

**Unit 5: 1844-1877**

Questions 1-3 refer to the 1868 painting below.



"Across the Continent: Westward the course of empire takes its way."

1. Which of the following was the primary cause for the development depicted in the painting?
- a. A desire for economic opportunity through settlement and access to new resources
  - b. Persecuted groups searching for religious freedom and refuge in the West
  - c. Increased immigration resulted in less available land in the East
  - d. Slave-holding interests in the South demanded more land for cotton production

**Explanations:**

- a. **Correct:** Americans and their government saw the West as a treasure trove, rich with fertile land, mineral resources, and access to the Pacific Ocean.
  - b. **Incorrect:** Though Mormons and other groups sought refuge from persecution, this image does not address this cause.
  - c. **Incorrect:** Immigration did continue to increase through this period but most immigrants settled in Eastern and Northern cities.
  - d. **Incorrect:** While also a valid factor, the expansion of cotton and slavery did not impact far western settlement like it previously did in Texas.
2. The painting represents a continuation of which of the following developments in the first half of the 19th Century?
- a. Mexican-American War
  - b. Indian Removal Act
  - c. American System

d. Missouri Compromise

**Explanations:**

- a. **Incorrect:** War with Mexico is not addressed in the painting.
- b. **Incorrect:** Though Native Americans were significantly and adversely affected by American expansion westward, this is not addressed in the painting.
- c. **Correct:** Henry Clay's prescription for "internal improvements" is directly represented by the railway and train in the painting.
- d. **Incorrect:** The compromise over the expansion of slavery in 1820 is not addressed in the painting.

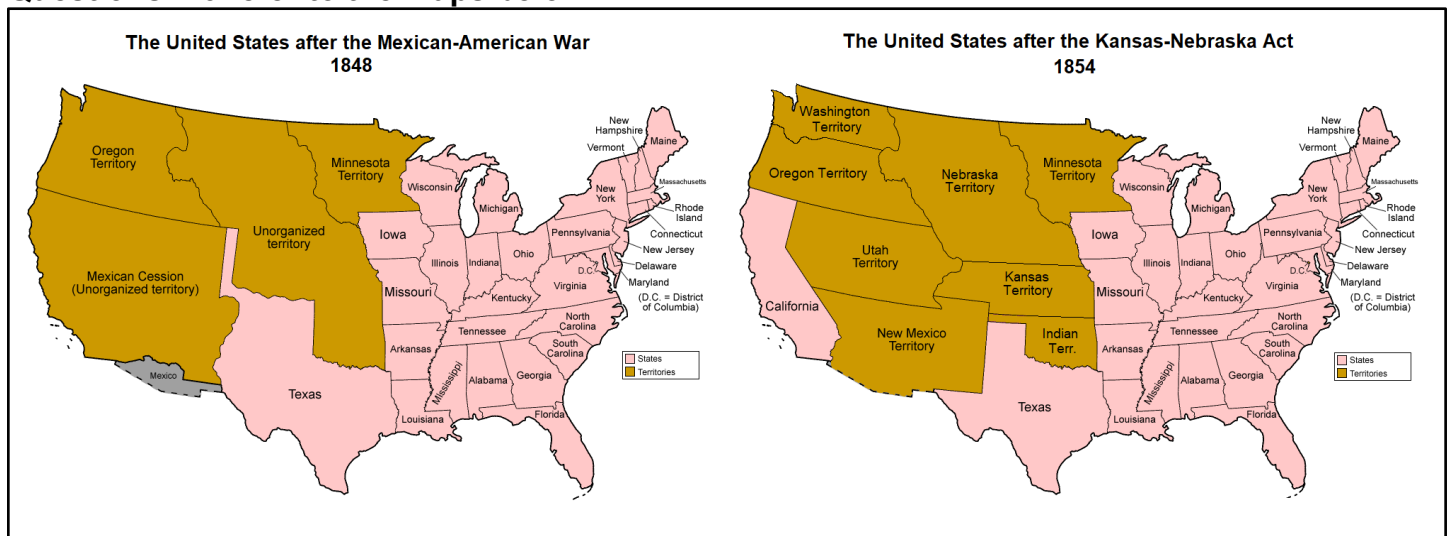
**3. Which of the following was an effect of westward expansion?**

