

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:

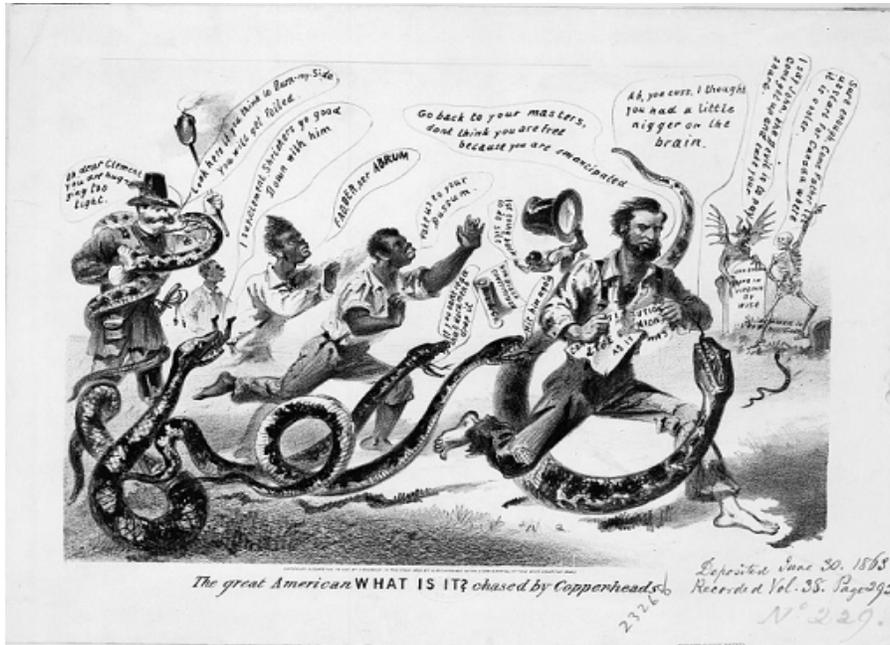
The source used for this assessment includes an anti-Lincoln satire, showing the Republican incumbent and his supporters menaced by giant "Copperheads" (Peace Democrats).

Multiple Choice Answer Key:

Question 1 – C

Question 2 – B

The great American What is it? Chased by Copper-heads



Questions:

1) Below are four claims that could be made based on the above political cartoon. Select which one best represents the central argument in the cartoon. (CCSS-RH9-10.2)

- A. Lincoln was a savior who freed blacks and colored people even at the risk of his own life and reputation.
- B. Abraham Lincoln's emancipation proclamation decree did not end slavery.
- C. Lincoln has created a lot of problems for himself because of his Emancipation Proclamation decree.
- D. Copperheads' goal of restoring the Union with slavery was naive and impractical

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

- A. The cartoon shows two freedmen follow Abraham Lincoln and ask him to take them to his bosom.
- B. The cartoon depicts Lincoln as a barefoot man in backwoods dress chased by enslaved blacks and Copperheads.
- C. Lincoln tears a piece of paper "Constitution & the Union as it was".
- D. Burnside, who holds a flaming torch, begs, "Oh, dear Clement you are hugging too tight."