Causes of the Civil War Notes/Study Guide

* The war breaks out because of many different reasons.
* All of the reasons are based on a different of interests between the **\_North and \_\_South\_\_**regions of our country.

First Cause… **\_\_State’s Rights\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* Old question…Who should have more power? The state or the national government?
* South: **Wanted \_State\_\_ sovereignty**
* North: **Wanted \_\_National\_sovereignty**
* **\_\_Sovereignty\_\_** means…authority or rule, having power!

Second Cause… **\_Tariff Disputes\_\_\_\_**

* A tariff is a tax on \_imported goods\_\_\_
* South wanted \_low\_ tariffs.
* North wanted **\_\_high\_ tariffs.**
* Tariff = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Third cause… **\_\_\_Different Economies\_\_\_\_**

* **\_\_\_Economy\_\_**is the way your culture/group makes money
* In the South they made money through **\_agriculture-farming\_\_**
* In the North they made a living through **\_Industry\_\_**
* It becomes the **Planter** vs.  **the Industrialist**

Fourth cause…\_\_Slavery\_\_

* In 1860 only **\_\_25%\_\_of southerners** actually owned slaves
* Most southerners **\_\_supported slavery\_\_\_**
* Northerners **opposed slavery** because it was job competition between slave and free labor…slaves were **NOT** paid for their work
* **\_\_\_Abolitionists\_** will create a different argument against slavery…

Important Abolitionists

* **Frederick Douglas:** former slave, **great writer and speaker**, becomes one the most important black leader of the 19th century

**\_Harriet Tubman\_\_\_:** an escaped slave, was a conductor on the U**nderground Railroad**, made 19 trips and freed more than 300 slaves

* **Harriet Beecher Stowe:** white northerner who wrote the novel **\_\_\_\_Uncle Tom’s Cabin\_\_**, **fictional story** about slavery, very popular and made many northerners want to **end slavery.**
* **John Brown:** white southerner who attacked the federal arsenal at **Harper’s Ferry in Virginia**, wanted to start a **slave revolt,** was captured and executed for his crimes

Another cause…  
The Expansion of the United States

* As the United States gets bigger, the question of slavery in the new territories gets more heated
* Every time we add a **new territory or state** we must decide what to do about **slavery**…creates a **BIG DIVIDE** between Northerners and Southerners

Compromises!

* **\_\_\_Missouri Compromise 1820\_\_\_**: Missouri wants to become a state. They also want to **allow slavery** in their state.
  + Problem: If Missouri comes in as a slave state then there would be an 12 slave states and 11 free states… **NOT EQUAL**
  + Solution: Let Missouri be a **slave state** and let Maine become a state and be a **free state**. Now they are **EQUAL!**
* **\_\_Compromise of 1850\_\_**: Lots of new land and territories to divide up after the Mexican War ends.
  + Problem: What to do about slavery in these new lands???
  + Solution: **California** is admitted as a free state, **Texas** admitted as a slave state, New territories could **VOTE on slavery**… this idea is called **popular sovereignty**.
  + Also included a tough **Fugitive Slave Law**: runaway slaves caught in the North **MUST be returned** to the South.
* \_\_\_Kansas-Nebraska Act 1854\_\_ Kansas and Nebraska Territories could **vote** on whether or not they wanted **slavery**.
* This “solution” creates **Bleeding Kansas** —both pro-slavery and anti-slavery people move to Kansas and bloodshed arises over disagreements. Over **200 deaths in 4 months** over slavery.
* This situation is seen as a dark forecast of things to come…
* **\_\_\_\_Dred Scott Decisison\_\_\_** of 1857
  + Scott was a slave of an army doctor
  + Doctor moved to Illinois and Wisconsin (free territories)
  + Supreme Court ruled that slaves **are property**
  + Slaves could be taken **anywhere in United States**
  + This throws out all the compromises
  + North is **shocked** and the South is **overjoyed!!**
* Election of 1860- \_Abraham Lincoln\_ became President!
* Southern states realize that with Lincoln’s election they have to take action.
* They decide to break away starting on December 20th, 1860 with **South Carolina** …by February 1861 **6 other states** had \_\_\_seceded\_\_ (leave) with South Carolina.
* After the battle at **Fort Sumter**, **4 other southern** states secede too…