

ILLINOIS ACTIVITY PACKET



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Illinois



Capital: Springfield

Area: 57,918 sq. miles (25th)

Population: 12,734,000 (6th)

Date of Union Entry: 12/3/1818 (21st state)

State Bird: Cardinal

State Flower: Illinois Native Violet

State Tree: White Oak

Highest Point: Charles Mound – 1,235 feet.

Motto: State Sovereignty, National Union

Illinois Label-me Map – Bordering States and Bodies of water



Labels

Kentucky

Lake Michigan

Iowa

Indiana

Wisconsin

Missouri

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Illinois Label-me Map – Bordering States and Bodies of water



Labels

Kentucky

Lake Michigan

Iowa

Indiana

Wisconsin

Missouri

1. Indiana

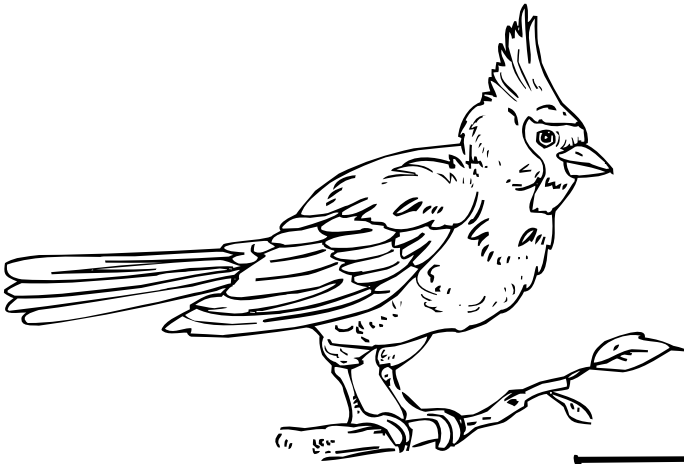
2. Wisconsin

3. Iowa

4. Missouri

5. Kentucky

6. Lake Michigan



Cardinal

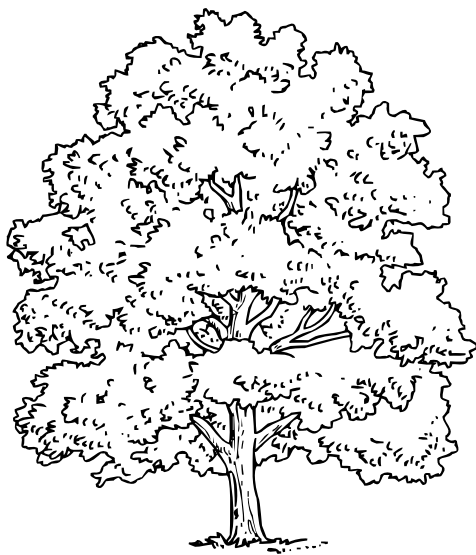


Violet



Illinois

Springfield



White Oak

The Land of Lincoln

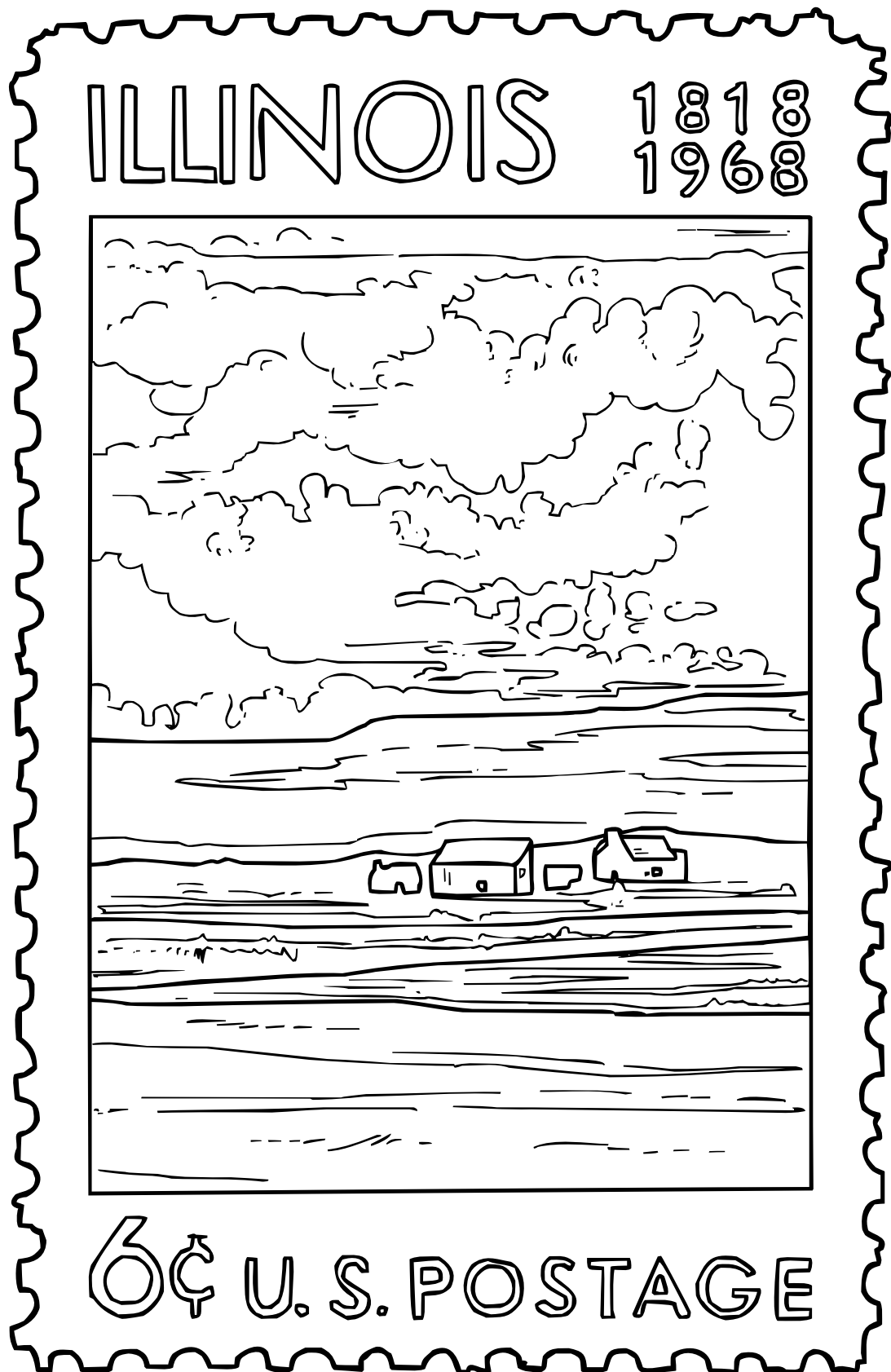
State license plate



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Colorado stamp - 6 cents

MR. NUSSBAUM

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Chicago Skyline

MR. NUSSBAUM

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Greetings from ILLINOIS - **34** cents

