**1301 FONER QUIZ FOUR STUDY QUESTIONS**

**THE THREE KEYS TO SUCCESS IN AMERICA: LAND OWNERSHIP, THE VOTE, AND AN EDUCATION**

CHAPTER 13—A HOUSE DIVIDED 1840-1861

1. What is the Free Soil Party? p.A-62 Glossary

**Political organization formed in 1848 to oppose slavery in the territory acquired in the Mexican War; nominated Martin Van Buren for president in 1848. By 1854 most of the party’s members had joined the Republican Party.**

1. How did the Fugitive Slave Act affect runaway slaves? p.493 The Fugitive Slave Issue

**For one last time, political leaders had removed the dangerous slavery question from congressional debate. The new Fugitive Slave Act, however, made further controversy inevitable. The law allowed special federal commissioners to determine the fate of alleged fugitives without benefit of a jury trial or even testimony by the accused individual. It prohibited local authorities from interfering with the capture of fugitives and required individual citizens to assist in such capture when called upon by federal agents.**

**The fugitive slave issue affected all the free states, not just those that bordered on the South.**

**The law further widened sectional divisions and reinvigorated the Underground Railroad.**

1. What is the Know-Nothing Party? p.498 The Rise and Fall of the Know-Nothings p.A-67 Glossary

**As noted in Chapter 9, nativism—hostility to immigrants, especially Catholics—emerged as a local political movement in the 1840s. But in 1854, with the party system in crisis, it burst on the national political scene with the sudden appearance of the American, or Know-Nothing, Party (so called because it began as a secret organization whose members, when asked about its existence, were supposed to respond, “I know nothing”). The Know-Nothing Party trumpeted its dedication to reserving political office for native-born Americans and to resisting the “aggressions” of the Catholic Church, such as its supposed efforts to undermine public school systems.**

**Nativist, anti-Catholic third party organized in 1854 in reaction to large-scale German and Irish immigration; the party’s only presidential candidate was Millard Fillmore in 1856.**

1. What was the Republican Party’s membership and beliefs? p.499 The Free Labor Ideology

**By 1856, it was clear that the Republican Party—a coalition of antislavery Democrats, northern Whigs, Free Soilers, and Know-Nothings opposed to the further expansion of slavery—would become the major alternative to the Democratic Party in the North. Republicans managed to convince most northerners that the Slave Power, as they called the South’s proslavery political leadership, posed a more immediate threat to their liberties and aspirations than “popery” and immigration.**

**The defining quality of northern society, Republicans declared, was the opportunity it offered each laborer to move up to the status of landowning farmer or independent craftsman, thus achieving the economic independence essential to freedom. Slavery, by contrast, spawned a social order consisting of degraded slaves, poor whites with no hope of advancement, and idle aristocrats.**

**Republicans were not abolitionists—they focused on preventing the spread of slavery, not attacking it where it existed.**

1. What was the decision of Dred Scott v. Sandford handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court? p.A-59 Glossary

**1857 U.S. Supreme Court decision in which Chief Justice Roger B. Taney ruled that Congress could not prohibit slavery in the territories, on the grounds that such a prohibition would violate the Fifth Amendment rights of slaveholders, and that no black person could be a citizen of the United States.**

CHAPTER 14—A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM: THE CIVIL WAR 1861-1865

1. What was Abraham Lincoln’s reason for emancipating the slaves? p.531 Lincoln’s Decision

**During the summer of 1862, Lincoln concluded that emancipation had become a political and military necessity. Many factors contributed to his decision—lack of military success, hope that emancipated slaves might help meet the army’s growing manpower needs, changing northern public opinion, and the calculation that making slavery a target of the war effort would counteract sentiment in Britain for recognition of the Confederacy.**

1. What was considered to be the “one dramatic example” of the Second American Revolution? p.536 The Second American Revolution

**“Old things are passing away,” wrote a black resident of California in 1862, “and eventually old prejudices must follow. The revolution has begun, and time alone must decide where it is to end.” The changing status of black Americans was only one dramatic example of what some historians call the Second American Revolution—the transformation of American government and society brought about by the Civil War.**

CHAPTER 15—"WHAT IS FREEDOM?”: RECONSTRUCTION 1865-1877

1. What was the meaning (understanding) of freedom by African Americans? p.565 Blacks and the Meaning of Freedom

**African-Americans’ understanding of freedom was shaped by their experiences as slaves and their observation of the free society around them. To begin with, freedom meant escaping the numerous injustices of slavery—punishment by the lash, the separation of families, denial of access to education, the sexual exploitation of black women by their owners—and sharing in the rights and opportunities of American citizens.**

1. What were the motivations driving the “thirst for learning” in the Black community? p.567 Church and School

**Another striking example of the freedpeople’s quest for individual and community improvement was their desire for education. Education, declared a Mississippi freedman, was “the next best thing to liberty.” The thirst for learning sprang from many sources—a desire to read the Bible, the need to prepare for the economic marketplace, and the opportunity, which arose in 1867, to take part in politics.**

1. What were the goals/objectives of the Freedmen’s Bureau agents? p.571 The Freedmen’s Bureau   
   **Bureau agents were supposed to establish schools, provide aid to the poor and aged, settle disputes between whites and blacks and among the freedpeople, and secure for former slaves and white Unionists equal treatment before the courts.**