

**AP United States History**  
**Unit 4- The New Republic**  
**Topic: The Causes of the Civil War**

**Inquiry Organizer 1– The Texas Question:**

- a. Explain why Americans settled in Mexico's territory in Texas and how that migration eventually affected the United States.
- b. Explain how the conflict with Mexico over Texas affected politics and economics in the United States during the mid-nineteenth century.
- c. According to the first primary source document, why did Henry Clay oppose the annexation of Texas?
- d. According to the second primary source document, why did John C Calhoun believe that the annexation of Texas was inevitable?

**Inquiry Organizer 2– Manifest Destiny:**

- a. Compare and contrast the characteristics and experiences of those who migrated westward in the mid-nineteenth century.
- b. Analyze the impact of mid-nineteenth century westward migration on the creation of an American identity.
- c. Why did John L. O'Sullivan believe that it was the destiny of America to acquire first, Texas, and then the rest of the continent?
- d. What difference of opinion does Abraham Lincoln offer about the ideal of "Manifest Destiny?"

**Inquiry Organizer 3– The American Southwest:**

- a. Discuss the existence of a cultural middle ground in Tucson before and after the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.
- b. Explain why and how the overall position of Mexicans and Mexican Americans changed across the Southwest after 1848.
- c. Explain how the terms of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo dealt with the citizenship status of Mexican citizens living within the boundaries of the treaty area.
- d. According to the secondary source, why did the people of the Southwest oppose the expansion of the culture of Southern slavery and also, how did the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo fulfill the idea of Manifest Destiny?

**Inquiry Organizer 4– The Mexican-American War:**

- a. Explain why expansion into the Oregon Territory had more support in the North than expansion into areas held by Mexico in the 1840s.
- b. Explain the connection between the decision to go to war with Mexico and the concept of Manifest Destiny.
- c. Why did President Polk believe that we were justified in going to war with the Republic of Mexico in 1846?
- d. Why did Thoreau believe that we went to war with the Republic of Mexico and what were his thoughts on protesting it?

**Inquiry Organizer 5– The Compromise of 1850:**

- a. Explain why the Mexican Cession led to a major political crisis in 1848–1849.
- b. Summarize the goal and outcome of the Compromise of 1850.
- c. How did Senator William H. Seward attempt to end the spread of slavery after the war with Mexico and what does reference in this excerpt to back up his reasoning?
- d. What does Senator John C. Calhoun reference as the cause for his opposition to the Compromise of 1850, which would allow California to enter the Union as a free state?