

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:



Nichols, E. W. T., 1863. (The great American What is it? chased by Copper-heads-political cartoon)

<http://www.loc.gov/item/2008661651/>

Specific Pages Used:

<http://www.loc.gov/resource/cph.3b35986/>

Topic Background:

After a speech on May 1, 1863, asserting that the Civil War was being fought to free blacks and enslave whites, not to save the Union, Clement Laird Vallandigham, leader of the "Copperheads," was arrested and tried for treason. He had defied Union general Ambrose E. Burnside's General Order No. 38 that "the habit of declaring sympathies for the enemy [would] no longer be tolerated and that offenders would be punished by military procedure. Bowing to Vallandigham's widespread public support, Lincoln reduced the severity of his sentence from imprisonment to banishment behind Confederate lines.

Excerpted from: <http://www.loc.gov/item/2008661651/>

Source Used:

The source used for this assessment includes an anti-Lincoln satire, showing the Republican incumbent and his supporters menaced by giant "Copperheads" (Peace Democrats).

Multiple Choice Answer Key:

Question 1 – C

Question 2 – B

