

The Election Of 1860 Answer Key



1. Based on this map why is Lincoln considered to be a sectional president?
LINCOLN WAS CONSIDERED TO BE A SECTIONAL PRESIDENT BECAUSE HE DID NOT RECEIVE ANY ELECTORAL VOTES FROM SOUTHERN STATES
2. What political party was Lincoln in?
REPUBLICAN
3. What advantage did Lincoln have based on the candidates' political parties?
LINCOLN HAD THE ADVANTAGE THAT THERE WERE TWO DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES (SPLIT THE VOTE)
4. What was a result of the Election of 1860? LINCOLN WON

The Election of 1860: Answer Key to a Nation Divided

The election of 1860 remains a pivotal moment in American history, a watershed election that irrevocably propelled the nation towards the Civil War. Understanding its complexities, the candidates, and the ultimate outcome is crucial to grasping the deep-seated divisions that fractured the United States. This comprehensive guide serves as your "Election of 1860 answer key," providing in-depth analysis and clarifying the key factors that shaped this turbulent election. We'll unpack the candidates, their platforms, the sectional tensions, and the results that ultimately foreshadowed the nation's tragic descent into conflict.

The Contenders: A Deep Dive into the 1860 Candidates

The election of 1860 saw a fractured Democratic Party and a surge of sectionalism. Four major candidates vied for the presidency, each representing a distinct political ideology and geographical base:

Abraham Lincoln (Republican):

Lincoln, a relatively unknown Illinois lawyer, championed the Republican Party platform focused on preventing the expansion of slavery into new territories. His campaign was surprisingly successful in

the North, attracting a broad coalition of anti-slavery activists, free-soil advocates, and those concerned about the balance of power between the North and South. His stance on slavery, while not advocating for abolition in existing slave states, was a key factor in securing his victory.

Stephen A. Douglas (Northern Democrat):

Douglas, the incumbent Senator from Illinois, advocated for popular sovereignty—allowing territories to decide the issue of slavery through their own votes. His position, while attempting to appeal to both North and South, ultimately alienated both, leaving him without a clear path to victory. His focus on national unity was overshadowed by the escalating sectional tensions.

John C. Breckinridge (Southern Democrat):

Representing the pro-slavery faction of the Democratic Party, Breckinridge staunchly defended the institution of slavery and advocated for its protection and expansion. His candidacy solidified the deep South's commitment to preserving slavery, further exacerbating the already fragile national unity.

John Bell (Constitutional Union Party):

Bell, from Tennessee, represented the Constitutional Union Party, a group advocating for maintaining the Union and avoiding the issue of slavery altogether. His platform, while aiming for national reconciliation, ultimately failed to gain significant traction amidst the polarized political climate.

The Sectional Divide: Understanding the Underlying Tensions

The election of 1860 wasn't simply about choosing a president; it was a referendum on the future of slavery and the very fabric of the nation. The deep-seated sectional divisions between the North and South, fueled by economic differences, differing social structures, and fundamentally opposing views on slavery, were at the heart of the election.

Economic Disparities:

The industrial North and the agrarian South held vastly different economic interests. The North's burgeoning industrial economy thrived on free labor, while the South's economy relied heavily on enslaved labor. These economic differences created a fundamental conflict of interest.

Social Structures:

The North's social structure was increasingly diverse and urbanized, while the South remained largely agrarian with a rigid social hierarchy based on race and ownership of slaves. These contrasting social structures fueled cultural and ideological differences.

The Results and Their Ramifications: The Election's Legacy

Lincoln's victory, while decisive in the North, was entirely absent in the South. This stark regional division highlighted the irreconcilable differences between the sections. The Southern states, fearing the eventual demise of slavery under a Lincoln administration, quickly initiated secession, leading to the formation of the Confederate States of America and the outbreak of the Civil War.

Lincoln's victory was not a mandate for abolition; however, it was interpreted by the South as a direct threat to their way of life. This misinterpretation, coupled with the already fragile state of the Union, accelerated the secession process and plunged the nation into a bloody conflict.

The Election of 1860: An Answer Key to the Road to Civil War

The election of 1860 wasn't simply an election; it was a turning point, a stark revelation of the deep-seated divisions within the United States. Understanding the candidates, their platforms, and the underlying sectional tensions is crucial to comprehending the causes of the Civil War. Lincoln's victory, while seemingly decisive in the North, became the catalyst for the South's secession and the subsequent four years of devastating conflict. This "answer key" provides a clearer understanding of this pivotal moment in American history and its enduring legacy.

Conclusion: The Election of 1860 remains a significant turning point in American history, a potent symbol of the nation's fragility and the destructive power of unchecked sectionalism. By understanding its intricacies, we gain valuable insight into the complex dynamics that shaped the nation's past and continue to inform its present.

