

Texas & Secession Extension *Grade Level*

Unit 8: Civil War

Name:

Date:

Period:

Directions: Use the timelines and primary source excerpts to respond to the questions about the secession of Southern states from the United States.

A Timeline of Secession

November 6, 1860	Abraham Lincoln, a Northern anti-slavery Republican, was elected president of the United States.
December 20, 1860	South Carolina seceded from the Union.
January 1861	Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, and Louisiana all seceded.
February 1 - 2, 1861	Delegates at the Texas Secession Convention voted 166 to 8 in favor of seceding from the Union. The convention drafted a document called the <i>"A Declaration of the causes which impel the State of Texas to secede from the Federal Union."</i> In this document, the delegates explained why Texas was seceding from the Union
February 9, 1861	Delegates from the seceded Southern states met in Montgomery, Alabama, formed the "Confederate States of America," and created a provisional government.
February 23, 1861	A majority of Texas citizens voted in favor of secession. 46,154 voted in favor of secession. 14,747 voted in opposition to secession.

- ___ 1) What significant event led Southern states to secede from the Union?
 - a. Alabama formed the Confederate States of America.
 - b. Texas wrote its declaration of causes for secession.
 - c. Texas held a secession convention to vote on secession.
 - d. Abraham Lincoln was elected president of the U.S.

- 2) Why do you think this event caused the Southern states to secede?

“A Declaration of the causes which impel the State of Texas to secede from the Federal Union.”

Directions: Use the excerpt and translation cards to answer the questions below. If a question asks for text evidence, use the original text from the excerpt cards.

- ___ 1) According to the primary source excerpt, under what terms and expectations did Texas join the United States?
- Texas joined with the expectation that it would maintain all of the territory on its western frontier, that it ceded in the Compromise of 1850.
 - Texas joined with the expectation that its slave-based economic system would be protected as a state in the Union.
 - Texas joined with the expectation that slavery would be abolished within a given time frame in the future, but it was protected for the time.
 - Texas joined with the expectation that slavery would be fully abolished after annexation to the Union.
- ___ 2) In the document, delegates listed a number of grievances, or official complaints, against the U.S. government. Circle or highlight THREE of Texas’ declared grievances.
- The government prevented Southerners from moving west with their slaves.
 - The federal government was building up power in order to destroy slave states.
 - The government prohibited Southerners from running for president of the U.S.
 - The government wanted to force Southerners to accept the equality of the races.
 - The federal government annexed Texas against the consent of the Texas people.
- ___ 3) In Excerpt D, the document explains the founding principles and beliefs of Texas and the Confederacy. In one or two sentences, summarize the state beliefs.
- ___ 4) What reason did the document give in Excerpt D for Texas’ secession from the United States? Provide evidence from the text to support your answer.