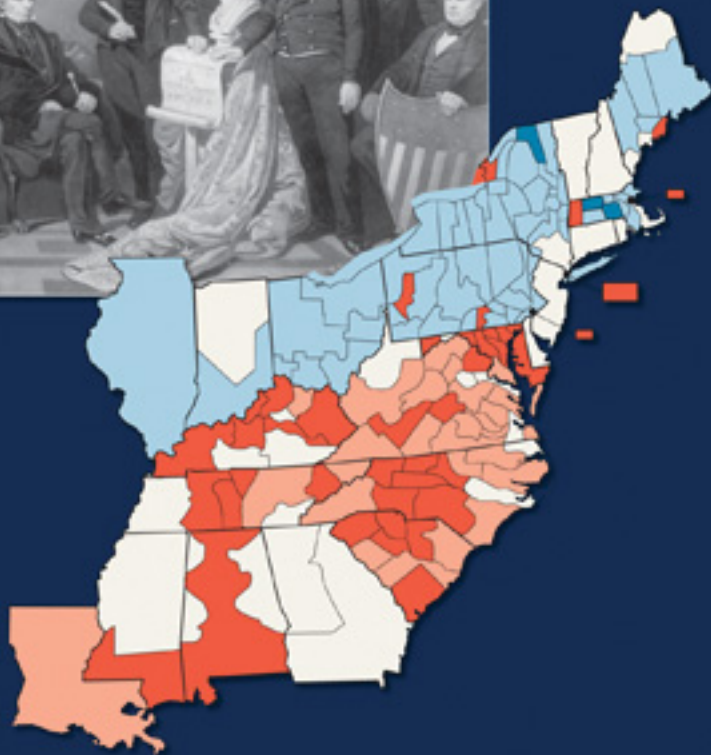


Debating the DOCUMENTS

Interpreting Alternative Viewpoints
in Primary Source Documents

The Missouri Compromise

The Missouri Compromise was supposed to settle the slavery issue for good. Could it have worked?



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Teacher Introduction

★ Using Primary Sources

Primary sources are called “primary” because they are first-hand records of a past era or historical event. They are the raw materials, or the evidence, on which historians base their “secondary” accounts of the past.

A rapidly growing number of history teachers today are using primary sources. Why? Perhaps it’s because primary sources give students a better sense of what history is and what historians do. Such sources also help students see the past from a variety of viewpoints. Moreover, primary sources make history vivid and bring it to life.

However, primary sources are not easy to use. They can be confusing. They can be biased. They rarely all agree. Primary sources must be interpreted and set in context. To do this, students need historical background knowledge. *Debating the Documents* helps students handle such challenges by giving them a useful framework for analyzing sources that conflict with one another.



*“Multiple,
conflicting
perspectives are
among the truths
of history.
No single
objective or
universal account
could ever put an
end to this endless
creative dialogue
within and
between the past
and the present.”*

From the 2011 Statement on Standards
of Professional Conduct of the Council of
the American Historical Association.

★ *The Debating the Documents Series*

Each *Debating the Documents* booklet includes the same sequence of reproducible worksheets. If students use several booklets over time, they will get regular practice at interpreting and comparing conflicting sources. In this way, they can learn the skills and habits needed to get the most out of primary sources.

Each *Debating the Documents* Booklet Includes

- **Suggestions for the Student and an Introductory Essay.** The student gets instructions and a one-page essay providing background on the booklet's topic. A time line on the topic is also included.
- **Two Groups of Contrasting Primary Source Documents.** In most of the booklets, students get one pair of visual sources and one pair of written sources. In some cases, more than two are provided for each. Background is provided on each source. *Within each group, the sources clash in a very clear way.* (The sources are not always exact opposites, but they do always differ in some obvious way.)
- **Three Worksheets for Each Document Group.** Students use the first two worksheets to take notes on the sources. The third worksheet asks which source the student thinks would be most useful to a historian.
- **One DBQ.** On page 20, a document-based question (DBQ) asks students to write an effective essay using all of the booklet's primary sources.