Illinois State Quarter





Illinois Flag Outline





Illinois Printable Outline Map



WELCOME TO

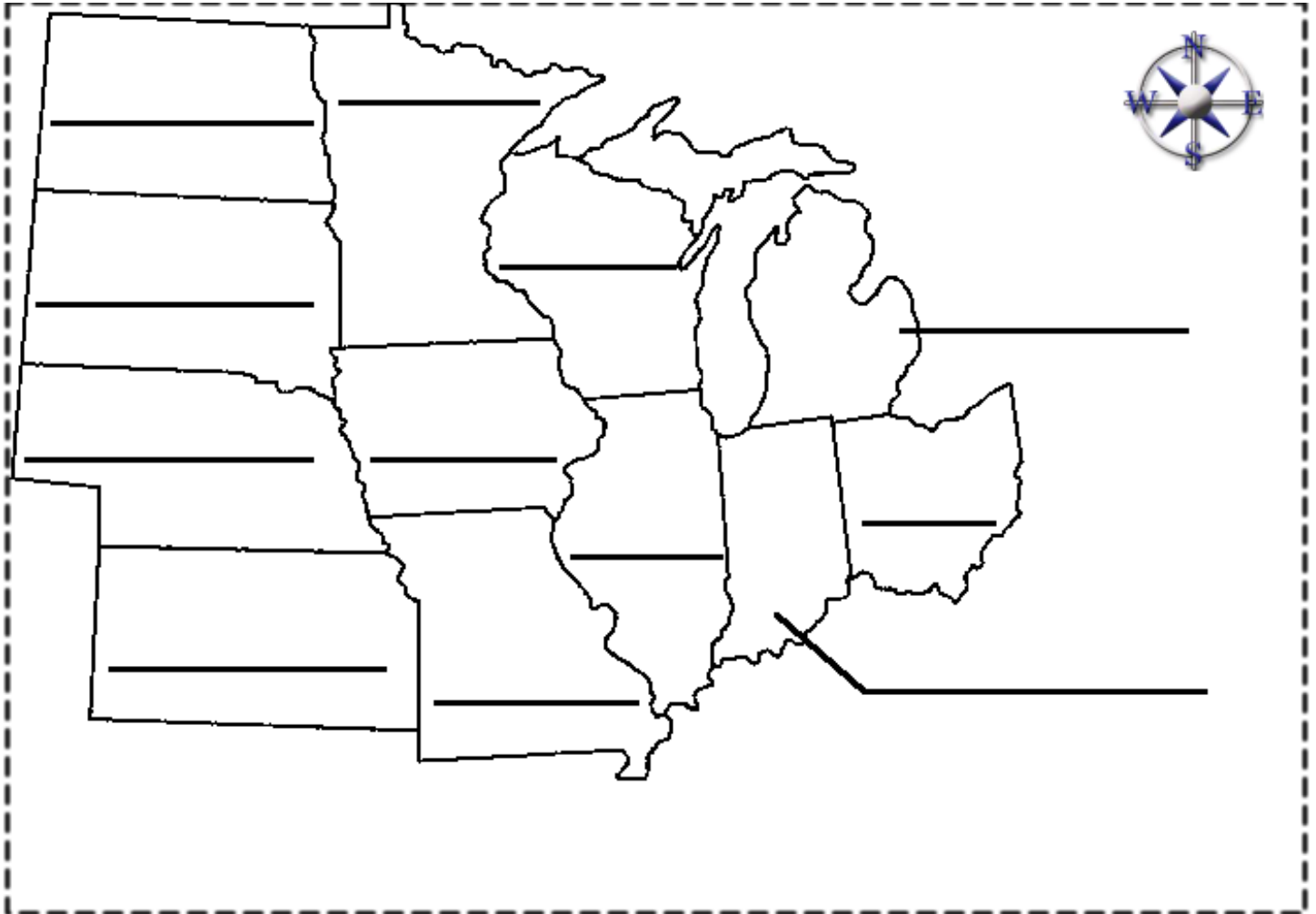
ILLINOIS

THE LAND OF LINCOLN

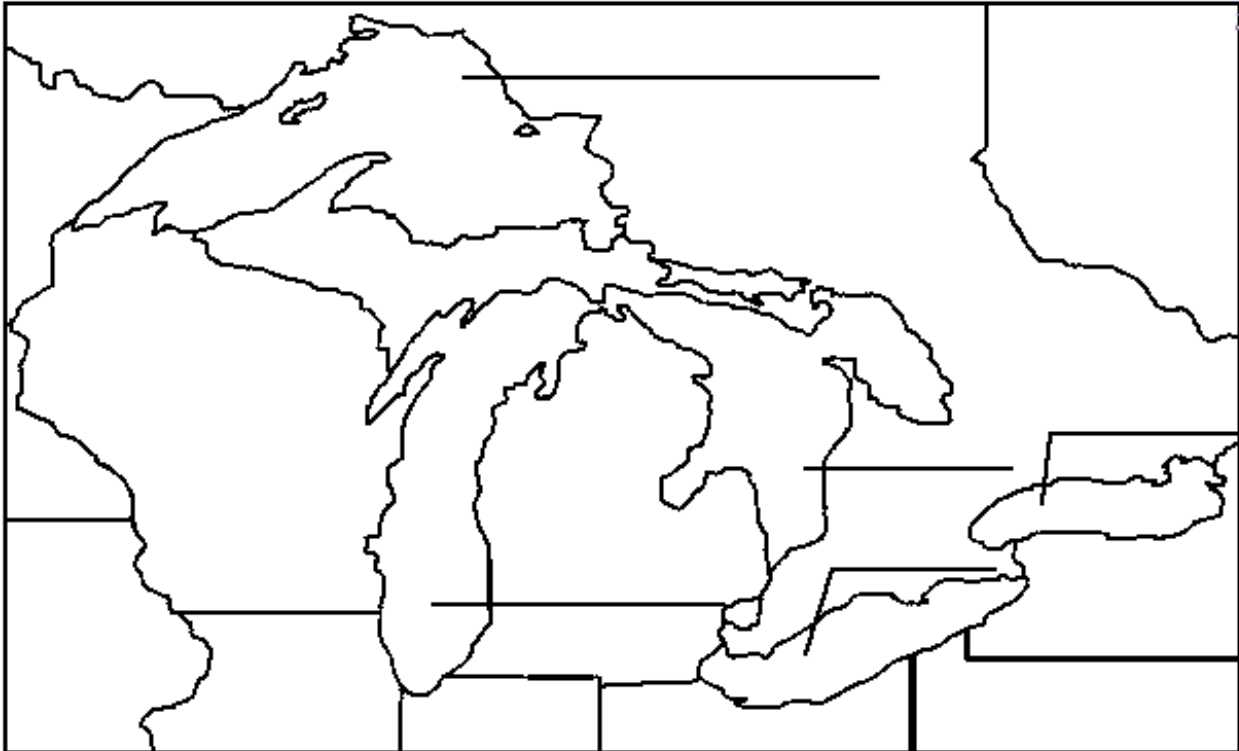
From the People of Illinois

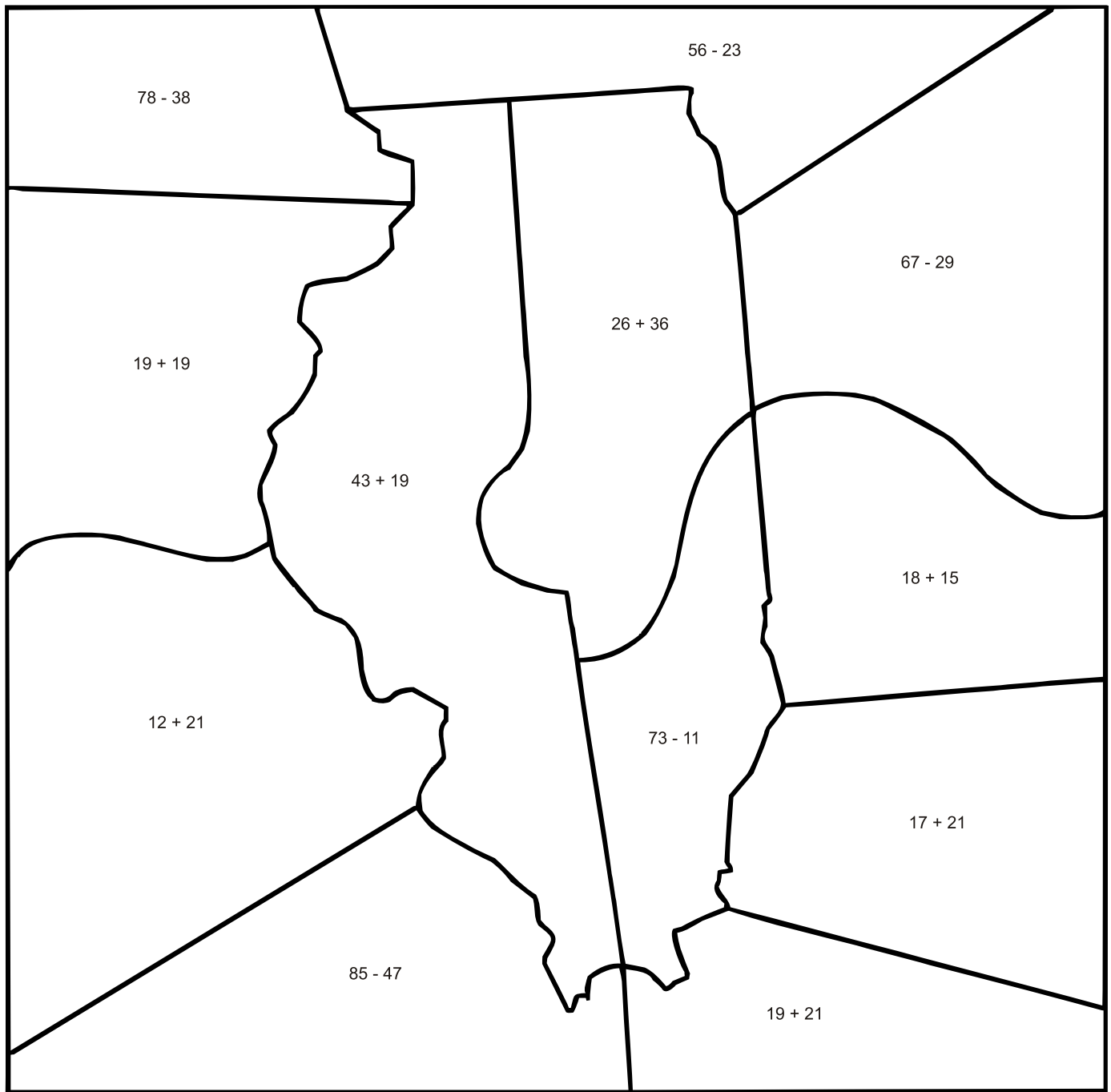
ILLINOIS

Midwestern States Label Map



Great Lakes Label Map





Do you know what state is pictured?

33 = Blue

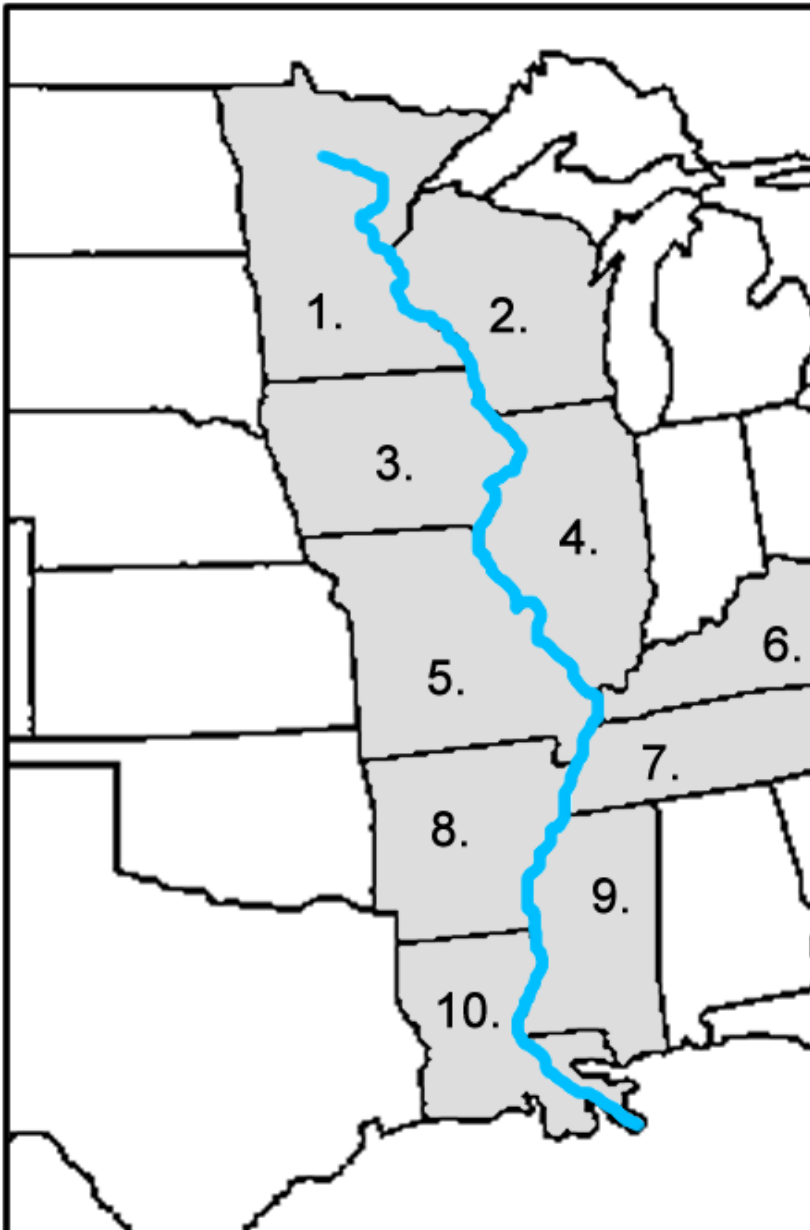
38 = Red

40 = White

62 = Ice Blue

Mississippi River States

Label the Mississippi River States



Label the Mississippi
River States

- 1.) _____
- 2.) _____
- 3.) _____
- 4.) _____
- 5.) _____
- 6.) _____
- 7.) _____
- 8.) _____
- 9.) _____
- 10.) _____

Great Lakes

The Great Lakes are located in the northern United States and southern Canada. Together, they are the largest group of freshwater lakes in the world and contain over 20 percent of the world's entire supply of fresh water. The largest of the lakes, Lake Superior, is the second largest freshwater lake in the world. Lake Michigan is the only of the five lakes located entirely within the United States. The Great Lakes were formed from retreating glaciers that left large basins in the land about 14,000 years ago. The basins were filled with meltwater from the glaciers, thus forming the lakes.

The Great Lakes

Lake Superior – The largest of the great lakes is nearly the size of the state of Virginia. Lake Superior is about 350 miles long. It has an average depth of about 483 feet and a maximum depth of 1,333 feet. Duluth, Minnesota, is its largest port.

Lake Michigan – Lake Michigan is the only great lake located entirely within the United States. It is about 307 miles long. It has an average depth of 283 feet and a maximum depth of 923 feet. Its major ports are Chicago, Illinois, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Lake Huron – Lake Huron is the second-largest of the Great Lakes. It is about 206 miles long and 183 miles wide. On average, it's 195 feet deep with a maximum depth of 750 feet. The lake contains more than 30,000 islands and thus, has more shoreline than any other great lake.

Lake Erie – Lake Erie is the second-smallest of the Great Lakes. It is also the shallowest and has the least amount of water of any of the lakes. Its deepest point is only 210 feet. Its major ports include Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio, and Buffalo, New York.

