

Evaluate the extent in which the Civil War was a turning point in the lives of African Americans in the United States. Use the documents and your knowledge of the years 1860-1877 to construct your response.

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| Groups | Partnered Contextualization Responses |
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| Adam & Matt | The political tension over the debate of slavery that culminated in the Civil War caused a more negative light to fall on African Americans than before, with the advent of segregation. The compromise of 1850 that caused an imbalance of free and slave states led to conflicts that were caused by the South's reluctance to lose their slaves. This means the civil war was a minor turning point in improving the lives of African Americans as after, law codes were enacted to restrict their freedom, like the Black Codes. |
| Chris & Joseph | Throughout the 19th century, the North and South clashed over the issue of slavery. Compromises such as the Compromise of 1850, sparked ongoing debates about the future of African Americans. Due to compromises and the election of 1860 having Abraham Lincoln victorious, the civil war finally broke out. |
| Christian & Cat | Before the civil war African Americans were held under slavery. controversy occurred between the free and slave states as the Dred Scott case created tension. As a opposition slavery was growing which caused the secession of south Carolina |
| Daniel/Angel | back with legislations like the compromise of 1850, which calmed the nerves of the north and south. However, the election of 1860 was the last straw for the south because they seceded from the Union soon after. Yet after the Civil War the conditions of African-Americans barely changed; they were still treated unfairly and poorly with segregation laws and the black codes minimizing the success of president Lincoln. |
| Ikemefule & Ethan | Before the Civil War, life was difficult for African-Americans because of the widespread practice of slavery, especially in the South, and it subjected the negro man to inhumane conditions. The issue of slavery caused sectional tensions between the North and the South, and one congressman, Henry Clay, created several solutions such as the compromise of 1850 that worked to alleviate the tensions. Despite these compromises, the Civil War started in 1861 and ended in 1865, leading to the emancipation of all slaves with the 13th amendment after a Northern victory. |
| Jamie, Jill, Marsaydi | slavery and had no voice, such as the Dred Scott case, when an African American slave tried to be free but failed as he was still declared a slave. The election of 1860 led to the secession of S.C., resulting in a split between free states and slave states. After the Civil War had ended, Lincoln passed the 13th amendment, which abolished the practice of slavery, a huge step in progress into the betterment of black lives. |
| Jillian and Kylee | Comromise of 1850 tore apart the nation with the Fugitive Slave Act. With the end of the Civil War came the abolishment of slavery as well as the establishment of the Jim Crow Laws that made sure African Americans remained separate, but equal. After the Civil War, Reconstruction era begins with changes in the African Americans' status. |
| Micaela & Helena | imbalance of free and slave states. Due to the unequal balance, a rising conflict between the citizens sparked the Civil War, and as a result became a major turning point to the lives of African Americans as many social groups came about. One such example was the rise of the KKK, which became notorious for attacking the basic rights and civil liberties of African Americans. |
| Noah & Joseph | resolve this issue in the election of 1860 along with easing the racial tensions between the north and south. As a result the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments were created, however, it sparked racial groups like the Ku Klux Klan to arise in response to the war. |
| Preston & Myron | racial tension and growing conflict between free and slave states. Compromises such as the compromise of 1850 ultimately failed due to the imbalance of free and slave states and the fugitive slave act. A Civil War was becoming inevitable in the new nation. |
| Vanessa & diana | Before the start of the Civil War, the Compromise of 1850 was established by Congress which politically divided the free and slave states. As time went on, the tension between the North and the South increased due to Abraham Lincoln winning the Election of 1860; his beliefs being to try and reunify the nation. After the Civil War, the Reconstruction Amendments, the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments, were put into place to abolish slavery, give citizenship, and to give African American men the right to vote. |

During the mid 1800s, growing regional tension over the controversial topic of slavery divided the Nation between the North and the South. Numerous events such as the Compromise of 1850 and the 1857 Dred Scott versus Sanford further prompted conflict between the northern and southern states, initiating the Civil War. This war (lasting 1860-1865) would lead to the freeing of African American slaves, and thrust the nation into a strange new union that must adapt to newly freed citizens and Reconstruction.

Wayne & Kehlin