

Exercise walk-through

Sectional Conflict: Regional Differences ■ 5.5

eXercise

You must be able to

- state the two labour systems the CED contrasts
- explain the free-soil argument and how it differs from abolition
- state the three things abolitionists did
- name the three grounds on which slavery was defended

Method — Two labour systems

The North's expanding manufacturing economy relied on free labor in contrast to the Southern economy's dependence on enslaved labor.

Method — Free soil

Some Northerners did not object to slavery on principle but claimed that slavery would undermine the free labor market. As a result, a free-soil movement arose that portrayed the expansion of slavery as incompatible with free labor. Free soil is an argument about labour markets, not about the morality of slavery — a distinction the CED makes explicitly.

Method — Abolitionists

African American and white abolitionists, although a minority in the North, mounted a highly visible campaign against slavery, presenting moral arguments against the institution, assisting escapes, and sometimes expressing a willingness to use violence to achieve their goals.

Method — Three defences

Racial doctrines, the view that slavery was a positive social good, and the belief that slavery and states' rights were protected by the Constitution. A racial claim, a social claim and a legal claim.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

Explain the free-soil argument and how it differs from abolition.

Solution 2.1

Method: Free soil

Worked steps

free soil claimed slavery's expansion would undermine the free labour market **B1**;
abolition objected to slavery on principle **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 3 marks

Name the three grounds on which slavery was defended.

Solution 2.2

Method: Three defences

Worked steps

racial doctrines **B1**; the view that slavery was a positive social good **B1**; the belief that slavery and states' rights were protected by the Constitution **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 3 marks

Abolitionists were a minority.

- (a) State the three things they did.
- (b) State the CED's word for their campaign.

Solution 2.3

Method: Abolitionists

Worked steps

(a) presenting moral arguments; assisting escapes; sometimes expressing a willingness to use violence **B3**. (b) highly visible **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Free soil argued that slavery's expansion was incompatible with

- A** free labor
- B** the tariff
- C** westward migration
- D** immigration

Solution 3.1

Method: Free soil

A free labor



B the tariff

C westward migration

D immigration

Worked steps

A. free labor.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Abolitionists in the North were

A a minority

B a majority

C a political party

D nonexistent

Solution 3.2

Method: Abolitionists

A a minority



B a majority

C a political party

D nonexistent

Worked steps

A. a minority.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A movement opposes slavery's expansion without objecting to slavery.

- (a) Name the movement.
- (b) Explain the reasoning behind its position.

Solution 3.3

Method: Free soil

Worked steps

(a) the free-soil movement **B1**. (b) it held that enslaved labour would displace free labour in new territories **B1**, so the objection is economic and concerns the territories rather than the institution **B1**.