Lake Ontario – Lake Ontario is the smallest of the Great Lakes. It serves as the outlet of the Great Lakes to the St. Lawrence Seaway, and thus, the Atlantic Ocean. Its major ports include Toronto, Ontario, and Rochester, New York

1. What do all of the Great Lakes have in common?

- A. They all have parts that are more than 500 feet deep
- B. They are all split between the United States and Canada
- C. They were all formed by retreating glaciers
- D. They all have major ports

2. Which of the following is true?

- A. Lake Erie is smaller than Lake Ontario
- B. Lake Huron is totally within the borders of the United States
- C. Lake Huron has more shoreline than any other of the Great Lakes
- D. Chicago is one of Lake Superior's major ports

3. Which of the following orders the Great Lakes from largest to smallest?

- A. Superior >> Michigan >> Huron >> Ontario >> Erie
- B. Michigan >> Superior >> Ontario >> Huron >> Erie
- C. Superior >> Huron >> Erie >> Michigan >> Ontario
- D. Superior >> Huron >> Michigan >> Erie >> Ontario

4. Which of the following best describes how the Great Lakes were formed?

- A. The Great Lakes were formed by glaciers that advanced
- B. The Great Lakes were formed by glaciers that retreated and then melted
- C. The Great Lakes were formed by glaciers that retreated and then froze again
- D. The Great Lakes were formed 14,000 years ago

5. Which of the following best describes the chart?

- A. It gives opinions about the Great Lakes
- B. It tells the history of the Great Lakes
- C. It tells a few facts about each of the Great Lakes
- D. It tells about how the Great Lakes are used today

Comparing and Contrasting Illinois and Missouri

Name: _____

Illinois

Located in the Midwestern United States, Illinois is known as the Land of Lincoln because Abraham Lincoln made the state capital, Springfield, his home for many years before he was president. Illinois became America's 21st state on December 3, 1818. It borders Michigan, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Kentucky. Its northeast coast borders Lake Michigan, making it one of the Great Lake states as well. Illinois is largely grasslands and prairies. The Mississippi River forms its eastern border and the Ohio River forms its southern border. Chicago is the largest city in Illinois and the third largest city in the entire country. It is nicknamed the "Windy City" because of the harsh winds that form off of Lake Michigan and streak through the city in winter. Chicago's Sears Tower was once the tallest building in the world. With over 12.5 million people, Illinois is the nation's sixth largest state by population. Its state bird, the cardinal, is also the state bird of six other states.

Missouri

Missouri is located in the Midwestern United States. It became America's 24th state on August 10, 1821. Missouri borders eight states: Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Kentucky. The great Mississippi River forms the eastern border of Missouri. The Missouri River, the longest in America, is a large tributary of the Mississippi River that flows west through the state. Jefferson City is the capital of Missouri – named after America's third president, Thomas Jefferson. With a population approaching 500,000 people, Kansas City is the state's largest city. The Gateway Arch, a memorial to America's westward expansion is located in St. Louis, and is one of the state's most popular attractions. Most of northern and western Missouri are characterized by plains, whereas southern Missouri features hills, highlands, and the Ozark Plateau. The state bird of Missouri is the Eastern Bluebird.

Which facts belong in each category?

The Mississippi River forms a border
Largest city is Chicago
A Great Lakes state
Capital city is named after a president
The cardinal is the state bird
Located in the Midwestern United States
Borders more states
Has more people
Has more people than any other state
Was a state first

Illinois
Both
Missouri
Neither

Answers:

Illinois

Largest city is Chicago
A Great Lakes state
The cardinal is the state bird
Has more people
Became a state first

Both

The Mississippi River forms a border
Located in the Midwestern United States

Missouri

Capital city is named after a president
Borders more states

Neither

Has more people than any other state

The Interior Lowlands

Name _____

Where is it?

The Interior Lowlands of the United States lie in a vast grassy expanse between the Appalachian Mountains and the Great Plains. Over a dozen states contain at least a part of this region, including Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Tennessee. The Lowlands stretch from the Coastal Plain at its southernmost edge to Canada.

How was it formed?

While dramatic tectonic plate movements formed the features of the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains to the east and to the west, the Interior Lowlands are, in contrast, characterized by 600 million years of little geologic activity. Above the tectonic plate, an ancient bed of crystalline rocks lies under deep layers of sedimentary rock. In the southern region of the Interior Lowlands, silt blown in by the wind settled in fertile layers on the sedimentary rock. On the northern edge, glaciers carved the basins of the Great Lakes. As glaciers formed and receded over millions of years, their melting runoff formed streams and rivers.

Agriculture

The fertile soil of the Interior Lowlands has long been used for agriculture. Native Americans such as the Omaha developed and traded many varieties of corn in this region. The majority of agricultural land in the Interior Lowlands today is used to grow corn and soybeans. Although climate change is lengthening growing seasons for farmers, increases in the frequency of cataclysmic events such as floods, heat waves, and droughts in the Lowlands threaten agricultural stability.

Natural Resources

This region is also rich in natural resources. Sandstone deposits provide sand that is used as a raw material in glass production. Salt and limestone are found in the northern portion of the region. Petroleum from oil fields in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas is used for the production of motor oil and jet fuel. The Interior Lowlands are an important physiographic region whose vast resources, both agricultural and mineral, are used by millions of people.

1. Which state was NOT listed as one of the states that contain the Interior Lowlands?

- a. Illinois
- b. Colorado
- c. Ohio
- d. Indiana

2. What formed the rivers and streams in the northern area of the Interior Lowlands?

- a. The Great Lakes
- b. Runoff from glaciers
- c. Runoff from the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains
- d. Extreme flooding events

3. Why is the farmland in the Lowlands so fertile?

- a. The wind deposits new soil on the land
- b. The soil has not eroded away
- c. Runoff from glaciers deposited new soil
- d. The land has long been fertilized by people

4. What effect has climate change had on agriculture in the Interior Lowlands?

- a. Colder winters kill crops
- b. Warmer summers allow more crops to grow
- c. More precipitation has produced healthier crops
- d. Longer growing seasons for crops

5. Based on the following sentence, what is the best synonym for the word “cataclysmic”?

“Although climate change is lengthening growing seasons for farmers, increases in the frequency of cataclysmic events such as floods, heat waves, and droughts in the Lowlands threaten agricultural stability”

- a. destructive
- b. random
- c. surprising
- d. sad

6. Which of the following was not identified as a natural resource from this region?

- a. glass
- b. sand
- c. limestone
- d. petroleum

Answers:

1. B

2. B

3. A

4. D

5. A

6. A

Michael Jordan Printable Reading Comprehension

Name _____

Michael Jordan was born on February 17, 1963, in Brooklyn, New York. Soon after he was born, his parents moved the family to Wilmington, North Carolina. Michael excelled at sports from an early age. Although he was cut from the Laney High School varsity basketball team his sophomore year in high school, he grew four inches over the summer and averaged 25 points per game as a junior. During his senior year, he became the only player in high school basketball history to average a triple-double (at least 10 points, 10 rebounds, and 10 assists per game). That year, 1982, he was named a McDonald's High School All-American and received a scholarship to play basketball at the University of North Carolina. Michael quickly became a star. During his freshman year, he hit the game-winning shot against Georgetown University that resulted in a national championship. After his junior year, Jordan decided to leave North Carolina to enter the NBA draft.

In the draft, the Chicago Bulls picked Jordan third overall. Jordan's impact on the NBA (National Basketball Association) was legendary. During his rookie season with the Bulls, he scored 40 points or more seven times. In addition, Jordan made the NBA All-Star team and won the Rookie of the Year award. After sitting out much of the 1985–1986 season because of a foot injury, Jordan's exploits on the basketball court continued to astound fans, coaches, and fellow players. In the 1986–1987 season, he averaged an unheard of 37.1 points per game, which was the highest of his career.

