

Applied Practice

The Civil War
1861-1865
STAAR Social Studies

RESOURCE GUIDE
Student Edition

Directions: Choose the best answer for each question.

Use the following excerpt to answer questions 1-3.

...We maintain that in every compact between two or more parties, the obligation is mutual; that the failure of one of the contracting parties to perform a material part of the agreement, entirely releases the obligation of the other.... We assert that fourteen of the States have deliberately refused, for years past, to fulfill their constitutional obligations...

The Constitution of the United States, in its fourth Article, provides as follows: "No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up, on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due."

This stipulation was so material to the compact, that without it that compact would not have been made [because] the greater number of the contracting parties held slaves... this sectional combination for the submersion of the Constitution [includes using the vote] to inaugurate a new policy, hostile to the South, and destructive of its beliefs and safety.

On the 4th day of March next, this party will take possession of the Government. It has announced that the South shall be excluded from the common territory, that the judicial tribunals shall be made sectional, and that a war must be waged against slavery until it shall cease throughout the United States.

—Declaration of the Immediate Causes which Induce
and Justify the Secession of South Carolina from the
Federal Union, December 20, 1860

- 1** South Carolina accuses the northern states of violating Article IV of the U.S. Constitution by —
- A** attempting to pass laws in Congress abolishing slavery
 - B** attacking slavery in the South through the Supreme Court
 - C** failing to enforce their slave codes
 - D** refusing to continue legally defining enslaved Americans as property
-
- 2** What does "material" mean in paragraph 3?
- F** fundamentally important
 - G** clearly described
 - H** implied by
 - J** related to

- 3** Who is "this party" that "will take possession of the Government" in March 1861?
- A** The Abolitionists
 - B** The Republicans
 - C** The Democrats
 - D** The Fire-Eaters
-

- 4** Fort Sumter was attacked by the South Carolina state militia —
- F** because Lincoln was going to send federal soldiers there
 - G** after Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to fight the Confederacy
 - H** in order to prevent the federal government from re-supplying the soldiers there
 - J** after the fort's cannon were turned toward Charleston
-

- 5** Virginia did not secede when approached by secession agents early in 1861; it did secede after —
- A** Robert E. Lee left his position in the U.S. Army to lead Virginia's militia
 - B** southern lives were lost at the firing on Fort Sumter
 - C** the federal government allowed its westernmost section to break away and become the free state of West Virginia
 - D** President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to join the U.S. Army to bring the seceded states back into compliance with federal law