- a. Native Americans quickly assimilated to an idealized industrial-age lifestyle
- b. Expanded diplomatic and economic ties between the United States and Asia
- c. Agricultural production increased while industrial development decreased
- d. A decline in sectional tensions over the issue of slavery

**Explanations:**

- a. **Incorrect:** Despite American efforts to force Native American assimilation throughout the 19th Century, most proved fruitless.
- b. **Correct:** By completing the transcontinental railroad, the seat of power on the East Coast had direct access to the Pacific Ocean and thus increased interactions with Asia.
- c. **Incorrect:** Industrialization continued to surge, considering the massive amounts of mineral resources pulled out of the West and the further littering of the nation with railroads.
- d. **Incorrect:** The debate over slavery raged on as new western territories became literal battlegrounds over increased representation for slave vs free states in Congress.

**Questions 4-6 refer to the maps below.**



4. The changes depicted in the maps were primarily caused by which of the following?
- Unwillingness by Congress to engage in political compromise
  - The debate over the extension of slavery into western territories
  - Settlers in western territories voted on their new borders
  - Supreme Court decisions such as *Scott v. Sanford*

**Explanations:**

- Incorrect:** were significant bipartisan efforts, even if they ultimately failed.
- Correct:** The Compromise of 1850 and the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854 divided territories and allowed citizens to decide the fate of slavery in their territories through popular sovereignty.
- Incorrect:** Territorial borders were decided at a federal level.
- Incorrect:** Beyond the land rights of Native Americans, the Supreme Court did not significantly involve itself in the carving up of western territory.

5. Which of the following was a direct effect of the changes depicted in the maps?
- Sectional tensions eroded political loyalties, ending the Second Party System
  - Lincoln's election in 1860 without electoral votes from western states and territories
  - South Carolina seceded from the Union due to violence in Kansas
  - Emergence of violent conflict along the border of the Utah and New Mexico territories

**Explanations:**

- Correct:** The Democrat and Whig parties became internally fractured along the regional lines that divided the slave debate. This provided the occasion for Democrats to consolidate Southern support and the Republican Party to emerge in the wake of the northern Whigs' decline.
- Incorrect:** Lincoln failed to gain electoral votes from the South, not the West.
- Incorrect:** While Bleeding Kansas contributed to sectional tensions, it was the election of 1860 that directly precipitated South Carolina's secession.
- Incorrect:** Kansas-Missouri border, not Utah-New Mexico.

6. The maps reflect all of following political compromises except the
- Missouri Compromise of 1820
  - Three-Fifths Compromise
  - Compromise of 1850
  - Compromise of 1877

**Explanations:**

- Incorrect:** As with the trend depicted in the maps, the Missouri Compromise was primarily concerned with debate over slavery
- Incorrect:** As with the trend depicted in the maps, the Three-Fifths Compromise was primarily concerned with debate over slavery
- Incorrect:** As with the trend depicted in the maps, the Compromise of 1850 was primarily concerned with debate over slavery
- Correct:** The Compromise of 1877 effectively ended Reconstruction by pulling federal troops out of the South. This is not reflected in the maps above.

**Questions 7-10 refer to the excerpt below.**

The new constitution\* has put at rest, forever, all the agitating questions relating to our peculiar institution African slavery as it exists amongst us the proper status of the negro in our form of civilization. This was the immediate cause of the late rupture and present revolution. . . The prevailing ideas entertained by [Thomas Jefferson] and most of the leading statesmen at the time of the formation of the old constitution, were that the enslavement of the African was in violation of the laws of nature; that it was wrong in principle, socially, morally, and politically. . . Those ideas, however, were fundamentally wrong. They rested upon the assumption of the equality of races. This was an error. It was a sandy foundation, and the government built upon it fell when the "storm came and the wind blew."