From making spectacularly unimaginable shots, to winning slam-dunk contents, the high-flying, tongue-wagging Jordan soon became the most popular athlete in the world. Intimidating and extremely competitive, he had a knack for hitting game-winning shots and playing tenacious defense. He established marketing deals with some of the world's largest companies such as Nike, Haines, Gatorade, McDonald's, Wheaties, and MCI. Nike's Air Jordan shoe line became one of the most popular of all time. One Gatorade commercial that featured Jordan and the song "If I Could be Like Mike," is one of the most recognizable commercials involving a professional athlete in TV history. He even starred in the Disney film "Space Jam."

Despite his success both on the court and off, Jordan and the Chicago Bulls failed to make the NBA Finals until 1991, when they finally defeated the rival Detroit Pistons in the Eastern Conference Semifinals. That year, they defeated the Los Angeles Lakers to win the NBA championship and Michael Jordan was named MVP. Jordan and his Chicago Bulls teammates went on to win three consecutive championships from 1991–1993. Michael won the Most Valuable Player in the NBA finals each time. He also won an Olympic gold medal (actually, his second) as one of the captains of America's "Dream Team" in 1992.

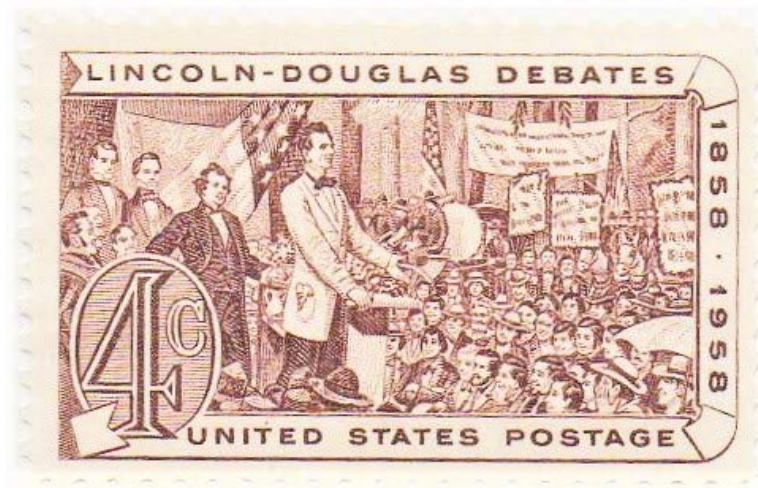
In 1994, however, Jordan announced his (first) retirement from basketball to pursue his dream of playing baseball. He played for the Birmingham Barons, a minor league affiliate of the Chicago White Sox. Michael was less than successful in baseball. He only batted .203 and was never called up to the Major Leagues. In 1995, Michael Jordan decided to come back to the NBA and briefly wore the number "45" because "23" had already been retired by the Bulls. He would go on to lead the Bulls to three more NBA championships. Once again, he was selected as the MVP of the NBA Finals each time. On January 13, 1999, with seemingly nothing more to prove or accomplish, Michael Jordan retired for a second time. Despite his retirement, Jordan could not let go of his competitive urges. In 2001–2002, after serving as an executive for the Washington Wizards, Jordan returned to the court as a guard for them. Although his skills had declined, he averaged 22.9 points per game. On February 21, 2003, he became the first 40-year-old player to score 40 points in a game. On April 16, 2003, Jordan played his very last game in the NBA against the Philadelphia 76ers. The normally harsh Philadelphia fans gave him a three-minute standing ovation. In addition, the Miami Heat retired the number "23," even though Jordan had never played for them. Jordan retired forever after the 2003 season. He ended his career as the NBA's third all-time leading scorer with 32,292 total points. He led the NBA in scoring ten times during his career and made the NBA all-defensive team nine times.

Today, Michael Jordan is still involved with the NBA as the owner of the Charlotte Bobcats.

- 1. What happened between Michael's sophomore and junior years in high school?**
 - A. He scored 25 points per game as a junior
 - B. He averaged a triple-double per game
 - C. He grew four inches
 - D. He was offered a scholarship to Georgetown University
- 2. Which of the following was true about Michael's college career?**
 - A. He was part of a team that won a national championship
 - B. He left college after his junior year to enter into the NBA draft
 - C. He attended the University of North Carolina
 - D. All of the Above
- 3. Which of the following statements best describes how Jordan's NBA career started?**
 - A. He had growing pains
 - B. He fizzled out early in his career
 - C. He was an immediate star
 - D. His first two years were the best two years of his career
- 4. If the answer to a question is "1986-1987," what could be the question?**
 - A. In what season was Jordan drafted?
 - B. In what season did Jordan suffer a series foot injury?
 - C. In what season did Jordan have the highest scoring average in his career?
 - D. In what season did the Bulls make its first NBA finals?
- 5. Which is NOT true about Michael Jordan?**
 - A. He also enjoyed a successful baseball career
 - B. He starred in a Disney film
 - C. He was on teams that won six combined NBA championships
 - D. He won two Olympic medals
- 6. Why did Michael Jordan retire for the second time?**
 - A. He was getting old
 - B. He was injured
 - C. He had nothing left to accomplish
 - D. He felt his days of winning NBA championships were over
- 7. Which of the following best supports the notion that Jordan was one of the most respected athletes of all time?**
 - A. He averaged 22.9 points per game with the Washington Wizards
 - B. He became the first player to score 40 points in a game at age 40
 - C. Even the harsh fans in Philadelphia gave him a standing ovation
 - D. He is now the owner of the Charlotte Bobcats

The Lincoln-Douglas Debates

Name _____



In 1858, Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas engaged in a series of seven debates in the congressional districts of Illinois over the issue of slavery. Both were vying for the Illinois Senate seat to be elected by the state legislature. Lincoln was an anti-slavery Republican and Douglas, nicknamed the "Little Giant" for his small stature but powerful voice, was the pro-slavery Democrat. Although Douglas would ultimately win the Senate, the debates helped propel Lincoln to national prominence.

The major theme of the debate was the extension of slavery into new territories. In 1854, the passing of the Kansas-Nebraska Act (authored by Douglas) allowed for popular sovereignty in the new territories. Popular sovereignty meant that residents of a state or territory could vote whether to allow slavery.

Throughout the seven debates, Douglas claimed that Lincoln was a "dangerous radical" for his stance against popular sovereignty. He frequently referenced Lincoln's famous Republican nomination speech in which he claimed "a government cannot permanently endure half slave, half free," in accusing him of threatening the stability of the nation.

Lincoln attacked the "monstrous injustice" of slavery and referenced the murderous events in Kansas as evidence that popular sovereignty was harmful to the nation. He claimed that "the crisis would be reached and passed when slavery was put in the course of ultimate extinction." Despite his stance against slavery, the debates revealed that Lincoln did not necessarily consider Blacks his equal. He denied he was an abolitionist in saying "And in as much as they cannot so live, while they do remain together there must be the position of superior and inferior, and I as much as any other man am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the white race."

Despite winning the popular vote for the senate seat by more than 30,000 votes, it was Douglas who prevailed because he won the electoral vote. During the debates, however, Lincoln's tough questioning of Douglas caused a split in Democratic Party resulting in Lincoln's victory over Douglas in the Presidential Election of 1860.

1. In 1858, Lincoln and Douglas...

- A. were hoping to become the next president.
- B. were hoping to become senator.
- C. were hoping to end slavery.
- D. were against popular sovereignty.

2. Despite his setback against Douglas, Lincoln...

- A. became senator of Illinois.
- B. rose to national prominence.
- C. won the Lincoln-Douglas debates.
- D. became president in 1858.

