

# Analyzing Evidence, Interpreting Documents, and Analyzing Causation...

This activity is an extension from the Causes of the Civil War review and graphic organizer activity.

**Consider the following prompt:** *Evaluate the extent to which slavery was a major cause of the Civil War.*

**From the 2015 Revised Framework:**

## ANALYZE EVIDENCE...

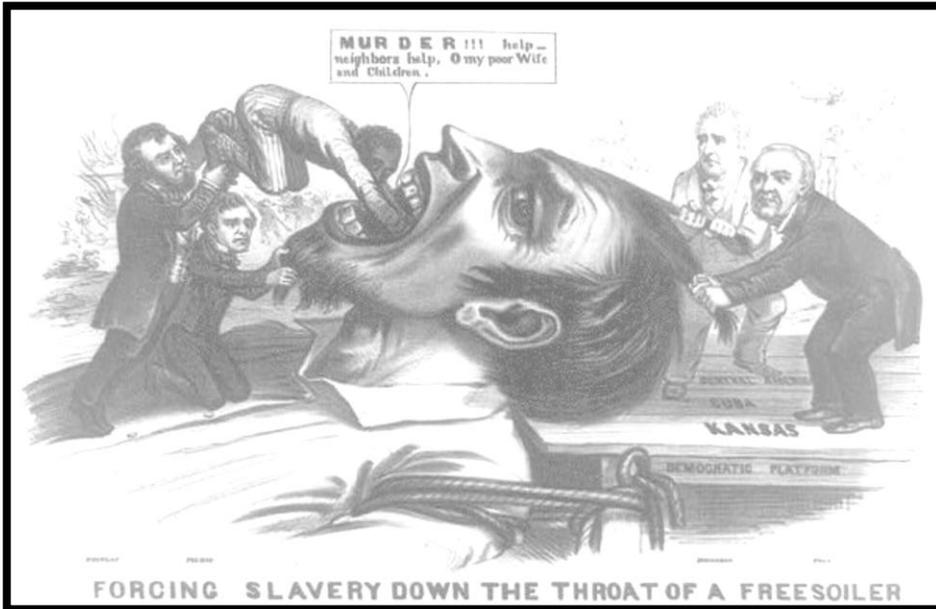
1. Explain the relevance of the author's point of view, author's purpose, audience, format or medium, and/or historical context as well as the interaction among these features, to demonstrate understanding of the significance of a primary source.
2. Evaluate the usefulness, reliability, and/ or limitations of a primary source in answering particular historical questions.

## INTERPRET DOCUMENTS...

1. Analyze a historian's argument, explain how the argument has been supported through the analysis of relevant historical evidence, and evaluate the argument's effectiveness.
2. Analyze diverse historical interpretations.

## ANALYZE CAUSES AND EFFECTS...

1. Explain long and /or short-term causes and/or effects of an historical event, development, or process.
2. Evaluate the relative significance of different causes and/or effects on historical events or processes, distinguishing between causation and correlation and showing an awareness of historical contingency.



Source: *Forcing Slavery Down the Throat of a Freesoiler.*  
 "Murder! Help neighbors help, O my poor wife and children."

An 1854 cartoon depicts a giant free soiler being held down by James Buchanan and Lewis Cass standing on the Democratic platform marked "Kansas," "Cuba" and "Central America". Franklin Pierce also holds down the giant's beard as Stephen A. Douglas shoves a black man down his throat.

### Analyze the evidence and Interpret the political cartoon:

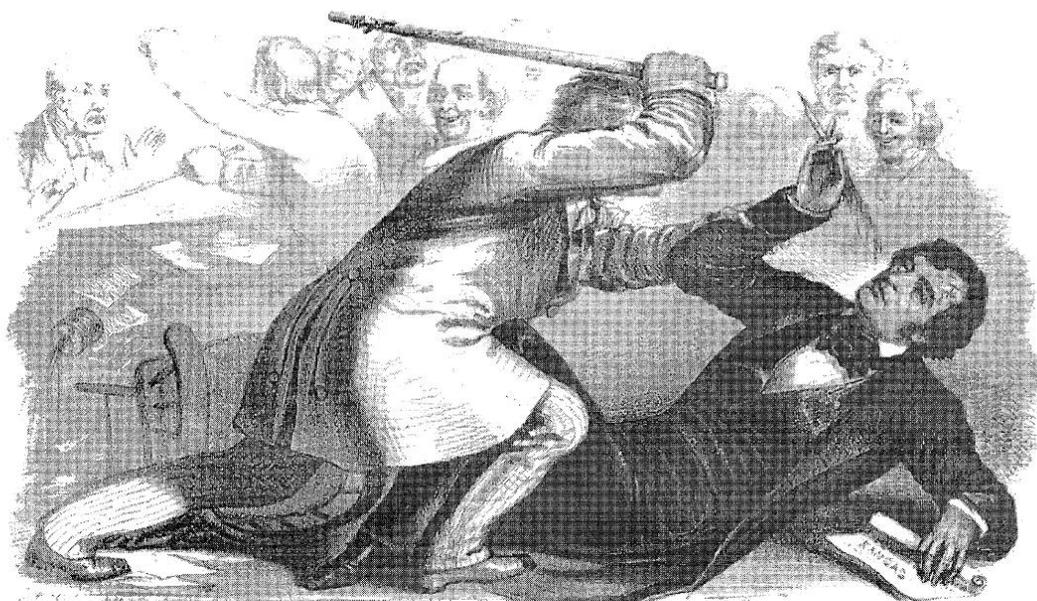
**H:** Historical Context ...

**I:** Intended Audience or **P:** Purpose or **P:** Point of View...

**Interpretation of Document** with H and *one* of IPP - one or two complete sentence *as it relates to your answer/argument in response to the prompt...*

## Analyzing Evidence, Interpreting Documents, and Analyzing Causation...

Source: Illustration by J.L. Magee, 1856



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Print Collection. Miriam and Ira D. Wallach  
Division of Art, Prints, and Photographs.  
The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations

Interpretation of Document with H and one of IPP - one or two complete sentence *as it relates to your answer/argument in response to the prompt...*

Analyze the evidence and Interpret the political cartoon:

**H:** Historical Context ...

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Extension: On a separate sheet of paper, write a full introductory paragraph addressing the prompt!