**America Will Be: Chapter 18-Lessons 1-3: A Divided Nation STUDY GUIDE**

**Vocabulary**

Union-the United States of America, especially during the Civil War

free state-one of the states north of the Ohio River where slavery was not allowed

slave state- one of the states south of the Ohio River where slavery was allowed

secede-to withdrawal formally, especially as a group, from an organization or country.

Underground Railroad-a series of secret escape routes used by slaves fleeing from the South to free states and Canada.

popular sovereignty- the belief that the power or authority of a nation rests with its people

secessionist- a person who believes in the right of a state to secede, especially those Southerners who wanted to withdraw from the Union

Confederacy- the eleven states that seceded from the United States in 1860-1861; also called the Confederate States of America

**The Balance of Power**

* Constitutional Convention of 1787 debated and decided many issues, one including slavery.
* Northwest Ordinance made slavery illegal in the territories north of the Ohio River.
* New states north of the Ohio River, where slavery was not allowed-free states
* New states south of the Ohio River, where slavery was allowed-slave states

**Conflict over the Territories**

* When Missouri was added to the Union, Southerners feared it would become a free state, which would have the free states outnumbering slave states.
* Missouri Compromise maintained the balance between the number of free states and slave states by adding Maine to the Union.

**Expansion and Compromise**

* Texas and California were free states when they joined the Union.

**The Attack on Slavery**

* John Brown fought against slavery, he was called an abolitionist.
* The Underground Railroad was a pathway that was traveled at night by “conductors” who led slaves to freedom in the free states.
* Uncle Tom’s Cabin, a book by Harriet Beecher Stowe, described the true pain and suffering of slaves and opened many people’s eyes to what slavery was really like.

**The Battle of Kansas**

* Stephen Douglas, a senator from Illinois, wanted to bring the nation together and thought if people in the territories decided the issue of slavery for themselves, the rest of the nation would not have to get involved in the problem-popular sovereignty.
* Elections deciding whether Kansas would be a free or slave state created tension throughout the state. Anti-slavery groups and proslavery groups had verbal and physical battles. Kansas was finally admitted as a free state in 1861.

**The Geography of Politics**

* Democrats disagreed about slavery and broke into political parties. Republicans fought against slavery and Democrats were for slavery.
* Stephen Douglas was a Democrat.
* Abraham Lincoln became a Republican.

**The Search for a Solution**

* Dred Scott’s owner died and he thought he might be freed. His wife didn’t want to give him his freedom, so Dred Scott sued and this case went to the Supreme Court. The Court decided that Scott was still a slave. This case impacted the entire Nation.
* Lincoln challenged Douglas to his seat in the Senate in 1858, but lost to Douglas.

**The Election of 1860**

* In 1860, the Presidential Election was between Lincoln and Douglas. Lincoln won the election

**The Reaction of the South**

* Southerners planned to secede from the Union even before Lincoln was elected as president.
* Secessionists were people who wanted to leave the Union and they feared and hated Lincoln as their president.
* Seven Southern states left the Union before Lincoln became president. These states formed their own country, Confederate States of America, or the Confederacy.
* Jefferson Davis, a former US Congressman, was elected as the Confederate president.
* Confederate states ordered all US military troops to leave their forts, Lincoln refused this order.
* Union ships brought supplies to Fort Sumter in South Carolina, the Confederacy saw ships with the US flag, they started to fire upon the ship.
* The battle at Fort Sumter was the start of the Civil War.