**Timeline of Events (involving slavery) That Led to the Civil War (part 1)**

1. **Northwest Ordinance of 1787**
2. Banned slavery north of the Ohio River
3. Slavery banned in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois
4. Slavery allowed Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Mississippi
5. Congress had unwritten “rule” that slave/free states should be kept equal
6. **Missouri applies for statehood (1819)**
7. Northerners argued that Missouri should be admitted as a free state because most of it lay north of the Ohio River
8. Southerners argued that Missouri was west of the Mississippi River, so it didn’t fall under the Northwest Ordinance rules
9. Tallmadge Amendment – a proposal to admit Missouri, but only as a free state – passed in the House of Rep, but was voted down in the Senate
10. **Missouri Compromise (1820)**
11. After fights and threats, a compromise was reached
12. Compromise was crafted by Henry Clay (Rep. from Kentucky)
13. Missouri enters Union as a slave state, Maine enters Union as a free state, and further slavery is banned north of the 36°30’ line
14. The compromise kept the Union together, but made nobody happy
15. **Nat Turner’s Rebellion (1831)**
16. Armed with axes and guns, Nat Turner (a slave in Virginia) and a group of followers set out to kill every white person they could find – 57 people were killed
17. **Result**: Southerners were scared and passed strict laws to control slaves (northerners started helping fugitive slaves to escape)
18. **The “gag rule” (1836)**
19. Facing huge pressure from abolitionists, Congress voted to “table” (set aside) all discussions about slavery
20. While the debate was closed in Congress, Americans (both in the North and South) continued to fight about the issue
21. **War with Mexico (1846)**
22. President Polk asked for money for this war
23. **Wilmot Proviso** – as part of the agreement, David Wilmot (Pennsylvania) added that slavery would be banned in any territory gained from this war \*\*\*passed in the House of Rep, but defeated in Senate
24. “Gag rule” over slavery ends and Congress fights for 3 years about slavery in new territories
25. **Mexican Cession (1849)**
26. When the war was won, California applied for statehood as a free state
27. Southerners wanted all of the territory OPEN to slavery; Northerners wanted all of it CLOSED to slavery
28. Suggested compromise: extend invisible 36°30’ line all the way to the Pacific (slavery banned to the north, allowed to the south)
29. **The Compromise of 1850**
30. Crafted, once again, by Henry Clay (from Kentucky)
31. To please the North: (1) admit California as a free state and (2) end slave trade in Washington DC
32. To please the South: (1) Divide the rest of the Mexican Cession into two territories (Utah and New Mexico) – both would be open to slavery, and (2) create a stronger fugitive slave law to make it easier to catch and reclaim runaway slaves
33. Clay’s proposal was debated hotly for 9 months, but finally passed
34. **“Uncle Tom’s Cabin” (1852)**
35. Fiction novel written by Harriet Beecher Stowe
36. Story and characters were made-up, but depicted the horrors of slavery
37. Instant best-seller
38. Turned millions of people against slavery
39. **Ostend Manifesto (1854)**
40. Letter sent from diplomats to President Pierce
41. Urged the president to take the island of Cuba for the U.S.
42. Northerners saw this as a sneaky way to add another slave state to the union
43. **Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)**
44. Sen. Stephen A. Douglas wanted to build a railroad that would stretch all the way to California
45. Wanted to divide what was left of the Louisiana Purchase into 2 territories: Kansas and Nebraska
46. In order to get Southern support, these territories would be open to slavery based upon “popular sovereignty” (rule by the people)
47. When the Bill passes, (1) northerners are *enraged,* (2) Kansas turned into a war-zone between abolitionists and pro-slavery supporters, and (3) violence in Congress
48. **Dred Scott Case (1857)**
49. Dred Scott was a slave from Missouri
50. His owner had moved to Wisconsin for a short time and took his slave with him
51. Because Wisconsin was a place where slavery was banned, Scott wanted to be LEGALLY freed from slavery
52. Upon his return to Missouri, Scott went to court to get his freedom
53. The case went all the way to the Supreme Court
54. Chief Justice Roger Taney ruled:
55. Dred Scott was *not allowed* to sue for his freedom because, as a slave, he was NOT a citizen
56. The Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional, so Dred Scott’s stay in Wisconsin did not make him a free man (slaves were *property*, and the 5th Amendment to the Constitution guarantees that property can’t be taken away from people without due process)
57. ALL territories must be open to slavery in order to protect slave-owners 5th Amendment rights
58. **Illinois Election for Senate (1858)**
59. Abe Lincoln vs. Stephen A. Douglas
60. Series of public debates over slavery
61. Made Lincoln a national figure and known abolitionist
62. Became clear the people couldn’t agree about slavery
63. **John Brown’s Raid (1859)**
64. John Brown was a white abolitionist
65. Drew up a crazy plan: take a group of followers and storm the federal arsenal at Harper’s Ferry, Virginia, take all the weapons, and arm slaves in order to end slavery through bloody rebellion
66. All Brown’s men were killed or captured. Brown was convicted of treason and sentenced to death
67. Result: People of the South were terrified
68. **Election of 1860**
69. Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln
70. Democrats (split by North/South) nominated 2 candidates: Stephen A. Douglas and John Breckinridge
71. Lincoln won easily
72. The South took this as a great threat and last straw
73. The South (a total of 11 states) secedes from the Union