

I. Who was John Brown?

- A. "John Brown is a man who remains one of the most controversial figures in American history. He dedicated his life to the abolition of slavery; for him, any means used to achieve this goal were justified. He was prepared to kill or be killed in this effort, a decisive break with the nonviolent resistance embraced by most abolitionists at that time."
- B. "He has been called a saint, a fanatic, and a cold-blooded murderer. The controversy over his memory, his motives, about the true nature of the man, continues to stir passionate debate. It is said that John Brown was the spark that started the Civil War."
- C. So you're going to use your detective skills to determine once and for all
- D. ...WHO WAS JOHN BROWN?

II. John Brown

- A. Born in _____ (#1) (northern state)
- B. Born into a very _____ (#2) family
- C. Raised by a father who was incredibly anti-_____ (#3)
- D. Moved to Ohio at age 5 (known for strong anti-slavery laws)
- E. _____ (#4) vs. _____ (#5)–another example of environment shaping beliefs & opinions

III. BROWN'S INVOLVEMENT IN "BLEEDING KANSAS"

- A. _____ (#6) years old when KS-NE Act was passed; pretty old/worn down for those days
- B. Sons (has 5) write him a letter from Kansas asking for "arms" to aid in anti-slavery efforts in KS territory
- C. Brown packs a wagon the next day to head out to meet his sons
- D. Brown & sons form a small group called the _____ (#7) Rifles (named after creek they lived next to)
- E. Frequently exchanged threats of _____ (#8) with _____ (#9) neighbors, but maintained non-violence

IV. BROWN'S INVOLVEMENT IN "BLEEDING KANSAS"

- A. In winter of 1855-56, Brown & his men heard stories of _____ (#10); they believed an attack was imminent
- B. Get word of border _____ (#11) sacked town of Lawrence, KS; also burned Free-State Hotel on the way & no _____ (#12) fought back; heard of attack against anti-slave senator _____ (#13)–has to do something!
- C. Takes a small group of men to prepare them for a "secret mission"
- D. Marches toward _____ (#14) to homes of pro-slavery people; kill _____ (#15) settlers