

The North and the South

DIRECTIONS Read the passage below. Then answer the questions in the space provided.

The North and the South could not agree about slavery. Most Northerners did not think that slavery should spread to the western territories. Most Southerners thought they had the right to take their enslaved workers west with them.

The Northern economy relied more on manufacturing and shipping. Agriculture was not as important to its economy as to the South's economy. Northern states did not need the same kinds of workers as the South did.

Many Northerners thought that slavery was wrong and should be abolished, or done away with. Those Northerners were called abolitionists. Even most Northerners who were not abolitionists did not want more slave states added to the country.

However, the economy of the South depended on enslaved workers. Plantation owners were able to harvest more cotton, indigo, and tobacco by using enslaved workers to work in the fields. Those Southerners believed that each state had the right to decide whether people could have enslaved workers.

- 1 Compare the economies of the North and the South.

- 2 How did many people in the North and the South view slavery differently?

- 3 How did the North and the South differ in their ideas about extending slavery?

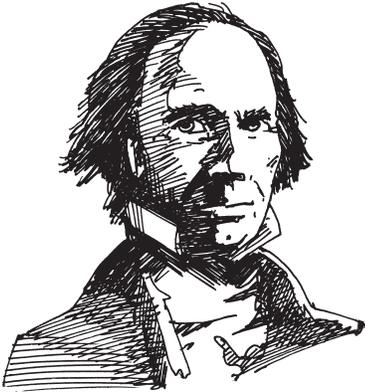
- 4 What were Northerners who wanted to do away with slavery called?

- 5 Where did most Northerners believe slavery should not be allowed to spread?

(continued)

DIRECTIONS Read the paragraphs below, and then answer the questions.

Henry Clay



When Missouri asked to be a state in 1819, Henry Clay was a member of Congress from Kentucky. Although Clay owned enslaved workers, he did not want slavery to divide the country. He worked hard to find an answer that would make both the North and the South happy. While other members of Congress were arguing for their region of the country, Clay said, “I know no South, no North, no East, no West, to which I owe any allegiance [loyalty].” His answer to the slavery question was called the Missouri Compromise.

John Quincy Adams

John Quincy Adams, a Northerner, was the secretary of state at the time. Adams kept a diary, and in February 1820, he wrote about what he thought the future might bring. “If the dissolution [breaking apart] of the Union should result from the slave question, it is as obvious as anything . . . that it must shortly afterwards be followed by the universal emancipation [freeing] of the slaves . . .”



1 What was Henry Clay’s view about the Union?

2 What did John Quincy Adams think would happen if the Union broke apart?
