

5.5 Sectional Conflict: Regional Differences

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 14 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain **the sectional argument** 地区分歧.

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

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Two labour systems

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

■ 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.

■ 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.

■ 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.

2 Practice

2.1 Explain the free-soil argument and how it differs from abolition. [2]

2.2 Name the three grounds on which slavery was defended. [3]

2.3 Abolitionists were a minority.

(a) State the three things they did. [3]

(b) State the CED's word for their campaign. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Free soil argued that slavery's expansion was incompatible with [1]

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

3.2 Abolitionists in the North were [1]

- **A** a minority
- **B** a majority
- **C** a political party
- **D** nonexistent

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

(a) Name the movement. [1]

(b) Explain the reasoning behind its position.

[2]

4 Go further

- work through the **5.5 Sectional Conflict: Regional Differences** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Period 5: 1844-1877** section of the AP US History handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

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

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

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

3.1 A. free labor.

3.2 A. a minority.

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