Lesson 1: Events Leading Up to the Constitutional Convention

Class Notes 1: The Civil War Begins

I. 1860 Election

The Democratic Party split into ____ separate parties over the issue of slavery. Republican Abraham ______________ defeated the three other candidates even though he was not even on the ballot in most _______ states!

II. Secession

Just weeks after the election, South Carolina ___________ from the Union. Several other southern states soon followed: Mississippi, _____________. ____________, ____________, ____________, Louisiana, and ____________. They seceded because they feared that a Republican-led federal government would force an end to ____________, the economic way of life for the South. For them, secession was the only way to preserve their way of life. These states formed the ____________ States of ______________ (C.S.A.) and soon elected _______________ _____________ as their president.

III. Ft. Sumter

Confederate soldiers began to take over FEDERAL buildings like courthouses and ______ _______. On April 12, 1861 Confederate troops opened fire on a federal military fort near Charleston, South Carolina. This fort was called Ft. __________. Eventually the Union troops surrendered to the Confederate troops. The _______ _______ had begun. After this _____________ victory, most southern states seceded from the Union: _______________, Arkansas, North Carolina, and ___________. Not everyone in Virginia was happy about secession. Western parts of the state were opposed to this and as a result broke off from Virginia and formed their own ____________, West Virginia, which remained ____________ to the Union.

Four other slave states remained loyal to the Union: _______________, _______________, ________________, and ________________.