★ *How to Use This Booklet*

1. Have students read “Suggestions for the Student” and the Introductory Essay.

Give them copies of pages 5–7. Ask them to read the instructions and then read the introductory essay on the topic. The time line gives them additional information on that topic. This reading could be done in class or as a homework assignment.

2. Have students do the worksheets.

Make copies of the worksheets and the pages with the sources. Ask students to study the background information on each source and the source itself. Then have them take notes on the sources using the worksheets. If students have access to a computer, have them review the primary sources digitally.

3. “Debate the documents” as a class.

Have students use their worksheet notes to debate the primary source documents as a class. Urge students to follow these ground rules:

- Use your worksheets as a guide for the discussion or debate.
- Try to reach agreement about the main ideas and the significance of each primary source document.
- Look for points of agreement as well as disagreement between the primary sources.
- Listen closely to all points of view about each primary source.
- Focus on the usefulness of each source to the historian, not merely on whether you agree or disagree with that source’s point of view.

4. Have students do the final DBQ.

A DBQ is an essay question about a set of primary source documents. To answer the DBQ, students write essays using evidence from the sources and their own background knowledge of the historical era. (See the next page for a DBQ scoring guide to use in evaluating these essays.)

The DBQ assignment on page 20 includes guidelines for writing a DBQ essay. Here are some additional points to make with students about preparing to write this kind of essay.

The DBQ for this Booklet (see page 20):

One historian says the Missouri Compromise was not so much a compromise as an “unhappy truce.” What do you think he means? Do you agree or disagree with him? Why?

- Analyze the question carefully.
- Use your background knowledge to set sources in their historical context.
- Question and interpret sources actively. Do not accept them at face value.
- Use sources meaningfully to support your essay’s thesis.
- Pay attention to the overall organization of your essay.

★ *Complete DBQ Scoring Guide*

Use this guide in evaluating the DBQ for this booklet. Use this scoring guide with students who are already familiar with using primary sources and writing DBQ essays.

Excellent Essay

- Offers a clear answer or thesis explicitly addressing all aspects of the essay question.
- Does a careful job of interpreting many or most of the documents and relating them clearly to the thesis and the DBQ. Deals with conflicting documents effectively.
- Uses details and examples effectively to support the thesis and other main ideas. Explains the significance of those details and examples well.
- Uses background knowledge and the documents in a balanced way.
- Is well written; clear transitions make the essay easy to follow from point to point. Only a few minor writing errors or errors of fact.

Good Essay

- Offers a reasonable thesis addressing the essential points of the essay question.
- Adequately interprets at least some of the documents and relates them to the thesis and the DBQ.
- Usually relates details and examples meaningfully to the thesis or other main ideas.
- Includes some relevant background knowledge.
- May have some writing errors or errors of fact, as long as these do not invalidate the essay's overall argument or point of view.

Fair Essay

- Offers at least a partly developed thesis addressing the essay question.
- Adequately interprets at least a few of the documents.
- Relates only a few of the details and examples to the thesis or other main ideas.
- Includes some background knowledge.
- Has several writing errors or errors of fact that make it harder to understand the essay's overall argument or point of view.

Poor Essay

- Offers no clear thesis or answer addressing the DBQ.
- Uses few documents effectively other than referring to them in “laundry list” style, with no meaningful relationship to a thesis or any main point.
- Uses details and examples unrelated to the thesis or other main ideas. Does not explain the significance of these details and examples.
- Is not clearly written, with some major writing errors or errors of fact.

Suggestions to the Student

★ *Using Primary Sources*

A primary source is any record of evidence from the past. Many things are primary sources: letters, diary entries, official documents, photos, cartoons, wills, maps, charts, etc. They are called “primary” because they are first-hand records of a past event or time period. This *Debating the Documents* lesson is based on two groups of primary source documents. Within each group, the sources conflict with one another. That is, they express different or even opposed points of view. You need to decide which source is more reliable, more useful, or more typical of the time period. This is what historians do all the time. Usually, you will be able to learn something about the past from each source, even when the sources clash with one another in dramatic ways.

★ *How to Use This Booklet*

1. Read the one-page introductory essay.

This gives you background information that will help you analyze the primary source documents and do the exercises for this *Debating the Documents* lesson. The time line gives you additional information you will find helpful.



