (narf.org/nill). Also quoted by Louis Filler, Indian Slavers (Routledge).

The map: Indian Territory is cut along the 96th, 98th and 100th meridians, the Canadian and Arkansas rivers and the North Fork of the Canadian, traced by hand. Island Bayou (the Choctaw and Chickasaw line), the Pond Creek line (Creek and Seminole) and the south line of the Cherokee country are simplified to straight lines, so every border is approximate.

Picture credits

Every picture is in the public domain, except the Confederate cipher disk photograph, which is shared under a Creative Commons licence and credited below. Portraits are photographs or paintings made during or soon after each person's life unless a note says otherwise.

Harriet Tubman: by Photographer: Horatio Seymour Squyer, 1848 - 18 Dec 1905, circa 1885. Source: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Harriet_Tubman_by_Squyer,_NPG,_c1885.jpg. License: Public domain in the United States.

Frederick Douglass: by George Kendall Warren, circa 1879. Source: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Frederick_Douglass_(circa_1879).jpg. License: Public domain in the United States.

Abraham Lincoln: by Alexander Gardner, 8 November 1863. Source: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Abraham_Lincoln_O-77_matte_collodion_print.jpg. License: Public domain in the United States.

References (continued)

Picture credits (continued)

William Lloyd Garrison: by Liljenquist Family Collection of Civil War Photographs, 1870. Source: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:William_Lloyd_Garrison,_abolitionist,_journalist,_and_editor_of_The_Liberator_LCCN2017660623_(cropped).jpg. License: Public domain in the United States.

Harriet Beecher Stowe: by Alanson Fisher, 1853. Source: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Harriet_Beecher_Stowe_by_Alanson_Fisher.jpg. License: Public domain in the United States.

John Brown: by Augustus Washington, between 1846 and 1847. Source: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:John_Brown_by_Augustus_Washington,_1846-7.jpg. License: Public domain in the United States.

Sojourner Truth: by Randall Studio, circa 1870. Source: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sojourner_Truth,_1870_(cropped,_restored).jpg. License: Public domain in the United States.

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Standards

NCSS C3 Framework (College, Career, and Civic Life), grade bands K-2, 3-5 and 6-8, used to set each activity's grades.

References (continued)

Standards (continued)

Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (grades 3-5 Number and Operations in Base Ten), used to set the grades of the math pages.

Additional Resources

More free printable packs from JigsawGeo. Find them all at the web address below.

squishlogic.com/JigsawGeo/resources/

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