

Questions 32-41 are based on the following passages.

These passages are adapted from the Lincoln-Douglas debates. Passage 1 is from a statement by Stephen Douglas. Passage 2 is from a statement by Abraham Lincoln. Douglas and Lincoln engaged in a series of debates while competing for a US Senate seat in 1858.

Passage 1

Mr. Lincoln likens that bond of the Federal Constitution, joining Free and Slave States together, to a house divided against itself, and says that it is
Line contrary to the law of God, and cannot stand.
 5 When did he learn, and by what authority does he proclaim, that this Government is contrary to the law of God and cannot stand? It has stood thus divided into Free and Slave States from its organization up to this day. During that period we have increased from
 10 four millions to thirty millions of people; we have extended our territory from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean; we have acquired the Floridas and Texas, and other territory sufficient to double our geographical extent; we have increased in population,
 15 in wealth, and in power beyond any example on earth; we have risen from a weak and feeble power to become the terror and admiration of the civilized world; and all this has been done under a Constitution which Mr. Lincoln, in substance, says is
 20 in violation of the law of God; and under a Union divided into Free and Slave States, which Mr. Lincoln thinks, because of such division, cannot stand. Surely, Mr. Lincoln is a wiser man than those who framed the Government. . . .
 25 I now come back to the question, why cannot this Union exist forever, divided into Free and Slave States, as our fathers made it? It can thus exist if each State will carry out the principles upon which our institutions were founded; to wit, the right of each
 30 State to do as it pleases, without meddling with its neighbors. Just act upon that great principle, and this Union will not only live forever, but it will extend and expand until it covers the whole continent, and makes this confederacy one grand, ocean-bound
 35 Republic. We must bear in mind that we are yet a young nation, growing with a rapidity unequalled in the history of the world, that our national increase is great, and that the emigration from the old world is increasing, requiring us to expand and acquire new
 40 territory from time to time, in order to give our people land to live upon. If we live upon the principle

of State rights and State sovereignty, each State regulating its own affairs and minding its own business, we can go on and extend indefinitely, just
 45 as fast and as far as we need the territory. . . .

Passage 2

In complaining of what I said in my speech at Springfield, in which he says I accepted my nomination for the Senatorship . . . he again quotes that portion in which I said that “a house divided
 50 against itself cannot stand.” Let me say a word in regard to that matter. He tries to persuade us that there must be a variety in the different institutions of the States of the Union; that that variety necessarily proceeds from the variety of soil, climate, of the face
 55 of the country, and the difference in the natural features of the States. I agree to all that. Have these very matters ever produced any difficulty among us? Not at all. Have we ever had any quarrel over the fact that they have laws in Louisiana designed to regulate
 60 the commerce that springs from the production of sugar? Or because we have a different class relative to the production of flour in this State? Have they produced any differences? Not at all. They are the very cements of this Union. They don’t make the
 65 house a “house divided against itself.” They are the props that hold up the house and sustain the Union. But has it been so with this element of slavery? Have we not always had quarrels and difficulties over it? And when will we cease to have quarrels over it?
 70 Like causes produce like effects. It is worth while to observe that we have generally had comparative peace upon the slavery question, and that there has been no cause for alarm until it was excited by the effort to spread it into new territory. Whenever it has
 75 been limited to its present bounds, and there has been no effort to spread it, there has been peace. All the trouble and convulsion has proceeded from efforts to spread it over more territory. It was thus at the date of the Missouri Compromise. It was so again
 80 with the annexation of Texas; so with the territory acquired by the Mexican War; and it is so now. Whenever there has been an effort to spread it there has been agitation and resistance. . . . Do you think that the nature of man will be changed, that the same
 85 causes that produced agitation at one time will not have the same effect at another?

32

In the first paragraph of Passage 1, the main purpose of Douglas’s discussion of the growth of the territory and population of the United States is to

- A) provide context for Douglas’s defense of continued expansion.
- B) suggest that the division into free and slave states does not endanger the Union.
- C) imply that Lincoln is unaware of basic facts concerning the country.
- D) account for the image of the United States as powerful and admirable.

33

What does Passage 1 suggest about the US government’s provisions for the institution of slavery, as framed in the Constitution?

- A) They included no means for reconciling differences between free states and slave states.
- B) They anticipated the Union’s expansion into western territories.
- C) They provided a good basic structure that does not need to be changed.
- D) They were founded on an assumption that slavery was necessary for economic growth.

34

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A) Lines 10-16 (“we have . . . earth”)
- B) Lines 25-27 (“I now . . . made it”)
- C) Lines 35-39 (“We must . . . increasing”)
- D) Lines 41-45 (“If we . . . territory”)

35

As used in line 67, “element” most nearly means

- A) ingredient.
- B) environment.
- C) factor.
- D) quality.

36

Based on Passage 2, Lincoln would be most likely to agree with which claim about the controversy over slavery?

- A) It can be ended only if Northern states act unilaterally to abolish slavery throughout the United States.
- B) It would abate if attempts to introduce slavery to regions where it is not practiced were abandoned.
- C) It has been exacerbated by the ambiguity of laws regulating the holding of slaves.
- D) It is fueled in part by differences in religion and social values from state to state.

37

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A) Lines 56-61 (“I agree . . . sugar”)
- B) Lines 64-66 (“They don’t . . . Union”)
- C) Lines 74-76 (“Whenever . . . peace”)
- D) Lines 83-86 (“Do you . . . another”)

38

As used in line 84, “nature” most nearly means

- A) force.
- B) simplicity.
- C) world.
- D) character.

39

Which choice identifies a central tension between the two passages?

- A) Douglas proposes changes to federal policies on slavery, but Lincoln argues that such changes would enjoy no popular support.
- B) Douglas expresses concerns about the economic impact of abolition, but Lincoln dismisses those concerns as irrelevant.
- C) Douglas criticizes Lincoln for finding fault with the Constitution, and Lincoln argues that this criticism misrepresents his position.
- D) Douglas offers an interpretation of federal law that conflicts with Lincoln’s, and Lincoln implies that Douglas’s interpretation is poorly reasoned.

40

Both passages discuss the issue of slavery in relationship to

- A) the expansion of the Union.
- B) questions of morality.
- C) religious toleration.
- D) laws regulating commerce.

41

In the context of each passage as a whole, the questions in lines 25-27 of Passage 1 and lines 67-69 of Passage 2 primarily function to help each speaker

- A) cast doubt on the other’s sincerity.
- B) criticize the other’s methods.
- C) reproach the other’s actions.
- D) undermine the other’s argument.