2. Study the primary source documents for this lesson.

For this lesson, you get two groups of sources. The sources within each group conflict with one another. Some of these sources are visuals, others are written sources. With visual sources, pay attention not only to the image’s “content” (its subject matter) but also to its artistic style, shading, composition, camera angle, symbols, and other features that add to the image’s meaning. With written sources, notice the writing style, bias, even what the source leaves out or does not talk about. Think about each source’s author, that author’s reasons for writing, and the likely audience for the source. These considerations give you clues as to the source’s historical value.

3. Use the worksheets to analyze each group of primary source documents.

For each group of sources, you get three worksheets. Use the “Study the Document” worksheets to take notes on each source. Use the “Comparing the Documents” worksheet to decide which of the sources would be most useful to a historian.

4. As a class, debate the documents.

Use your worksheet notes to help you take part in this debate.

5. Do the final DBQ.

“DBQ” means “document-based question.” A DBQ is a question along with several primary source documents. To answer the DBQ, write an essay using evidence from the documents and your own background history knowledge.

The Missouri Compromise

Thomas Jefferson famously called the Missouri crisis of 1820 a “firebell in the night.” The “firebell” was the issue of slavery, which he feared would split the nation and end the hope of creating a long-lasting republic here in America. From the nation’s start, such fears led many to seek compromise on this issue—an issue that in the end could not be compromised at all.

The first compromise came at the very birth of the federal union in 1787, with the writing of the U.S. Constitution. The famous “three-fifths” clause gave states the right to count three-fifths of their slaves as part of their population. The number of each state’s lawmakers in the House of Representatives is based on its population. The three-fifths clause gave the Southern states many more House members than they would otherwise have had. Northerners did not want slaves counted at all for this purpose. Southerners wanted each slave counted as a full person. Three-fifths was a compromise the North accepted to keep the Southern states within the new nation. Without it, these states might have formed a slave society separate from the nation from the start.

In 1818, the issue arose again, this time due to the rapid settlement of the West. That year, the Missouri territory asked to join the union as a state. Most people expected it to adopt slavery, since most settlers in Missouri were Southerners. Yet in 1819, when the bill for statehood came up for a vote in the House, one lawmaker took a stand against slavery in Missouri. James Tallmadge of New York offered an amendment that would end slavery in Missouri over time. This caused a huge argument. Tallmadge’s amendment passed in the House, but not in the Senate.

In 1819 there were an equal number of slave states and free states, which also meant they had an equal number of Senators. In January 1820, the House passed a bill to make Maine

a state. Maine was sure to be a free state. If it was admitted with Missouri as a slave state, the balance in the Senate would remain. A bill pairing Maine as a free state with Missouri as a slave state passed in the Senate. This time, it also included a new clause banning slavery in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase lands north of 36°30’ north latitude. Senator Jesse B. Thomas of Illinois came up with this clause.

This Senate bill therefore contained all three parts of the Missouri Compromise (Maine as a free state; Missouri as a slave state; no slavery in the rest of the Louisiana territories). Yet this Missouri Compromise still did not become law. That’s because after the Senate voted for it, the House voted against it.

Then Speaker of the House Henry Clay of Kentucky went to work appealing to both sides to be “reasonable.” Clay managed to get the House to vote on each of the bill’s key parts separately. This allowed those who felt strongly one way or the other to vote as they wished, with just enough vote switchers to pass the parts of the compromise one at a time. Later actions by Missouri made it necessary for Clay to use his skills as the “Great Compromiser” again to push through another and final vote on Missouri, in 1821.

After 1787, many Northern states abolished slavery. As they did so, anti-slavery sentiment there grew among both the Federalists and the Jeffersonian Republicans. The 1820 crisis shows how this sentiment was deepening. The Missouri Compromise smoothed over the crisis for another quarter century. But as the documents in this booklet will suggest, it may have done little to bring the two sections together in any real way. In fact, it may only have prepared the ground for far more bitter battles to come.

Missouri Compromise Time Line

1777

• • • Vermont becomes the first U.S. territory to abolish slavery.

