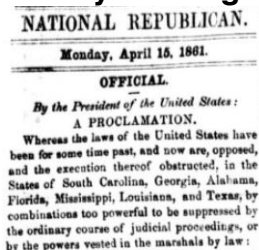


Teaching with Primary Sources Assessment

Grade Level: High School (9-10)

Standard(s) or Objectives: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language of a court opinion differs from that of a newspaper).
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.5 Analyze in detail how an author's ideas or claims are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text (e.g., a section or chapter)

Library of Congress or Morris Special Collections Resources:



Abraham Lincoln, April 15, 1861 (Proclamation published in *The National Republican*).

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82014760/1861-04-15/ed-1/seq-2/>

Topic Background:

On April 12, 1861, Confederate forces fired on Fort Sumter in South Carolina. U.S. Major General Richard Anderson surrendered the fort. On April 15th, Lincoln issued a proclamation declaring that the Southern states were engaged in an insurrection. He called for 75,000 troops from the state militias to join the federal army.

From: http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/civil-war-approach/pdf/teacher_guide.pdf

Source(s) Used:

The source used for this assessment includes excerpts from President Abraham Lincoln's proclamation issued on the 15th of April, 1861, as printed by *The National Republican*. In his proclamation, Lincoln calls for northern state militias to provide 75,000 troops to help the federal government reclaim properties seized by the Confederate rebels. He also calls upon loyal citizens to assist and sustain the government in the struggle against the seceding states, and commands the insurrectionists to disperse and return in peace to their own homes.

Answer Key:

Question 1 – C

Question 2 – A

**From President Lincoln's proclamation appearing in
The National Republican, Monday, April 15, 1861**

Whereas the laws of the United States have been...and now are, opposed, and the execution thereof obstructed...by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceeding...

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, in virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution and the laws, have thought fit to call forth...the militia of the several States of the United States of the Union, to the aggregate number of seventy-five thousand, in order to suppress said combinations, and to cause the laws to be duly executed...

I appeal to all loyal citizens to favor, facilitate and aid, this effort to maintain the honor, the integrity, and the existence, of our national Union, and the perpetuity of popular government, and to redress wrongs already long enough endured.

And I hereby command the persons composing the combinations aforesaid, to disperse, and retire peaceably to their respective abodes within twenty days from this date.

Deeming that the present condition of public affairs presents an extraordinary occasion, I do hereby...convene both Houses of Congress. Senators and Representatives are therefore summoned to assemble at their respective chambers...to consider and determine such measures as, in their wisdom, the public safety and interest may seem to demand...

Questions:

1. Abraham Lincoln asks citizens to: (CCSS. RI.9-10.4)

“...favor, facilitate and aid, this effort to maintain the honor, the integrity, and the existence, of our national Union, and the perpetuity of popular government, and to redress wrongs already long enough endured.”

Which statement best describes the use of the word **perpetuity**?

- a. Lincoln wants the citizens to make the federal government more powerful.
- b. Lincoln wants Congress to declare war on the Confederate states.
- c. Lincoln wants popular government in the United States to continue.
- d. Lincoln wants citizens to apologize for committing crimes against the government.

2. In the last paragraph, Abraham Lincoln calls a special session of Congress. Using clues from the preceding paragraphs, what does Abraham Lincoln expect from Congress? (CCSS. RI.9-10.5)

- a. He expects Congress to declare war on the Southern States.
- b. He expects congressmen from Southern States to redress their wrongs.
- c. He expects Congress to recognize his power as President of the United States.
- d. He expects Congress to organize diplomatic missions to the Southern States.