

# Chapter Assessment

## Terms and People

1. What was the **Fugitive Slave Act**? Under the Fugitive Slave Act, what would happen to people who assisted a fugitive slave?
2. What was the **Underground Railroad**? How did the Underground Railroad work?
3. Why was the territory called "**Bleeding Kansas**"? Why did Kansas become a battleground for proslavery and antislavery forces?
4. What was the strategic significance of **Harpers Ferry**? Why did abolitionists launch an attack there?
5. Who was **Jefferson Davis**? What point of view did he support on the slavery issue?

## Focus Questions

The focus question for this chapter is **How did the nation's expansion lead to the Civil War?** Build an answer to this big question by answering the focus questions for Sections 1 through 4 and the Critical Thinking questions that follow.

### Section 1

6. How did Congress try to resolve the dispute between North and South over slavery?

### Section 2

7. How did the Fugitive Slave Act and the Kansas-Nebraska Act increase tensions between the North and South?

### Section 3

8. What developments deepened the divisions between North and South?

### Section 4

9. How did the Union finally collapse into a civil war?

## Writing About History

**Debate a Topic** The decades before the Civil War were filled with political compromises, new political parties, and feuding between different sections of the country. Prepare an argument that you would use to debate the question: Was the Civil War inevitable?

### Prewriting

- Make a list of the arguments for each side of the debate.
- Rank each point from most to least important.
- Decide which side you are going to argue.

## Critical Thinking

10. **Explain Causes** Up until the 1840s, the Whigs and the Democrats had failed to declare an opinion on the slavery issue. What caused them to change this policy?
11. **Compare Points of View** How did Calhoun and Webster respond to Clay's proposed compromise? With which side did the majority of congressmen agree?
12. **Recognize Bias** What attitudes did abolitionist writers and proslavery writers portray in their novels?
13. **Analyze Information** In what ways did the Kansas-Nebraska Act support the expansion of slavery?
14. **Draw Conclusions** How did the Republican Party grow so rapidly that within two years its candidates were challenging the established parties?
15. **Predict Consequences** What did Frederick Douglass predict might happen as a result of the *Dred Scott* decision?
16. **Analyze Charts** Study the chart below. Then, answer the question that follows. Which candidate received the fewest electoral votes in comparison with his percentage of the popular vote? Explain.

Candidate	Percentage of Popular Vote	Number of Electoral Votes
Abraham Lincoln	39.9%	180
Stephen A. Douglas	29.4%	12
John C. Breckinridge	18.1%	72
John Bell	12.6%	39

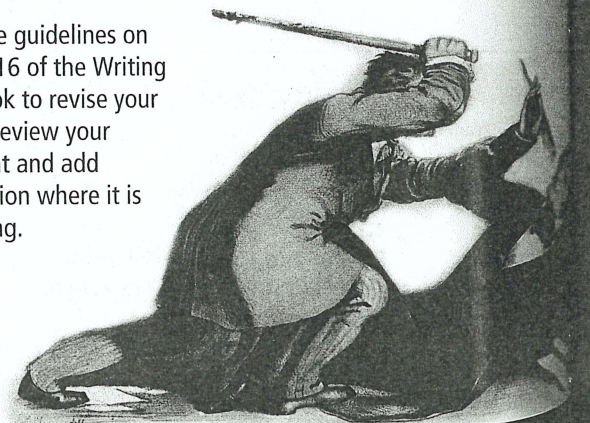
17. **Identify Point of View** Why was the Crittenden Compromise unacceptable to Lincoln?

### Drafting

- Develop a working thesis, and choose supporting information to support the thesis.
- Make an outline organizing your argument and addressing the points that the opposition might make.
- Write an introduction that explains your argument, provide a body of evidence, and end with a convincing conclusion.

### Revising

- Using the guidelines on page SH16 of the Writing Handbook to revise your report. Review your argument and add information where it is not strong.





# Document-Based Assessment

## John Brown's Raid

Abolitionist John Brown dedicated his life to ending slavery in the United States. He was a deeply religious man, but he did not hesitate to use violence to achieve his goals. To what extent was John Brown's raid at Harpers Ferry successful? Use your knowledge of the raid and its consequences along with Documents A, B, and D to answer questions 1 through 4.

### Document A

John Brown am now quite certain that the crimes of this guilty land: will never be purged away; but with Blood. I had as I now think: vainly flattered myself that without very much bloodshed; it might be done."

—John Brown, December 2, 1859

### Document B

Though it convert the whole Northern people, without an exception, into furious, armed abolition invaders, yet old Brown will be hung! That is the stern and irreversible decree, not only of the authorities of Virginia, but of the PEOPLE of Virginia, without a dissenting voice. And, therefore, Virginia, and the people of Virginia, will treat with the contempt they deserve, all the craven appeals of Northern men in behalf of old Brown's pardon. The miserable old traitor and murderer belongs to the gallows, and the gallows will have its own."

—Richmond "Whig" newspaper editorial quoted in the *Liberator*, November 18, 1859

### Document C

"But the question is, Did John Brown fail? . . . And to this I answer ten thousand times, No! . . . When John Brown stretched forth his arm the sky was cleared. The time for compromises was gone—the harmed hosts of freedom stood face to face over the chasm of a broken Union—and the clash of arms was at hand. The South staked all upon getting possession of the Federal Government, and failing to do that, drew the sword of rebellion and thus made her own, and not Brown's, the lost cause of the century."

—Frederick Douglass, May 30, 1881

### Document D



How do Documents A, C, and D portray John Brown?

- A As a criminal who committed treason
- B As a martyr who died for a just cause
- C As an abolitionist who went too far
- D As the cause of the Civil War

What does Document B predict about Brown's execution?

- A It will turn southerners into abolitionists.
- B The people of Virginia will not support it.
- C People will quickly forget about Brown.
- D It may turn northerners into abolitionists.

3. According to Frederick Douglass, what did John Brown's raid achieve?

- A It pushed the nation toward the Civil War.
- B It made abolitionism a lost cause.
- C It helped the North to gain control of the government.
- D It achieved nothing of importance.

4. **Writing Task** To what extent was John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry a success or a failure? Consider different points of view when constructing your answer. Use your knowledge of the time period and specific evidence from the primary sources above to support your answer.