5.2 Manifest Destiny

The Idea

Manifest Destiny (John O'Sullivan, 1845): U.S. destined by God to spread democracy across the continent.
Drivers: land for farms, economic opportunity, Pacific ports for Asian trade, religion, nationalism, racial ideas of Anglo-Saxon superiority (John O'Sullivan coined it).

Expansion Events

Event	Year	Key fact
Texas indep.	1836	Revolt vs Mexico
Texas annexed	1845	Slave state
Oregon Treaty	1846	49th parallel w/ UK
Mexican Cession	1848	CA, NM, Southwest
Gadsden Purch.	1853	S. railroad route

Texas: American settlers (w/ enslaved people) rebel → Alamo → San Jacinto → Lone Star Republic. Annexation delayed (slavery, war fears); Mexico never recognizes it.
Polk (1844): "54°40′ or fight!" → compromise at 49th parallel (Oregon); goal = continental nation with Britain.

People on the Move

Oregon Trail: farm families seek fertile land. **Mormons** flee persecution → Utah (1847) (Brigham Young).
California Gold Rush (1848–49): 300,000 arrive; diverse (Chinese, Mexican, Latin American); **Foreign Miners' Tax** targets non-whites (1850, in California).
Native Americans: displaced, killed by disease & violence (CA genocide); Plains wars begin (1840s–50s).
Californios & Tejanos (Mexican residents): lose land despite treaty promises after the 1848 treaty (courts, taxes).

⚠ Expansion reopened the slavery question: every new territory became a fight over free vs slave.

✓ Causation: Manifest Destiny → new land → slavery debate → sectional crisis → Civil War.

5.3–5.4 Mexican War & Compromise of 1850

Mexican-American War (1846–48)

Cause: Texas border dispute (Nueces vs Rio Grande); Polk sends troops → clash → "American blood on American soil."
Opposition: Whigs, abolitionists ("slave power plot"); Lincoln's "Spot Resolutions"; Thoreau jailed for not paying tax (Mexican War, 1846–47; protest grows).
Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848): U.S. gets Mexican Cession for $15M; Rio Grande border; promises rights to Mexican residents (often broken later).
Wilmot Proviso (1846): ban slavery in land from Mexico. Passes House, fails Senate → splits Congress by section, not party (David Wilmot, a Pennsylvania Democrat).
Free-Soil Party (1848): stop slavery's spread to protect white free labor, not mainly for moral reasons.
Popular sovereignty (Cass, Douglas): settlers vote on slavery (Lewis Cass, Stephen Douglas, 1848–54).

Compromise of 1850 (Clay, Douglas)

For North	For South
CA admitted free	Strict Fugitive Slave Act
DC slave trade ended	Pop. sov. in Utah, NM
	TX debt paid

Fugitive Slave Act: Northerners must help capture escapees; no jury trial → outrage; personal liberty laws; Underground Railroad ↑ (free states resist it, 1850s).
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Stowe, 1852): novel shows slavery's cruelty → Northern anti-slavery sentiment ↑.
Ostend Manifesto (1854): plan to buy or seize Cuba as slave territory → Northern anger (Pierce admin).
Results of war: U.S. now a continental power; Mexican residents lose land & rights over time.

⚠ The 1850 Compromise delayed war but the Fugitive Slave Act radicalized many Northerners & Southerners alike.

✓ Compare compromises: 1820 (line) → 1850 (pop. sov. + FSA) → 1854 (pop. sov. repeals line).

5.5 Sectional Conflict: Regional Differences

Two Economies

	North	South
Economy	Industry, farms	Cotton, plantations
Labor	Free wage labor	Enslaved labor
Population	~22M	~9M (3.5M enslaved)
Railroads	~70% of miles	~30%
Cities	Many, growing	Few
Immigrants	Most settled here	Few

Ideas & Identity

Free labor ideology (North): anyone can rise through work → slavery degrades labor & blocks opportunity.
Southern defense: slavery a "positive good"; paternalism; Fitzhugh: slaves better off than Northern wage workers.
Abolitionists: Garrison (immediate end), Douglass, Harriet Tubman; still a minority even in North.