Our new government is founded upon exactly the opposite idea; its foundations are laid, its corner-stone rests, upon the great truth that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery subordination to the superior race is his natural and normal condition. This, our new government, is the first, in the history of the world, based upon this great physical, philosophical, and moral truth.

*\*Constitution of the new Confederate States of America*

**Source:** Alexander Stephens, Vice President of the Confederate States of America, March 21, 1861

**7. Which of the following groups would most likely agree with the ideas expressed in the excerpt?**

- a. Northern industrial workers
- b. Free-Soilers
- c. Southern landowners
- d. Recent immigrants from Europe

**Explanations:**

- a. **Incorrect:** Northern industrial workers were not generally abolitionist, seeing a potential influx of new labor resulting from emancipation as a threat to their livelihood. However, they were also largely unionist.
- b. **Incorrect:** Free-Soilers were some of the most vocal in their denouncement of Southern slavery and secession on its basis.
- c. **Correct:** Southern landowners, the predominant slave-holding class, were largely supportive of the CSA and its stance on slavery as a foundation.
- d. **Incorrect:** Most European immigrants to the United States in the mid-19th Century settled in large urban, industrial centers in the North or in agricultural settings in the Midwest and western territories.

8. The ideas expressed in the excerpt contributed to all of the following trends after the Civil War except
- the emergence of the Ku Klux Klan
  - the widespread use of sharecropping in the South
  - the election of former slaves into Congress
  - the enacting of Black Codes and Jim Crow laws

**Explanations:**

- Incorrect:** The KKK certainly wanted to maintain the dominant status for whites in a post-slavery South.
- Incorrect:** Sharecropping is often referred to, in a historical sense, as “neo-slavery” due to the way this economic system kept blacks tied to the land and under white control.
- Correct:** The wave of blacks elected to Congress following the 14th and 15th Amendments flew in the face of the defeated Confederacy.
- Incorrect:** Discriminatory and segregatory laws, like the KKK and sharecropping, maintained a separate, lower status for blacks despite the abolition of slavery.

9. Which of the following most directly contradicts the ideas expressed in the excerpt?
- The passage of the 13th and 14th Amendments
  - The recruitment of blacks into the Union army
  - The establishment of the Freedmen's Bureau
  - Federal troops occupying the South until 1877

**Explanations:**

- Correct:** Following the defeat of the Confederacy, the 13th Amendment abolished slavery while the 14th Amendment promoted the status of blacks, in the eyes of the law, to that of equals. This directly undermined the founding ideology of the CSA.
- Incorrect:** Many blacks fighting in the Union army were forced (though many enlisted, as well) into service either through conscription or as “contrabands”.
- Incorrect:** The Freedmen's Bureau assisted blacks in the areas of resources, education, and the exercise of civic duties following emancipation
- Incorrect:** Though a win from a southern perspective, the Compromise of 1877 did not directly contradict Stephens' Cornerstone Speech.

10. The ideas expressed in the excerpt are most consistent with which of the following?
- The rise of nativist sentiments in the 1840s and 1850s
  - The sectional split in Protestant Christian denominations
  - The principle of popular sovereignty in Western territories
  - The premise of slavery as a positive good in the pre-war period

**Explanations:**

- Incorrect:** Though similar from a racial perspective, nativism was focused on the influx of immigrants from Europe and Asia rather than the freedom of black Americans.
- Incorrect:** There are no direct parallels between religious dysfunction and the views expressed in the excerpt.
- Incorrect:** Popular sovereignty, though inherently unbiased, overwhelming resulted in western territories forbidding slavery within their borders.

- d. Correct:** *Stephens describes the “natural and normal condition” of blacks as inferior to whites and thus belonging in bondage. Prior to the war, many southern whites described the institution of slavery as beneficial to blacks based on this flawed premise.*