Online Reading: 9 Events That Led to the Civil War

Name_____

Date_____ Period____

Go to: https://www.history.com/news/civil-war-causes-issues

As you read through this article, answer the questions below.

1. After the Revolutionary War, how did the divide between North and South begin to widen?

2. What did the Missouri Compromise (1820) try to accomplish?

3. What were the five key elements of the Compromise of 1850?

4. How was the Fugitive Slave Law passed as a part of the Compromise of 1850 different from the Fugitive Slave Law passed in 1793?

5. Why were Federal Commissioners more likely to rule that someone was a runaway slave and send them to the South than ruling the individual as a free Black person & setting them free?

6. How did Bostonians respond to the arrest of Anthony Burns in 1854?

7. Who wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin? How did Northerners respond to it? How did Southerners respond to it?

8. As a part of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, Senator Stephen Douglas pushed for territories to be allowed to do what on the issue of slavery? (look up popular sovereignty)

(continued on the back)

9. Who flocked to the Kansas Territory? How did this create more tension and lead to violence in Kansas? (look up Bleeding Kansas)

10. Who was John Brown? What did Brown and his supporters do at Pottawatomie Creek in Franklin, Kansas?

11. Briefly explain Dred Scott's situation. When Scott sued for his freedom, how did the US Supreme Court rule? Be sure to explain their ruling.

12. What happened in Harper's Ferry, Virginia in October 1859?

13. During the 1850s, a new political party came into being, the Republican Party. The focus of the new Republican Party was the eventual elimination of slavery from the United States. Who did the Republicans nominate as their presidential candidate in 1860? Who were the other candidates in 1860? Who won the presidential election?

14. How did many Southern states react to the election of Abraham Lincoln as the American president? (What did they do?)

15. By February 1861, a number of Southern states had broken away from the United States and created their own country: the Confederate States of America. Who was elected to lead the Confederate States of America?

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