Immigration & Politics

Irish & German immigration → Northern cities grow; Germans often antislavery (fled 1848 revolutions).
Know-Nothings (American Party): anti-immigrant, anti-Catholic; brief success in 1850s (1854–56).
Party collapse: Whigs split over slavery (1852–54); **Republican Party** forms (1854) on free soil; Democrats split (1860); Lincoln wins the presidency in 1860.
Churches split North/South (Methodists, Baptists) before the nation did (Methodists 1844, Baptists 1845).
Southern fear: losing Senate balance as free states join → minority status in Congress (from the 1850s on).

⚠ Many Northerners opposed slavery's SPREAD, not slavery itself, and held racist views (IL, IN racist laws).

✓ Comparison essay: use economy, labor, demography & ideology for North vs South (use numbers).

5.6–5.7 Failure of Compromise & Secession

Road to War

Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854, Douglas): popular sovereignty in KS & NE → repeals Missouri line → Republicans form.
Bleeding Kansas (1855–56): pro- & anti-slavery settlers fight; rival gov'ts; **Lecompton Constitution** (pro-slavery, fraudulent) → statehood delayed till 1861.
Sumner caning (1856): SC Rep. Brooks beats Sen. Sumner in Senate → violence in Congress (Brooks hailed in South).
Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857): Black Americans not citizens; Congress can't ban slavery in territories → Missouri Compromise unconstitutional (Taney Court).
Lincoln-Douglas Debates (1858): **Freeport Doctrine** (territories can block slavery by not protecting it) → Southern Dems angry (Lincoln: "house divided").
John Brown's raid (Harpers Ferry, 1859): tries to arm slave revolt → hanged; martyr to North, terror to South.

Election of 1860

Candidate	Party	Base
Lincoln	Republican	North (wins)
Douglas	Northern Dem.	Pop. sov.
Breckinridge	Southern Dem.	Deep South
Bell	Constitutional U.	Border states

Lincoln wins w/ ~40% popular vote, no Southern electoral votes → South sees no voice in federal gov't.
Secession: SC first (Dec. 1860) → 7 states form **Confederacy**; Fort Sumter (Apr. 1861) → 4 more secede.
Crittenden Compromise (1860): extend 36°30′ line; Lincoln rejects (no slavery expansion) (Kentucky's John Crittenden).

⚠ Secession documents name slavery as the central cause. "States' rights" meant the right to slavery.

✓ Turning points: Kansas-Nebraska, Dred Scott, John Brown, 1860. Pick one and justify w/ evidence.

5.8 Military Conflict in the Civil War

Advantages

Union	Confederacy
Population, industry	Defending home ground
Railroads, navy	Military leaders (Lee)
Established gov't	Only needs to survive
Money, food	Hoped for UK/France help

Strategy

Anaconda Plan: blockade Southern ports + control Mississippi → split & starve Confederacy.
Confederate goal: outlast the Union; win foreign recognition ("King Cotton diplomacy" fails: UK found other cotton).

Key Battles

Bull Run (1861): Confederate win → long war ahead.
Antietam (1862): bloodiest single day; Union halts Lee → Lincoln issues Emancipation Proclamation; Britain stays out.
Gettysburg (July 1863): Lee's invasion of North fails → turning point in East. **Gettysburg Address**: "new birth of freedom." (Lincoln, Nov. 19, 1863, at the cemetery)
Vicksburg (July 1863): Grant takes Mississippi River → Confederacy split (Union takes control).
Sherman's March (1864): Atlanta → Savannah; **total war** destroys Southern resources → helps Lincoln win 1864.
Appomattox (April 1865): Lee surrenders to Grant. ~620,000+ dead (Appomattox Court House, VA).
Black soldiers: ~180,000 in Union army (54th Massachusetts) → strengthen case for citizenship.
Women: nurses (Clara Barton), factory & farm work → new public roles (U.S. Sanitary Commission).
Technology: rifled muskets, railroads, telegraph, ironclads (Monitor vs Merrimack) → high casualties.

⚠ Antietam wasn't a clear Union win, but it was enough for Lincoln to announce emancipation (Sept. 1862).

✓ Explain WHY the Union won: resources + strategy + emancipation + leadership (Grant, Sherman).

5.9 Government Policies During the War

Emancipation

Emancipation Proclamation (Jan. 1, 1863): frees enslaved people in rebelling states only; border states excluded.
Why it mattered: war aim → ending slavery; blocks UK/France support; ~500,000 freed selves by fleeing to Union lines; Black enlistment (54th Mass.).
13th Amendment (1865): abolishes slavery everywhere in U.S (ratified Dec. 1865, after the war).

