Sectionalism:

- Northeast
- Northwest(today's Midwest)
- South

Big Ideas:

Different regions developed different economies, values and ways of life.

Big Questions:

What types of things tie regions together? (interdependent economies, railroads between Northeast and Northwest)

Does slavery create a rigid and static economy?
Is slavery destructive of economic growth?

Slavery:

- King Cotton
- Abolitionists
- The Problem of the Expansion of Slavery

Big Ideas:

Cotton is King due to the cotton gin.
Abolitionists oppose slavery as a moral evil, inconsistent with democratic principles?

As the US expands, the South will lose power in Congress unless slavery expands with the country.

Compromise is a political tool to prevent the breakup of the Union(U.S.)

Big Questions:

Can there be compromise with moral evil?
Is slavery compatible with democracy?
When is compromise merely postponing

the inevitable?

Breakdown of Compromise:

- Kansas-Nebraska Act Bloody Kansas
- Dred Scott
- John Brown's Raid

Big Ideas:

Popular sovereignty as a solution to the expansion of slavery.

Slaves regarded as property by the US government.

Desperation on the part of some abolitionists.

Big Questions:

How could "Bloody Kansas have been avoided?

Was popular sovereignty the proper democratic response to the problem of the expansion of slavery?

Was John Brown justified in resorting to violence because the federal government seemed to side with the South?