

Assessing with Primary Sources

Grade Level: High school (9-10)

Standard(s) or Objectives: (CCSS-RH9-10.2) Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text.
(CCSS-RH9-10.1)- Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.

Library of Congress Resources:



Illus. in: Harper's weekly, v. 3, no. 151 (1859) (Effect of John Brown's invasion at the South)

<http://www.loc.gov/item/2002735880/>

Specific Pages Used:

<http://www.loc.gov/resource/cph.3b26524/>

Topic Background:

John Brown (May 9, 1800 – December 2, 1859) was a white American abolitionist who believed armed insurrection was the only way to overthrow the institution of slavery in the United States. The main goal of abolitionist movement was to abolish slavery in all its forms and aspects, promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the colored people.

Excerpted from: http://www.americaslibrary.gov/aa/douglass/aa_douglass_leader_2.html and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Brown_%28abolitionist%29

Source Used:

The source used for this assessment includes cover of Harper's Weekly with three scenes including an elderly man using a pike to dig potatoes, a woman cook brandishing a kitchen knife, and a southern planter handing out weapons to his slaves.

Multiple Choice Answer Key:

Question 1 – A

Question 2 – D

Effect of John Brown's invasion at the South (1859)



Questions:

1) Below are four claims that could be made based on the above political cartoon? Select the claim that is supported by the most relevant and sufficient evidence within the cartoon (CCSS-RH9-10.2)

- A. The cartoon shows slaves using violence to end slavery in the south.
- B. The cartoon encourages diplomacy and communication to end the slavery conflict.
- C. The cartoon shows that Blacks are more violent and aggressive than Whites.
- D. The cartoon shows that women play a great role in ending slavery.

2) Which piece of evidence from the cartoon best supports the correct response to question 1? (CCSS-RH9-10.1)

- A. The first scene of the cartoon shows a woman cook brandishing a kitchen knife.
- B. The white woman appearing in the third scene seems scared and frightened.
- C. The third scene of the cartoon shows a Black man who tries to peacefully communicate with white people.
- D. All slaves in the cartoon, even women and children, are holding weapons and attacking the white individuals.