3. Circle all of the following that ARE NOT true.

- A. Lincoln believed slavery should end and claimed he was an abolitionist
- B. Lincoln believed that slavery should end and all races were equal
- C. Douglas believed in popular sovereignty and that Lincoln was a radical
- D. Douglas and Lincoln agreed on popular sovereignty

4. Which of the following best defines Lincoln's quote as used below?

... "a government cannot permanently endure half slave, half free."

- A. The government will succeed if both sides agree to be half slave, half free
- B. Good governments do not last forever
- C. A government will fail if it continues to allow slavery
- D. A government will fail if there are two sides that are not united

5. What does the author seem surprised about?

- A. That Lincoln did not consider Blacks to be equal to whites
- B. That Stephen A. Douglas won the electoral vote for the senate
- C. That Stephen A. Douglas was called "the Little Giant"
- D. That Lincoln considered slavery to be an injustice

6. For which of the following questions would "residents of the state vote on whether or not to allow slavery" be the answer?

- A. What was the major theme of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates?
- B. Why did Douglas refer to Lincoln as a dangerous radical?
- C. What is popular sovereignty?
- D. What was Lincoln's stance on popular sovereignty?

7. What was an effect of the Lincoln Douglas debate?

- A. The split in the Democratic Party
- B. Lincoln won the popular vote by more than 30,000 votes
- C. The stability of the nation was threatened
- D. Lincoln would eventually become Senator



ABRAHAM LINCOLN – THE MIDDLE YEARS (Part 1)

In 1830, Abe's father moved the family to Illinois following fears of another milk sickness outbreak. After enduring several plagues and one of the worst winters on record, Abe decided to leave his father's homestead and set off on his own at the age of 22. Abe's experience, intelligence, and ingenuity would serve him well. His first job required him to steer a flatboat from Illinois to New Orleans, Louisiana. After leading the construction of the flatboat with two other boys, Abe gained notoriety from the residents of New Salem when he figured out how to float the stuck flatboat over Rutledge's Dam by drilling a hole in the bottom of the boat. After successfully unloading the goods in New Orleans, Abe took a steamer to St. Louis and walked home the remainder of the way. The owner of the flatboat was so impressed with Abe, he hired him to work as a clerk in his store in New Salem.

In New Salem, Abe made many friends, mastered grammar, and gained a reputation as a master storyteller. In August of 1832, he decided to become a candidate for one of four representatives of Sangamon County in the Illinois legislature, despite being a resident in the county for only nine months. His campaign platform centered on improvements to the navigation of the Sangamon River he would initiate. During this time, however, Lincoln was made captain of a company of men from New Salem to volunteer their service in the Black Hawk War. The company would become the Fourth Illinois Mounted Volunteers. Lincoln himself served for about three months in the frontier of Illinois but was never engaged in any real combat. When he returned to New Salem, it was election time. By this time, however, there were thirteen candidates, and he finished eighth on the ballot (though over 90 percent of the residents of New Salem voted for him). Discouraged, Abe decided to enter a partnership to purchase the store he clerked at on credit. Thinking that New Salem was an up-and-coming town, Lincoln believed the purchase would earn him great profits. Unfortunately, his partner abandoned him, subsequent attempts to sell the store were unsuccessful, and Lincoln was saddled with a debt that would take him seventeen years to pay off.

Abe Enters Politics

On May 7, 1833, Abe was appointed postmaster of New Salem. As the population of New Salem declined over the next few years, it became too small for a post office and Abe was out of a job. That same year, Lincoln was hired to survey new lands acquired by Sangamon County, despite the fact he had no training as a surveyor. According to legend, it took Abe only six weeks to learn the trade, and from that point on he was considered an excellent surveyor. In 1834, Abe would campaign again for representative in the Illinois state legislature. Now that he was well-known in a larger portion of Sangamon County, Abe traveled from village to village giving speeches, attending shooting matches, horse races, and other community events. Again, there were thirteen candidates, but this time Abe won.

1.) Why did Abe's father move them to Illinois?

- a.) There was better farming in Illinois.
- b.) He was afraid milk sickness would strike again.
- c.) Abe's grandparents lived in Illinois.
- d.) There was more opportunity in Illinois.

2.) How did Abe Lincoln gain notoriety among the people of New Salem, Illinois?

- a.) They thought he was very funny.
- b.) He was on his way to New Orleans.
- c.) He figured out how to steer a stuck flatboat over a dam.
- d.) He was steering a flatboat at age 19.

3.) In New Salem, Abe... (select all that apply)

- a.) mastered grammar
- b.) gained a reputation as a master storyteller
- c.) made a lot of friends
- d.) ran for president

4.) Which of the following statements best describes Abe's experience in the election for the Illinois legislature?

- a.) A total failure
- b.) A partial success; he gained most of the votes in Sangamon County, but failed to get enough votes in New Salem.
- c.) A total success
- d.) A partial success; he gained most of the votes in New Salem, but failed to get enough votes in other parts of Sangamon County.

5.) Abe was the captain of a group of men who "volunteered" to serve in the Black Hawk War. What is a volunteer in this context?

- a.) Someone who would pay to go to war.
- b.) Someone who goes to war and does not expect to be paid.
- c.) Someone who goes to war and expects to be paid.
- d.) Someone who goes to war.

6.) Why did Abe decide to purchase a store in New Salem?

- a.) He liked his partners.
- b.) He thought it would earn him a lot of money.
- c.) He thought he needed business experience.
- d.) He was bored.

7.) Why did Abe lose his job as postmaster of New Salem?

- a.) The population of New Salem was too small to justify having a post office.
- b.) New Salem didn't like the way Abe represented them.
- c.) Abe became an Illinois state representative.
- d.) Abe decided to enter politics.

8.) What happened first?

- a.) Abe became postmaster of New Salem.
- b.) Abe became surveyor of Sangamon County.
- c.) Abe wins the election for Illinois representative.
- d.) 1832

9.) Which of the following did Abe NOT do as he campaigned for Illinois state representative?

- a.) Went to shooting matches
- b.) Traveled to different villages
- c.) Went to horse races
- d.) Traveled to different states

10.) Why do you think Abe won the second election?

- a.) Because he had more money.
- b.) There were no other good candidates.
- c.) Because he campaigned throughout the county and met a lot of people.
- d.) It was just good luck.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN – The Middle Years (Part 2)

Illinois Legislature

Abe became an influential force of the Whig Party in the Illinois legislature and was reelected in 1836, 1838, and 1840. During this time, the issue of slavery became more and more contentious in Illinois and many other states. In 1837, Lincoln first spoke publicly to the legislature concerning his views on slavery when it passed a set of resolutions against abolitionist (anti-slavery) groups. Although Illinois was a free state at the time, it had many people who supported slavery, especially in its southern portions. In addressing the legislature, Abe opposed the resolutions and asserted that he believed slavery was an evil institution. Despite his feelings against slavery, Lincoln admitted he did not think the time was right to free all of the slaves.

Abe Earns his Law License

In 1836, Lincoln endeavored to study law. Not surprisingly, by the end of 1836, he was admitted to the Illinois state bar and obtained his license to practice. The next year he moved to Springfield, where he was already popular with the city's residents for his efforts to get the state capital moved there from Vandalia. Despite the fact he had become a lawyer, Abe was still in debt, had no money, and had no place to live. Sometime shortly after arriving in Springfield, Abe took up residence in the upstairs room above a store owned by Joshua Speed. Abe could not afford to pay the price for his own room, so Joshua offered to share his room. Abe, who was carrying all of his possessions in two saddlebags when he inquired about the price for a room, remarked, "Well, Speed, I am moved!" after setting his saddlebags on the floor of the room. Abe and Joshua quickly became inseparable and forged a lifelong friendship.

