

CHAPTER 16

The South and the Slavery Controversy, 1793–1860

Theme: The explosion of cotton production fastened the slave system deeply upon the South, creating a complex, hierarchical racial and social order that deeply affected whites as well as blacks.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

Theme: The economic benefits of an increasing production of cotton due to the cotton gin and slavery were shared between the South, the North, and Britain. The economics of cotton and slavery also led to bigger and bigger plantations, since they could afford the heavy investment in human capital.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

Theme: The emergence of a small but energetic radical abolitionist movement caused a fierce proslavery backlash in the South and a slow but steady growth of moderate antislavery sentiment in the North.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

CHAPTER 17

Manifest Destiny and Its Legacy, 1841–1848

Theme: American expansionism gained momentum in the 1840s, leading first to the acquisition of Texas and Oregon, and then to the Mexican War, which added vast southwestern territories to the United States and ignited the slavery question.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

Theme: American international prestige grew as the United States expanded. Successful military campaigns against Mexico along with well-negotiated treaties with Britain forced Europe to respect America more, while Latin America began to be wary of the Colossus of the North.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

CHAPTER 18

Renewing the Sectional Struggle, 1848–1854

Theme: The sectional conflict over the expansion of slavery that erupted after the Mexican War was temporarily quieted by the Compromise of 1850, but Douglas’s Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 exploded it again.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

Theme: In the 1850s, American expansionism in the West and the Caribbean was extremely controversial because it was tied to the slavery question.

Illustration:

What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

Theme: Commercial interests guided American foreign policy in Asia and contributed to sectional tension within the United States, as regions tried to secure the terminus to a transcontinental railroad.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

CHAPTER 19

Drifting Toward Disunion, 1854–1861

Theme: A series of major North-South crises in the late 1850s culminated in the election of the antislavery Republican Lincoln to the presidency in 1860. His election caused seven southern states to secede from the union and form the Confederate States of America.

Illustration:

What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

CHAPTER 20

Girding for War: The North and the South, 1861–1865

Theme: The North effectively brought to bear its long-term advantages of industrial might and human resources to wage a devastating total war against the South. The war helped organize and modernize northern society, while the South, despite heroic efforts, was economically and socially crushed.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

Theme: Lincoln’s skillful political leadership helped keep the crucial Border States in the Union and maintain northern morale, while his effective diplomacy kept Britain and France from aiding the Confederacy.

Illustration:	
What happened?	

How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

CHAPTER 21

The Furnace of Civil War, 1861–1865

Theme: The Civil War, begun as a limited struggle over the Union, eventually became a total war to end slavery and transform the nation.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

Theme: After several years of seesaw struggle, the Union armies under Ulysses Grant finally wore down the Southern forces under Robert E. Lee and ended the Confederate bid for independence, as well as the institution of slavery.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	

Connections to American society today:

CHAPTER 22

The Ordeal of Reconstruction, 1865–1877

Theme: Johnson’s political blunders and Southern white recalcitrance led to the imposition of congressional military Reconstruction on the South. Reconstruction did address difficult issues of reform and racial justice in the South and achieved some successes, but was ultimately abandoned, leaving a deep legacy of racial and sectional bitterness.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

Theme: During Reconstruction, the Constitution was strengthened with the Fourteenth (citizenship and equal protection of the laws) and Fifteenth (black voting rights) Amendments, but it was also tested with the conflicts between the president and Congress that culminated in an impeachment process.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	

Theme: Southern resistance to Reconstruction began immediately with the sending of ex-rebels to be seated in Congress and continued with the creation of violently oppressive groups like the Ku Klux Klan. Although forced to make some concessions, Southern Redeemers successfully outlasted the congressional Reconstruction efforts.

Illustration:	
What happened?	
How it happened?	
Why it happened?	
Connections to American society today:	