

5.7 Election of 1860 and Secession

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 12 marks**

KEY WORDS election of 1860 1860 年大选 • abraham lincoln 林肯

Objective

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

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

2.1 State how Lincoln’s victory was accomplished. [2]

2.2 Explain the significance of “without any Southern electoral votes”. [2]

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]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Lincoln’s platform in 1860 was [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** free soil
B abolition
C nativism
D annexation

3.2 “Most slave states” indicates [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** not all of them seceded
B all of them seceded
C none seceded
D only one seceded

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]