FAQs:

1. Why didn't the Constitutional Union Party gain more support? The Constitutional Union Party's attempt to avoid the slavery issue proved ineffective in a climate where the issue dominated political discourse. Their platform lacked the strong ideological appeal of the other candidates.
2. What role did popular sovereignty play in the election? Popular sovereignty, advocated by Douglas, aimed to allow territories to decide the slavery question themselves. However, it failed to resolve the underlying tensions and ultimately alienated both Northern and Southern voters.
3. How did Lincoln's victory directly contribute to secession? Lincoln's election, while not explicitly advocating for abolition in existing slave states, was perceived by the South as an existential threat to their way of life and their economic system based on slavery. This fear fueled the secession movement.
4. What were the long-term consequences of the 1860 election? The election's long-term consequences were profound and far-reaching, culminating in the Civil War, the abolition of slavery, and the reshaping of the American political landscape.
5. What were the key differences between the Northern and Southern Democrats? Northern

Democrats, represented by Douglas, favored popular sovereignty, while Southern Democrats, represented by Breckinridge, championed the expansion and protection of slavery. This fundamental difference led to a split in the party and contributed significantly to the outcome of the election.

the election of 1860 answer key: Team of Rivals Doris Kearns Goodwin, 2006-12-08 One of the most influential books of the past fifty years, *Team of Rivals* is Pulitzer Prize-winning author and esteemed presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin's modern classic about the political genius of Abraham Lincoln, his unlikely presidency, and his cabinet of former political foes. Winner of the prestigious Lincoln Prize and the inspiration for the Oscar Award winning-film *Lincoln*, starring Daniel Day-Lewis, directed by Steven Spielberg, and written by Tony Kushner. On May 18, 1860, William H. Seward, Salmon P. Chase, Edward Bates, and Abraham Lincoln waited in their hometowns for the results from the Republican National Convention in Chicago. When Lincoln emerged as the victor, his rivals were dismayed and angry. Throughout the turbulent 1850s, each had energetically sought the presidency as the conflict over slavery was leading inexorably to secession and civil war. That Lincoln succeeded, Goodwin demonstrates, was the result of a character that had been forged by experiences that raised him above his more privileged and accomplished rivals. He won because he possessed an extraordinary ability to put himself in the place of other men, to experience what they were feeling, to understand their motives and desires. It was this capacity that enabled Lincoln as president to bring his disgruntled opponents together, create the most unusual cabinet in history, and marshal their talents to the task of preserving the Union and winning the war. We view the long, horrifying struggle from the vantage of the White House as Lincoln copes with incompetent generals, hostile congressmen, and his raucous cabinet. He overcomes these obstacles by winning the respect of his former competitors, and in the case of Seward, finds a loyal and crucial friend to see him through. This brilliant multiple biography is centered on Lincoln's mastery of men and how it shaped the most significant presidency in the nation's history.

the election of 1860 answer key: Political Debates Between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas in the Celebrated Campaign of 1858 in Illinois Abraham Lincoln, 1895

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Todd Pfannestiel, Sylvie Waskiewicz, Paul Vickery, 2024-09-10 U.S. History is designed to meet the scope and sequence requirements of most introductory courses. The text provides a balanced approach to U.S. history, considering the people, events, and ideas that have shaped the United States from both the top down (politics, economics, diplomacy) and bottom up (eyewitness accounts, lived experience). U.S. History covers key forces that form the American experience, with particular attention to issues of race, class, and gender.

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the election of 1860 answer key: American Government 3e Glen Krutz, Sylvie Waskiewicz, 2023-05-12 Black & white print. American Government 3e aligns with the topics and objectives of many government courses. Faculty involved in the project have endeavored to make government workings, issues, debates, and impacts meaningful and memorable to students while maintaining the conceptual coverage and rigor inherent in the subject. With this objective in mind, the content of this textbook has been developed and arranged to provide a logical progression from the fundamental principles of institutional design at the founding, to avenues of political participation, to thorough coverage of the political structures that constitute American government. The book builds upon what students have already learned and emphasizes connections between topics as well as between theory and applications. The goal of each section is to enable students not just to recognize concepts, but to work with them in ways that will be useful in later courses, future careers, and as engaged citizens. In order to help students understand the ways that government, society, and individuals interconnect, the revision includes more examples and details regarding the lived experiences of diverse groups and communities within the United States. The authors and reviewers sought to strike a balance between confronting the negative and harmful elements of American government, history, and current events, while demonstrating progress in overcoming them. In doing so, the approach seeks to provide instructors with ample opportunities to open discussions, extend and update concepts, and drive deeper engagement.

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Immigration Services, 2009 Learn About the United States is intended to help permanent residents gain a deeper understanding of U.S. history and government as they prepare to become citizens. The product presents 96 short lessons, based on the sample questions from which the civics portion of the naturalization test is drawn. An audio CD that allows students to listen to the questions, answers, and civics lessons read aloud is also included. For immigrants preparing to naturalize, the chance to learn more about the history and government of the United States will make their journey toward citizenship a more meaningful one.

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remarkably concise, up-to-date, and vibrant biography of the most revered figure in United States history. While the heart of the book focuses on the Civil War, Gienapp begins with a finely etched portrait of Lincoln's early life, from pioneer farm boy to politician and lawyer in Springfield, to his stunning election as sixteenth president of the United States. Students will see how Lincoln grew during his years in office, how he developed a keen aptitude for military strategy and displayed enormous skill in dealing with his generals, and how his war strategy evolved from a desire to preserve the Union to emancipation and total war. Gienapp shows how Lincoln's early years influenced his skills as commander-in-chief and demonstrates that, throughout the stresses of the war years, Lincoln's basic character shone through: his good will and fundamental decency, his remarkable self-confidence matched with genuine humility, his immunity to the passions and hatreds the war spawned, his extraordinary patience, and his timeless devotion. A former backwoodsman and country lawyer, Abraham Lincoln rose to become one of our greatest presidents. This biography offers a vivid account of Lincoln's dramatic ascension to the pinnacle of American history.

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