Joshua Speed

Abe soon became a respected lawyer known for his honesty, wit, oratory, and hard work. In the 1830s, lawyers and lawmakers were expected to travel to circuit courts throughout the state, oftentimes covering great distances. Abe was assigned to what was called the Eighth Judicial Circuit. As a politician and lawyer, Abe would travel to such courts to explain to the people the meanings of the laws created in the legislatures that were being applied to the local cases. Abe endeared himself to the people with the anecdotes and stories he used to explain the difficult concepts to people in terms they could understand. Oftentimes, such educational "sessions" were held in the village tavern or meetinghouse, would include meals, and would last well into the night. It was at these "sessions" where Abe's legend was born and grew; where his stories, speeches, and explanations became legendary. Though poor, Abe was beginning to make a name for himself beyond the confines of New Salem or even Springfield.

1.) Which of the following would be an accurate summary of Abraham Lincoln's views toward slavery?

- a.) He thought the Southern economy needed it.
- b.) He thought all slaves should be freed immediately.
- c.) He thought it was evil, but that the time was wrong to free all of the slaves.
- d.) He thought it served a purpose.

2.) Which of the following was true about Illinois?

- a.) Many people in southern Illinois supported slavery.
- b.) It was considered an eastern state at the time.
- c.) Slavery was legal in Illinois.
- d.) Many people in northern Illinois supported slavery.

3.) Why was Abe popular in Springfield before he moved there?

- a.) He knew Joshua Speed.
- b.) As a legislator, he fought to get the state capital moved there.
- c.) He was an outstanding lawyer.
- d.) He lived in the largest house in town.

4.) Which of the following was NOT true about Abe when he moved to Springfield?

- a.) He took all of his possessions in two bags.
- b.) He was in a lot of debt.
- c.) He bought a small house.
- d.) He had no place to live.

5.) Why did Abe have to travel great distances to practice law?

- a.) Because he practiced in the circuit courts
- b.) He was in a lot of debt.
- c.) Because the people of Springfield did not trust he was a good lawyer
- d.) Because he was against slavery

6.) Which of the following words probably DOES NOT describe Abraham Lincoln?

- a.) witty
- b.) funny
- c.) ferocious
- d.) humble

7.) What happened first?

- a.) Abe moved in with Joshua Speed.
- b.) Abe traveled the circuit courts.
- c.) Abe obtained his law license.
- d.) Abe moved to Springfield.

8.) In the sentence, "Abe endeared himself to the people with the anecdotes and stories he used to explain the difficult concepts to people in terms they could understand."

What does "endeared" mean?

- a.) begged
- b.) obtained goods
- c.) made people like him
- d.) made people feel sorry for him

9.) Where was the "legend" of Abraham Lincoln born?

- a.) In Springfield
- b.) In the courtroom
- c.) In Chicago
- d.) In village taverns and meetinghouses

10.) Why did Abraham Lincoln use stories when discussing the law?

- a.) They helped people relate to what he was saying.
- b.) They helped the people begin to make laws.
- c.) He wasn't a particularly serious man.
- d.) They helped him relax in front of big crowds.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN – The Middle Years (part 3)

In December of 1839, Abe met Mary Todd, a “handsome” woman from a wealthy, slave-owning family from Lexington, Kentucky. Abe had been involved in two romances prior to Mary; one with Ann Rutledge, who died of typhoid, and another with Mary Owens, which ended abruptly. By 1840, however, Abe and Mary Todd became engaged. Unfortunately, their mutual affections failed to last and by 1841, the engagement was broken, plunging Abe into a deep depression that rendered him unable to attend to his business or his job. Mired in sadness, Lincoln went back to his boyhood home in Kentucky with his friend Joshua Speed, where he apparently recovered sufficiently to return to his life in Springfield. To this day, there is no historical record of why the pair decided to call off their engagement. In 1842, however, Abe and Mary had re-established relations and were married on November 4 of that year. Abe and Mary would have four children, two of which died in childhood. In 1844, Abe and Mary Todd bought their first house on the corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets in Springfield.

Abe as Congressman

Following his marriage, Abe’s interest in politics continued to influence the course he would take in life. Despite entering a law partnership with Judge Stephen Logan, Abe made several unsuccessful attempts to gain the Whig nomination for congressman in the 30th District of Illinois. In 1846, however, Abe was finally nominated and elected in August of that year. Abe served one two-year term in Washington and was the only Whig representative in the Democrat-dominated Illinois delegation. During his time as congressman, Abe spoke out against the Mexican-American War, attributing its cause to president James K. Polk’s desire for “military glory—that attractive rainbow that rises in showers of blood.” Lincoln believed the United States was waging an unprovoked war for the purposes of expanding its boundaries. This stance made him particularly unpopular, and Lincoln lost much of the political support he once enjoyed, and hence, was not reelected to Congress.

Back to Law

After this stint as congressman, Lincoln returned to Springfield with a new vigor to practice law. He “rode the circuit” twice every year for ten weeks, practicing law in county seats throughout the state of Illinois. Many of his cases involved disputes which involved the operations of barges, drawbridges, and railroads. He would argue cases in front of the Illinois Supreme Court some 175 times, and even argued a case in front of the United States Supreme Court. Of the 51 cases in which he was the only lawyer for a particular client, 31 of the cases were decided in his favor. Abe, who called himself “the prairie lawyer,” took other kinds of cases as well, including those involving murder. In 1858, he successfully defended “Duff” Armstrong against charges of

homicide. One of the witnesses testified to seeing the murder committed in the moonlight. Abe proceeded to consult his copy of the Farmer's Almanac, which showed the moon at the time was at a low angle, reducing visibility and making it highly unlikely anyone could witness a crime using moonlight alone. Armstrong was acquitted. At this point, Abe was one of the foremost lawyers in the state of Illinois. Abe, however believed he lacked the logic, reasoning, and mathematical skills needed to be an elite lawyer and dedicated himself to intensive late-night readings until he felt he had improved himself with respect to those subjects. As the issue of slavery continued to strain relations between the North and the South and with the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, which opened up the new territories to the possibility of slavery, Abe returned to politics.

Abe Speaks out Against Slavery

On October 16, 1854, Abe issued his famous "Peoria Speech" in which he condemned the institution of slavery, declaring,

"I hate [slavery] because of the monstrous injustice of slavery itself. I hate it because it deprives our republican example of its just influence in the world..."

Later that year, Abe decided to run for the Illinois Senate seat as a Whig. The Whigs, at the time, were crumbling from the inside out. Differing opinions within the party concerning the Kansas-Nebraska Act threatened to tear the party in two, or to obliterate it all together. Consequently, Lincoln lost the nomination but became instrumental in the formation of a new party—the Republican Party. The Republican Party quickly gained influence and became a national political powerhouse by the time Lincoln would be elected president.

In 1857, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court Roger Taney ruled that blacks had no rights in America as citizens in the famous Dred Scott s. Sandford decision. The decision was a major blow to the abolitionists in the North and further polarized relations between the two parts of the country. Although Lincoln spoke out against the decision, he affirmed the Court's right to issue such a decision. That same year, after his nomination by the Illinois Republican Party for the Senate, Abe delivered the immortal words,

"A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved—I do not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other."

1.) Which of the following best describes Mary Todd Lincoln?

- a.) She came from a poor family that believed in slavery.
- b.) She came from a rich family that believed in slavery.
- c.) She came from a rich family that did not believe in slavery.
- d.) She came from a poor family that did not believe in slavery.

2.) What happened first?

- a.) Abe and Mary bought their first house.
- b.) Abe first became engaged to Mary Todd.
- c.) 1841
- d.) Abe went back to Kentucky with Joshua Speed.

3.) Why did Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd call off their first engagement?

- a.) Mary had second thoughts.
- b.) Abe wasn't sure if he wanted to get married.
- c.) Abe was broke.
- d.) No one knows.

