



The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854

Student Name _____ Date _____

Sequential Entering of States and Territories from 1820 to 1854

Year	Free	Slave	Free or Slave (by Popular Sovereignty)
1820	Maine		
1821		Missouri	
1836		Arkansas	
1837	Michigan		
1845		Texas Florida	
1846	Iowa		
1848	Wisconsin Oregon Territory		
1849	Minnesota Territory		
1850	California		Utah Territory New Mexico Territory
1853	Washington Territory		
1854			Kansas Territory Nebraska Territory



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Mapping the Controversy in 1854, Part I

Using the interactive map

(http://development.vbcomm.net/15332_NEH/phase_1/sectionalism/lesson_03/lesson.html) answer the following questions:

Question	Answer
Did free states and territories or slaveholding states have the most land area in 1854? (This can be calculated by adding together the square miles of all of the free states and territories, and then doing the same for the slave states. Compare the two numbers.)	
Which was more densely populated, the free states or the slave states?	
Where was the higher population of black people to be found?	
In what three southern states did the black population outnumber the white population? (In 1820 two southern states had a higher population of black people. Compare the 1820 map to the 1854 map to find out which southern state had experienced this rise in black population.)	
By 1854, how many states were free? How many states were slave states?	



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Mapping the Controversy in 1854, Part II

Using the interactive map

(http://development.vbcomm.net/15332_NEH/phase_1/sectionalism/lesson_03/lesson.html) answer the following questions:

Question	Answer
Using the bar graph to the right of the map, explain the uncertainty that existed in 1854 concerning the future of the balance of power between free and slave states.	
After the admission of California as a free state in 1850, why would the South's insistence on popular sovereignty in the territories grow stronger? (Hint: What did the entry of California do to the balance between free and slaveholding states?)	
How many slave states or slave territories entered the Union after the admission of California?	
Considering that the West Coast was a free region in 1850, why would the South demand, at minimum, that popular sovereignty determine the slavery question in the territories of Utah, New Mexico, Kansas, and Nebraska?	
When northern abolitionists and free-soilers looked at the map of 1854, what might have caused them concern? When southern slaveholders looked at the map, what would have concerned them?	
By comparing population figures between the free and slave states and territories in 1854, which region was experiencing the most growth? How were immigrants "voting with their feet"?	