

05001

ERA 5: CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION (1850-1763)  
THEMES: POLITICS AND CITIZENSHIP, SLAVERY  
AND ITS LEGACY, WAR AND DIPLOMACY

# America's Oddest Election

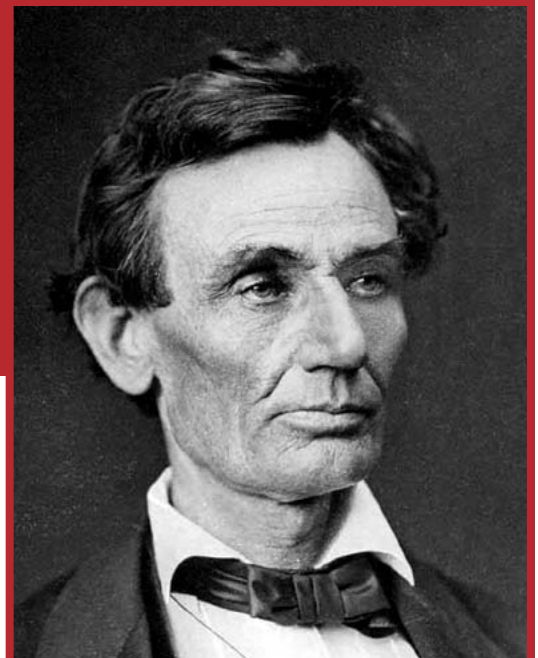
## Guiding Questions

How was Lincoln a controversial presidential candidate in 1860?

Why is the election of 1860 important?

## Question Focus Example for Task 24

Abraham Lincoln was a controversial  
and unpopular candidate for president.



Abraham Lincoln, 1860.

## Teacher-to-Teacher

This Collection focuses on the Election of 1860 which had a major impact on the country, leading to secession of southern states and eventually the Civil War. The election showed sectionalism at its worst. The article and the documents explain the different platforms of the candidates. Teachers and students can focus on the slogans and messages on the party documents. The political cartoons also help to illustrate the political tension of the time, but may need more teacher guidance to help the students understand them.

**Literature Connection: ???**

## Contents

- ★ **America's Oddest Election** ARTICLE
- ★ **Democratic ticket. Our principals the Constitution. For President John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky For Vice President Joseph Lane of Oregon** DOCUMENT
- ★ **Maryland state ticket. Election, Tuesday November 6th, 1860...For President of the United States John Bell of Tennessee. For Vice President of the United States, Edward Everett of Massachusetts.** DOCUMENT
- ★ **The Union must and shall be preserved. For President Abraham Lincoln of Illinois. For Vice President Hannibal Hamlin of Maine.** DOCUMENT
- ★ **President, Step. A. Douglas, Vice President, H. V. Johnson.** DOCUMENT
- ★ **It appears to me very singular that we three should strike "foul" and be "put out" while old Abe made such a "good lick."** CARTOON
- ★ **An heir to the throne, or the next Republican candidate** CARTOON
- ★ **Republican Platform, 1860** DOCUMENT
- ★ **Democrat Platform, 1860** DOCUMENT
- ★ **The Last Race of the Rail-Splitter** POEM

## Recommended Instructional Strategies

- Task 8:** Analyze and Compare Author Purpose
- Task 10:** Question the Author
- Task 23:** Identifying Claim and Evidence
- Task 24:** QFT (Question Focus Technique)
- Task 25:** Document Sourcing

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