1787

• • • Congress (under the Articles of Confederation) adopts the Northwest Ordinance. It provides for the creation of new states in the Northwest Territory and also bars slavery from that territory. The U.S. Constitution is written. Its “Grand Compromise” creates a two-house legislature. In the Senate, each state has two Senators. In the House of Representatives, each state’s representation is to be based on population. This compromise includes the “three-fifths” formula—counting three-fifths of a state’s slaves for purposes of representation and taxation.

1803

• • • The U.S. purchases the entire Louisiana Territory from France. This doubles the size of the country.

1804

• • • New Jersey provides for the gradual end of slavery in its borders. All states north of the Mason-Dixon Line have now acted to end slavery.

1808

• • • The Constitution’s 20-year ban on laws against the slave trade runs out. Congress outlaws the importation of slaves.

1812

• • • The War of 1812 begins. Louisiana enters the Union as the eighteenth state. The balance of slave versus free states is now nine slave states and nine free states. Maine as a political unit is separated from the state of Massachusetts.

1814

• • • The Treaty of Ghent ends the War of 1812, which included major defeats of Native American tribes and confederacies. With Native Americans under greater control and the British military presence gone, U.S. lands up to and beyond the Mississippi River are far more open to settlement.

1816

• • • Indiana enters the Union as the nineteenth state. Balance of the states: nine slave states and 10 free states.

1817

• • • Mississippi enters the Union as the twentieth state. Balance of the states: 10 slave states and 10 free states.

1818

• • • Illinois enters the Union as the twenty-first state. Balance of the states: 11 slave states and 10 free states. The Missouri Territory has enough people to seek admission as a state. Many expect Missouri will be a slave state.

1819

• • • As the battle over Missouri heats up, Alabama enters the Union as the twenty-second state. The balance of the states is now: 11 slave states and 11 free states (slave states: VA, MD, DE, KY, TN, NC, SC, GA, AL, MS, LA; free states: MA, CO, RI, VT, NH, NY, NJ, PA, OH, IN, IL). New York Congressman James Tallmadge proposes an amendment to a Missouri statehood bill that would end slavery in that state. The House passes the amendment, but the Senate does not.

1820

• • • After debate and the meeting of a conference committee of House and Senate, Congress passes a bill to admit Maine (sure to be a free state). It then gives Missouri the right to adopt a constitution allowing slavery, and it also bans slavery in the Louisiana Purchase north of 36°30' north latitude, except for Missouri itself.

1821

• • • After further clarification by Missouri’s legislature, Missouri is admitted as a slave state. The even balance of free and slave states is maintained.

