


World Book **WEBQUESTS**

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American Civil War: Background

The Civil War took more American lives than any other war in history. The war's terrible bloodshed left a heritage of grief and bitterness. How did slavery and other issues of the day lead to the Civil War? Why did some states secede from the Union? To learn about slavery and secession, let's start from the beginning . . .

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Find the answers to the questions below by using the "Search" tool to search key words. Since this activity is about the background of the American Civil War, you can start by searching the key words "American Civil War."

Write the answers on the lines provided or below the question.

- Historians have long debated the causes of the Civil War. Many of them maintain that _____ was the root cause.
- In 1861, the United States consisted of _____ free states, in which slavery was prohibited, and _____ slave states, in which it was allowed.
- The Founding Fathers of the United States had been unable to _____ slavery and compromised over it in writing the _____.
- Which 3 people did Abraham Lincoln defeat in the 1860 presidential election?
 - Northern Democratic candidate: _____
 - Southern Democratic candidate: _____
 - Constitutional Union Party candidate: _____
- Why did Southerners fear Abraham Lincoln's election?

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