

Civil War Thinksheet

1. What states were involved in the election?
2. What state did not have a popular vote?
3. What political parties were involved?
4. Why do you think there were two Democratic parties?
5. How would the election results been different had the two Democratic parties combined

Civil War Think sheet (Key)

1. What states were involved in the election?

There were 33 states which were in the Union, all but 1 participated in the election

2. What state did not have a popular vote?

South Carolina

3. What political parties were involved?

Two Democratic Parties, The Republican Party, and the Constitutional Union Party

4. Why do you think there were two Democratic parties?

The Northern and Southern Democratic parties had split over regional political issues. Student papers should disclose this issues through their research.

5. How would the election results been different had the two Democratic parties combined

California, Kentucky, Oregon, Tennessee, and Virginia would have gone to the Democratic party.

A good homework activity may be to have the students illustrate the election results, had this continued. Both the reasons for political unity and the concept of election “swing states” could be taught through this process.