Visual Primary Source Document 1



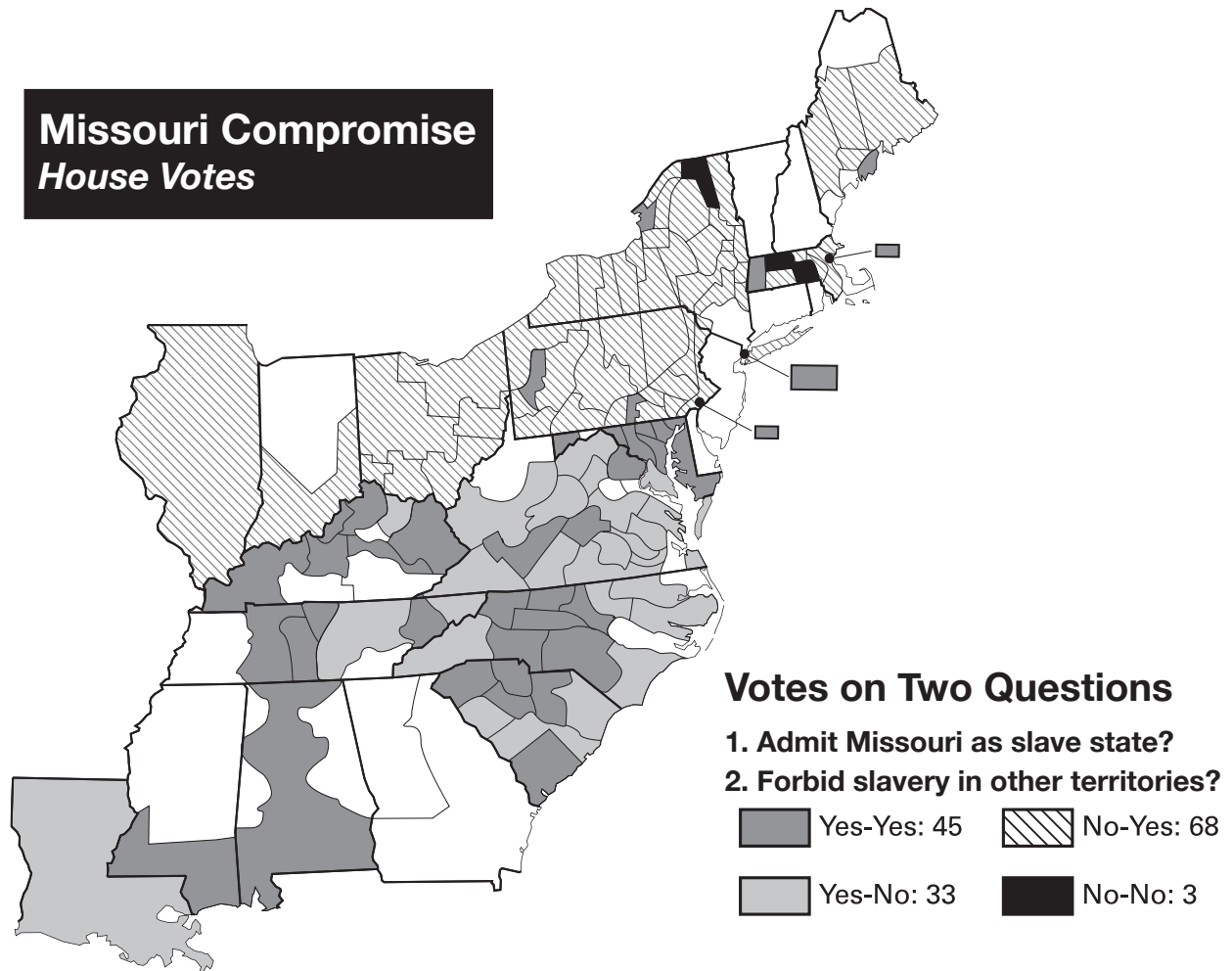
Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, LC-USZ62-14031

Information on Document 1

This imaginary group portrait, titled “Union,” was published in 1852. It praises Congressional efforts to preserve the Union, especially the Compromise of 1850. This image is not from the time of the Missouri Compromise and is not exactly a primary source for it. Still, it is a memorial to the ideal of compromising over slavery in order to save the union, an ideal the Missouri Compromise did so much to strengthen. Three key leaders of the day—Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, and Daniel Webster—all appear in the center of this group. Though all three were dead by the end of 1852, the print seems to express optimism about

the Compromise of 1850. As a memorial to this compromise, however, it is a bit faulty. Calhoun, the central standing figure, opposed the compromise and died before its passage. Yet aside from Calhoun, the men here were generally seen as friendly to the compromise, including many from the South. The figures pictured in the front row are, left to right: Winfield Scott, Lewis Cass, Henry Clay, John Calhoun, Daniel Webster, and (holding a shield) Millard Fillmore. Calhoun and Webster stand with their hands resting on the Constitution, a bust of George Washington between them.

Visual Primary Source Document 2



Information on Document 2

This map shows votes in the House of Representatives on the two key parts of the Missouri Compromise: the vote on whether to allow slavery in Missouri and the vote on whether to ban slavery in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase lands north of 36°30' north latitude. (The vote on admitting Maine as a free state is not shown here.)

In voting on these two issues separately, those with very strong views against slavery would be likely to vote “No-Yes” (that is, no to Missouri as a slave state and yes for a ban on slavery in the other territories). Those

with strong proslavery views, therefore, would be likely to vote “Yes-No.” The hope of Henry Clay and others seeking a compromise was that enough “moderates” would vote “Yes-Yes” to enable both parts of the Missouri Compromise to pass. That is what happened.