4.) How many children did Abe and Mary Todd have?

- a.) 1
- b.) 2
- c.) 3
- d.) 4

5.) Why did Abraham Lincoln lose political support as congressman?

- a.) He was more interested in his law practice.
- b.) He spoke out against the Mexican-American War.
- c.) He spoke out against slavery.
- d.) He supported President James K. Polk.

6.) How would you describe the success of Abraham Lincoln in arguing cases in front of the Illinois Supreme Court?

- a.) Somewhat successful
- b.) Always successful
- c.) Somewhat unsuccessful
- d.) Not very successful

7.) Why did Abraham Lincoln call himself the "prairie lawyer"?

- a.) He wanted to save the prairies from development.
- b.) He, himself, was from an area of the country that had a lot of prairies.
- c.) He specialized in prairie law.
- d.) No one really knows.

8.) Why did Abraham Lincoln stay up late at night studying mathematics and logic?

- a.) He thought he needed to practice those skills to become a better lawyer.
- b.) It was a hobby of his.
- c.) He wanted to be an astronomer.
- d.) He needed to master those subjects for an important trial.

9.) Why did Abraham Lincoln return to politics?

- a.) He wanted to become president.
- b.) He was sick of practicing law.
- c.) The issue of slavery was threatening the relationship between the North and South.
- d.) He had mastered mathematics and logic.

10.) In the following sentence, what does "instrumental" mean?

Lincoln lost the nomination but became instrumental in the formation of a new party—the Republican Party.

- a.) having to do with an instrument
- b.) slide
- c.) helped make happen
- d.) musical

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____

Below is a biography on Michael Jordan. On the following page is a chart with ten statements. Indicate whether each statement is fact or fiction.

High School and College Star

Michael Jordan was born on February 17, 1963, in Brooklyn, New York. Soon after he was born, his parents moved the family to Wilmington, North Carolina. Michael excelled at sports from an early age. Although he was cut from the Laney High School varsity basketball team his sophomore year in high school, he grew four inches over the summer and averaged 25 points per game as a junior. During his senior year, he became the only player in high school basketball history to average a triple-double (at least 10 points, 10 rebounds, and 10 assists per game). That year, 1982, he was named a McDonald's High School All-American and received a scholarship to play basketball at the University of North Carolina. Michael quickly became a star. During his freshman year, he hit the game-winning shot against Georgetown University that resulted in a national championship. After his junior year, Jordan decided to leave North Carolina to enter the NBA draft.

The Birth of Greatness

In the draft, the Chicago Bulls picked Jordan third overall. Jordan's impact on the NBA (National Basketball Association) was legendary. During his rookie season with the Bulls, he scored 40 points or more seven times. In addition, Jordan made the NBA All-Star team and won the Rookie of the Year award. After sitting out much of the 1985–1986 season because of a foot injury, Jordan's exploits on the basketball court continued to astound fans, coaches, and fellow players. In the 1986–1987 season, he averaged an unheard of 37.1 points per game, which was the highest of his career.

The Jordan Way

From making spectacularly unimaginable shots, to winning slam-dunk contests, the high-flying, tongue-wagging Jordan soon became the most popular athlete in the world. Intimidating and extremely competitive, he had a knack for hitting game-winning shots and playing tenacious defense. He established marketing deals with some of the world's largest companies such as Nike, Hanes, Gatorade, McDonald's, Wheaties, and MCI. Nike's Air Jordan shoe line became one of the most popular of all time. One Gatorade commercial that featured Jordan and the song "If I Could be Like Mike," is one of the most recognizable commercials involving a professional athlete in TV history. He even starred in the film "Space Jam."

Three World Championships

Despite his success both on the court and off, Jordan and the Chicago Bulls failed to make the NBA Finals until 1991, when they finally defeated the rival Detroit Pistons in the Eastern Conference Semifinals. That year, they defeated the Los Angeles Lakers to win the NBA championship and Michael Jordan was named MVP. Jordan and his Chicago Bulls teammates went on to win three consecutive championships from 1991–1993. Michael won the Most Valuable Player in the NBA finals each time. He also won an Olympic gold medal (actually, his second) as one of the captains of America's "Dream Team" in 1992.

From Basketball to Baseball, and Back to Basketball

In 1994, however, Jordan announced his (first) retirement from basketball to pursue his dream of playing baseball. He played for the Birmingham Barons, a minor league affiliate of the Chicago White Sox. Michael was less than successful in baseball. He only batted .203 and was never called up to the Major Leagues. In 1995, Michael Jordan decided to come back to the NBA and briefly wore the number "45" because "23" had already been retired by the Bulls. He would go on to lead the Bulls to three more NBA championships. Once again, he was selected as the MVP of the NBA Finals each time. On January 13, 1999, with seemingly nothing more to prove or accomplish, Michael Jordan retired for a second time.

New Challenges in the Nation's Capital

Despite his retirement, Jordan could not let go of his competitive urges. In 2001–2002, after serving as an executive for the Washington Wizards, Jordan returned to the court as a guard for them. Although his skills had declined, he averaged 22.9 points per game. On February 21, 2003, he became the first 40-year-old player to score 40 points in a game. On April 16, 2003, Jordan played his very last game in the NBA against the Philadelphia 76ers. The normally harsh Philadelphia fans gave him a three-minute standing ovation. In addition, the Miami Heat retired the number "23," even though Jordan had never played for them. Jordan retired forever after the 2003 season. He ended his career as the NBA's third all-time leading scorer with 32,292 total points. He led the NBA in scoring ten times during his career and made the NBA all-defensive team nine times.

Today, Michael Jordan is still involved with the NBA as the owner of the Charlotte Bobcats.

	FACT	FICTION
Michael Jordan currently owns an NBA team.		
Michael's last game was against the Philadelphia 76ers		
Michael was cut from his high school team!		
After his senior year at the University of North Carolina, Jordan decided to enter the NBA Draft.		
Michael Jordan became the first forty-year-old player to score forty points in a game.		
The Bulls won their first NBA championship against the Detroit Pistons.		
Michael Jordan was forced to sit out the 1984-1985 season with a foot injury.		
Michael Jordan played baseball with a minor-league team affiliated with the Chicago Cubs.		
Michael Jordan was born in New York and grew up in North Carolina.		
When he played baseball, Michael Jordan briefly made it to the Major Leagues.		
In 1986-87, Jordan recorded his highest average point total per game.		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
Michael Jordan currently owns an NBA team.	X	
Michael's last game was against the Philadelphia 76ers	X	
Michael was cut from his high school team!	X	
After his senior year at the University of North Carolina, Jordan decided to enter the NBA Draft.		X
Michael Jordan became the first forty-year-old player to score forty points in a game.	X	
The Bulls won their first NBA championship against the Detroit Pistons.		X
Michael Jordan was forced to sit out the 1984-1985 season with a foot injury.		X
Michael Jordan played baseball with a minor-league team affiliated with the Chicago Cubs.		X
Michael Jordan was born in New York and grew up in North Carolina.	X	
When he played baseball, Michael Jordan briefly made it to the Major Leagues.		X
In 1986-87, Jordan recorded his highest average point total per game.	X	



The Thing About Springfield

Springfield is the one of the most common names for U.S. cities. The first Springfield was settled in western Massachusetts in 1636. It was the first non-religious settlement in Massachusetts and remains the most populous Springfield in America. Since 1636, 32 other states have established cities or towns named Springfield. There are approximately 31 Springfields located outside of the United States as well. Illinois even made Springfield its state capital. It was in Springfield, Illinois, where Abraham Lincoln practiced law.

Below is a map of the United States and a chart of Springfields in America. For each state in which a Springfield exists, color it spring green!

Springfields in America

Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin

