

## 5.7 Election of 1860 and Secession

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: 12 marks

### Objective

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Build the skills to explain **the election and secession** 1860 年大选与脱离.

You must be able to:

- state how Lincoln's victory was accomplished
- state what followed the election
- explain the significance of 'without any Southern electoral votes'
- state the CED's word for how secession was decided

### 1 Worked examples

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

#### ■ The victory

Abraham Lincoln's victory on the Republicans' free-soil platform in the presidential election of 1860 was accomplished without any Southern electoral votes.

#### ■ What followed

After a series of contested debates about secession, most slave states voted to secede from the Union, precipitating the Civil War.

#### ■ Without Southern votes

A president could now be elected against the unanimous opposition of a section. That demonstrated to the South that the electoral arithmetic no longer required its consent—the political fact behind the decision to leave.

#### ■ 'Contested' and 'voted'

The CED says debates were **contested** and states **voted**. Secession was decided, with opposition, rather than occurring; and "most slave states" is not all of them.

### 2 Practice

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2.1 State how Lincoln's victory was accomplished.

[2]

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**2.2** Explain the significance of "without any Southern electoral votes". [2]

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**2.3** The CED's wording about secession is precise.

(a) State what "contested" and "voted" indicate. [2]

(b) State what "most slave states" indicates. [1]

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### 3 Exam-style questions

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**3.1** Lincoln's platform in 1860 was [1]

- **A** free soil
  - **B** abolition
  - **C** nativism
  - **D** annexation
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**3.2** "Most slave states" indicates [1]

- **A** not all of them seceded
  - **B** all of them seceded
  - **C** none seceded
  - **D** only one seceded
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**3.3** A president is elected with no votes from an entire section.

(a) State what this demonstrates. [1]

(b) Explain why it changes the section's calculation. [2]

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## 4 Go further

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- work through the **5.7 Election of 1860 and Secession** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Period 5: 1844-1877** section of the AP US History handout on the **Know** page.

## Solutions

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**2.1** on the Republicans' free-soil platform, without any Southern electoral votes.

**2.2** a president could be elected against the unanimous opposition of a section, so the electoral arithmetic no longer required Southern consent.

**2.3** (a) that secession was decided through debate and voting, with opposition, rather than simply occurring. (b) that not all slave states seceded.

**3.1 A.** free soil.

**3.2 A.** not all.

**3.3** (a) that the section's votes are no longer needed to decide a national election. (b) influence inside the system had rested on being needed, and a section that is not needed must find another means of protecting its position.