A few districts voted oddly, against slavery in Missouri but for slavery in the territories (“No-No”). Some voted on only one of the two issues, and some had no representatives present for these votes.

Study the Document: Visual Source 1

Instructions: Take notes on these questions. Use your notes to discuss the documents and answer the DBQ.

1 Main Idea or Topic _____

In one way, this is just an illustration of a group of politicians. Yet it is labeled, simply, "Union." What overall idea about the Union does the image help express? Write a longer caption for the image conveying its real message.

2 Visual Features _____

What features add to the impact of this group portrait? Look at such elements as hand gestures, posture, facial expressions, use of light and darkness, overall composition, etc. How do these features help express the real point of this illustration?

3 Background Information _____

What do you know about any or all of the figures in the front row, whose names are listed in the description for the illustration? How does this knowledge add to your understanding of the image?

4 Usefulness _____

Can this illustration be seen as a primary source for the Missouri Compromise? If it is not a primary source, is it still useful in understanding that earlier compromise and its place in U.S. history?

Study the Document: Visual Source 2

Instructions: Take notes on these questions. Use your notes to discuss the documents and answer the DBQ.

1 Main Idea or Topic

What is the most important conclusion you can draw from this map about the two key House votes on the Missouri Compromise?

2 Background Information

A political map like this shows you a pattern of votes. But to understand fully the reasons for that pattern, you need to know many other things not shown in the map. In this case, explain why it helps to know about the following:

- Western settlement from the American Revolution to 1820.
- The spread of cotton production.
- The nature of farming in the Old Northwest (today's Midwest).

3 What else can you infer?

That is, what is suggested or implied in these documents? For example, what can you infer about Southern and Northern attitudes in 1820 toward the western territories beyond the Mississippi River?

Comparing the Documents

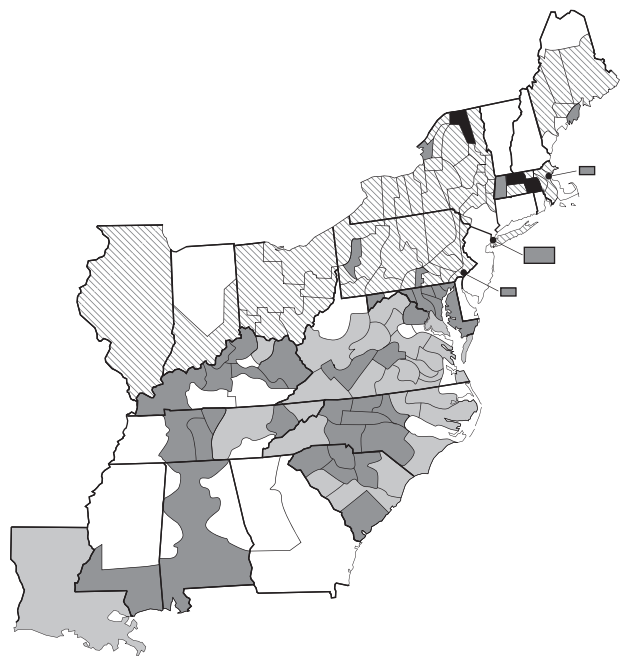
★ *The Visual Sources*

Answer the question by checking one box below. Then complete the statements on the Comparison Essay worksheet. Use all your notes to help you take part in an all-class debate about these documents—and to answer the final DBQ for the lesson.

Which of these two primary source documents would be most useful to a historian trying to understand the crisis that was settled by the Missouri Compromise?



Document 1

☐

Document 2

☐

Comparison Essay

I chose Document _____ because:

*I did **not** choose Document _____.*

However, a historian still might use the document in the following way:

Keep this in mind: Some sources are very biased. A biased source is one that shows you only one side of an issue. That is, it takes a clear stand or expresses a very strong opinion about something. A biased source may be one-sided, but it can still help you to understand its time period. For example, a biased editorial cartoon may show how people felt about an issue at the time. The usefulness of a source depends most of all on what questions you ask about that time in the past.