Union Home Front

Policy	Effect
Homestead Act 1862	160 acres free West
Pacific Railway Act	Transcontinental RR
Morrill Act 1862	Land-grant colleges
Nat'l Banking Acts	Nat'l currency
High tariffs	Protect industry
Income tax, draft	Fund + staff war

Executive power ↑: Lincoln suspends **habeas corpus**; arrests Copperheads (anti-war Democrats).
NYC Draft Riots (1863): mostly Irish workers vs draft (rich could pay $300) → attacks on Black residents.

Confederate Home Front

Problems: inflation, food shortages, bread riots; states' rights limit Davis's central power; desertion.
Draft exemption for owners of 20+ enslaved people → "rich man's war, poor man's fight." (Twenty Negro Law)
Confiscation Acts (1861–62): Union seizes enslaved "contraband" → step toward emancipation.

⚠ The Emancipation Proclamation did NOT free anyone in border states or Union-held areas (MD, KY, MO, DE).

✓ CCOT: wartime laws (Homestead, railroads, tariffs) shape the Gilded Age (Period 6) (big business).

5.10–5.11 Reconstruction & Its Failure

Plans

Plan	Key terms
Lincoln 10%	10% oath → rejoin
Wade-Davis 1864	50% oath; vetoed
Andrew Johnson	Lenient; pardons
Radical Rep. 1867	Military districts

Johnson: returns power to ex-Confederates → **Black Codes** limit freedpeople's labor & rights → North angry.
Radical Republicans (Stevens, Sumner): Reconstruction Acts; Johnson impeached (1868), acquitted by 1 vote.

Reconstruction Amendments

13th (1865): ends slavery. **14th** (1868): citizenship, equal protection, due process. **15th** (1870): voting can't be denied by race (Reconstruction amendments, all).
Women's rights split: 15th excludes women → Stanton & Anthony oppose; movement divides (1869: NWSA vs. AWSA).

Gains

Freedmen's Bureau: food, schools (Howard, Fisk), labor contracts. Black churches & families reunite.
Black officeholders: ~2,000; Hiram Revels & Blanche Bruce (Senate) (MS; first Black U.S. senators, 1870s).

Why It Failed

No land ("40 acres" revoked) → **sharecropping** & debt peonage (sharecroppers owe merchants).
Violence: KKK terror; Enforcement Acts briefly help.
Northern fatigue, Panic of 1873, scandals.
Compromise of 1877: Hayes wins disputed election → federal troops leave South → **Redeemers** take control.

⚠ Amendments gave legal rights, but without land or federal enforcement, gains were rolled back.

✓ Argue extent of success: legal/constitutional gains vs economic & political reversal (paper vs. practice).

5.12 Comparison & Exam Strategy

Period 5 Big Themes

Expansion → slavery question in every territory → compromise fails (Mexican Cession, 1850s).
Federal power: war & Reconstruction expand national gov't; then retreat after 1877 (Freedmen's Bureau).
Citizenship: 14th Amendment redefines who is American; women & Native Americans excluded.

Key Dates

Year	Event
1846–48	Mexican-American War
1850	Compromise of 1850
1854	Kansas-Nebraska Act
1857	Dred Scott decision
1860	Lincoln elected; secession
1863	Emancipation; Gettysburg
1865	War ends; 13th Amend.
1877	Compromise ends Recon.

Essay Moves

Comparison: Lincoln vs Johnson vs Radical plans; Union vs Confederacy; 1820 vs 1850 vs 1854 (pick 2 to compare).
Contextualize w/ Market Revolution & reform (Period 4) or Manifest Destiny (1800–1848 roots of conflict).
Links: sharecropping & Jim Crow → Period 6; 14th Amend. → civil rights (Period 8) (Brown v. Board, 1954).
Complexity: Reconstruction succeeded legally (amendments) but failed economically & politically.
Causation: why did the Civil War happen? Weigh slavery, expansion, politics & failed compromise.

⚠ Don't stop at 1865. Reconstruction (to 1877) is a frequent essay topic (it runs until 1877; LEQs too).

✓ DBQ: 4+ docs + sourcing on 2 + outside evidence (e.g., Dred Scott, Black Codes) (HIPP on 2 docs).