Written Primary Source Documents 1 & 2

Information on Documents 1 & 2

Document 1. This is part of a longer poem titled “Maine Not to Be Coupled With the Missouri Question,” a broadside published by Timothy Claimright of Brunswick, dated January 1820. In spite of the poem’s appeal, Maine’s application to enter the Union was coupled with Missouri’s. Its certain admission as a free state, along with the ban on slavery in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase territory, eased Northern objections just enough to enable Missouri to be admitted as a slave state. In any case, the poem conveys well the way many in the North viewed the harmful effects of slavery on society in Missouri and elsewhere.

Document 2. Part of a speech in Congress in 1820 by Republican member of the House Timothy Fuller of Massachusetts. In this speech, Fuller explains why he is against admitting Missouri as a slave state.

Document 1

. . . We are hardy and healthy, can till our own soil,
In labor delight; make a pleasure of toil.
They spurn at our climate; yet live in a bog:
We enjoy fair, cold weather; they group in a fog.
We fly in our sleighs’ they wallow in mire,
O’erwhelmed with mosquitoes; we sing by our fire.
We have pork and potatoes, fish, mutton, and beef;
Filled with agues, to physic, they fly for relief.
They too lazy to work, drive slaves, whom they fear;
We school our own children, and brew our own beer.
We do a day’s work and go fearless to bed;
Tho’ locked up, they dream of slaves, whom they dread.
We have learned too much wisdom to emigrate west,
As poor souls returning, too well can attest.
We this principle hold, as fixed, as fate,
Independent of them, we will be a State.
While we grant they can live on lean smok’d hams,
We fear not starvation on lobsters and clams.
Our bays are alive with geese, ducks, and widgeons,
And every scarce year our woods swarm with pigeons.
They may boast of fine pastures as much as they please,
But we stand unrivaled in butter and cheese.
They may boast of their blacks; we boast of our plenty,
And swear to be free, eighteen hundred and twenty.
South and West, now be honest, to Maine give her due,
If you call her a child, she’s an Hercules too.
A Sister in Union admit her, as free;
To be coupled with slaves, she will never agree.

Document 2

If then all men have equal rights, it can
no more comport with the principle of
a free Government to exclude men of
a certain color from the enjoyment of
“liberty and the pursuit of happiness”
than to exclude those who have not
attained a certain portion of wealth, or
a certain stature of body, or to found
the exclusion on any other capricious
or accidental circumstance. . . .
Election and representation, which
some contend are the only essential
principles of republics, would exist
only in name—a shadow without
substance, a body without a soul.

Written Primary Source Document 3

Information on Document 3

Thomas Jefferson was the main author of the Declaration of Independence. He served as president from 1801 to 1809, during which he obtained the Louisiana Territory from France. By 1820, he had been retired from political life for many years. Jefferson's close friend William Short wrote to him on March 27, 1820. In the course of that letter, Short asked Jefferson his views on the troubles in Missouri. Jefferson was retired from political life and living at Monticello at the time. He replied to Short a few weeks later, on April 13. The passage here is the part of the letter in which he comments on the Missouri question. This letter was transcribed and edited by Gerard W. Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

Document 3

Altho' I had laid down as a law to myself, never to write, talk or even think of politics, to know nothing of public affairs & therefore had ceased to read newspapers, yet the Missouri question aroused and filled me with alarm. The old schism of federal & republican, threatened nothing because it existed in every state, and united them together by the fraternism of party. But the coincidence of a marked principle, moral & political with a geographical line, once conceived, I feared would never more be obliterated from the mind; that it would be recurring on every occasion & renewing irritations until it would kindle such mutual & mortal hatred, as to render separation preferable

to eternal discord. I have been among the most sanguine [that is, hopeful] in believing that our Union would be of long duration. I now doubt it much, and see the event at no great distance, and the direct consequence of this question . . . my only comfort & confidence is that I shall not live to see this: and I envy not the present generation the glory of throwing away the fruits of their fathers sacrifices of life & fortune, and of rendering desperate the experiment which was to decide ultimately whether man is capable of self government? This treason against human hope will signalize their epoch in future history, as the counterpart of the medal of their predecessors.

Study the Documents: Written Sources 1 & 2

Instructions: Take notes on these questions. Use your notes to discuss the documents and answer the DBQ.

1 Main Idea or Topic _____

In your own words, sum up the main difference the poem (Document 1) sees between Maine and Missouri.

In what way does the passage by Timothy Fuller back up the views of the poem on Maine and Missouri?

2 Background Information _____

Fuller quotes a famous phrase in his passage here. Can you explain the importance of that phrase and where it is from?

3 Bias _____

The poem contains many lines on differences between Maine and Missouri with respect to food, natural features, and climate. These lines actually help express a bias, or point of view, about key social and moral differences between the two states and regions. Choose three lines of this sort that best help express this bias. Do you think the poem's point of view was mainly fair, mainly unfair, or some of both in its opinions of these differences?

Study the Document: Written Source 3

Instructions: Take notes on these questions. Use your notes to discuss the documents and answer the DBQ.

1 Main Idea or Topic

In this passage, Jefferson says, “the Missouri question aroused and filled me with alarm.” In your own words, explain briefly why Jefferson was so alarmed by the conflict over Missouri in 1820?

2 Background Information

Jefferson says, “The old schism of federal & republican, threatened nothing because it existed in every state, and united them together by the fraternism of party.” Explain what he means here by the “federal & republican” split.

3 What Else Can You Infer?

What is suggested or implied in the document? For example, Jefferson sees in the Missouri crisis “the coincidence of a marked principle, moral & political with a geographical line.” What does he mean by this and why does he fear this “coincidence” of a moral principle with a geographical line?

What can you infer about what Jefferson’s likely response to Timothy Fuller (Document 2) would have been?

Comparing the Documents



The Written Sources

Answer the question by checking one box below. Then complete the statements on the Comparison Essay worksheet. Use all your notes to help you take part in an all-class debate about these documents—and to answer the final DBQ for the lesson.

Which of these primary source documents would be most useful to a historian trying to understand the crisis that was settled by the Missouri Compromise?

Part of an 1820 poem titled “Maine Not to Be Coupled With the Missouri Question,” and part of Timothy Fuller’s 1820 speech explaining why he opposes admitting Missouri as a slave state.

Documents 1 & 2

☐

Part of Thomas Jefferson’s 1820 reply to William Short in which he comments on the Missouri question.

Document 3

☐

Comparison Essay

I chose Documents _____ because:

*I did **not** choose Documents _____.*

However, a historian still might use the documents in the following way:

Keep this in mind: Some sources are very biased. A biased source is one that shows you only one side of an issue. That is, it takes a clear stand or expresses a very strong opinion about something. A biased source may be one-sided, but it can still help you to understand its time period. For example, a biased editorial cartoon may show how people felt about an issue at the time. The usefulness of a source depends most of all on what questions you ask about that time in the past.

Document-Based Question

Your task is to answer a document-based question (DBQ) on the Missouri Compromise. In a DBQ, you use your analysis of primary source documents and your knowledge of history to write a brief essay answering the question. Using all five documents, answer this question.

Document-Based Question

One historian says the Missouri Compromise was not so much a compromise as an “unhappy truce.” What do you think he means? Do you agree or disagree with him? Why?

Below is a checklist of key suggestions for writing a DBQ essay. Next to each item, jot down a few notes to guide you in writing the DBQ. Use extra sheets to write a four- or five-paragraph essay.

- *Introductory Paragraph*
Does the paragraph clarify the DBQ itself? Does it present a clear thesis, or overall answer, to that DBQ?
- *The Internal Paragraphs—1*
Are these paragraphs organized around main points with details supporting those main ideas? Do all these main ideas support the thesis in the introductory paragraph?
- *The Internal Paragraphs—2*
Are all of your main ideas and key points linked in a logical way? That is, does each idea follow clearly from those that went before? Does it add something new and helpful in clarifying your thesis?
- *Use of Primary Source Documents*
Are they simply mentioned in a “laundry list” fashion? Or are they used thoughtfully to support main ideas and the thesis?
- *Concluding Paragraph*
Does it restate the DBQ and thesis in a way that sums up the main ideas without repeating old information or going into new details?

Visual Primary Sources

First Group—Document 1



Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, LC-USZ62-14031

First Group—Document 2

Missouri Compromise House Votes

