

CIVIL WAR:

Date: _____

US-History:

QUESTION # 2013:

Q- Examine the events and developments that pushed the American nation into Civil War.

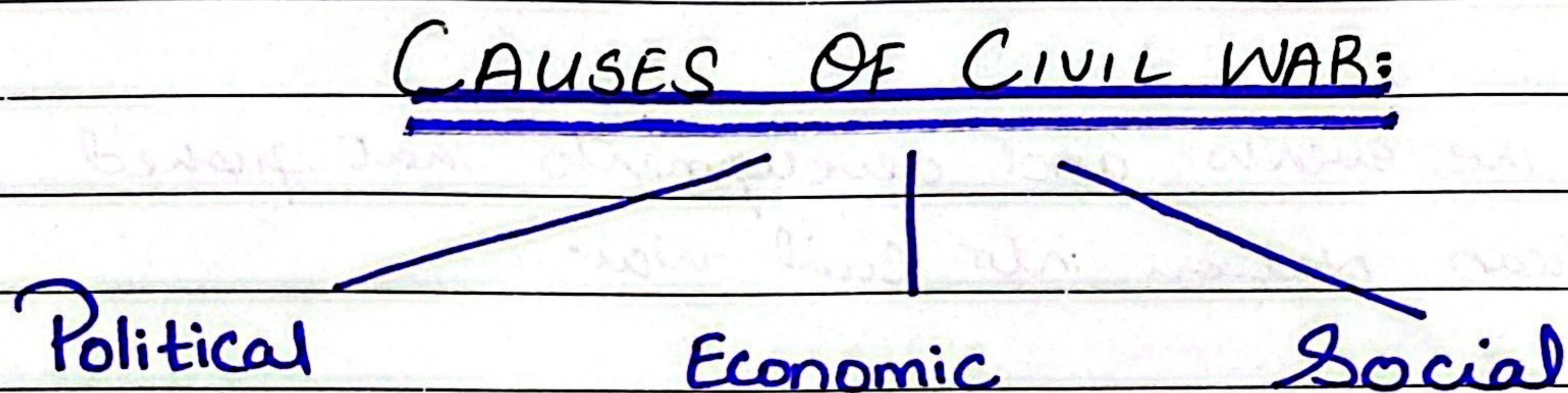
1) INTRODUCTION:

Civil War was the bloodiest war fought on American soil. The war costed around 750,000 lives along with unimaginable destruction. The Civil War began in 1861 and lasted till 1865. There were events and developments in the USA that led to Civil War. Slavery being the primary cause, which proved to be the triggering point for the formation of Confederate States of USA. There were many deep-rooted causes as well, which became the reason such as Abraham Lincoln's speech of 1858.

"I believe, this country cannot endure permanently half slaves and half free states".

2) EVENTS THAT LED TO AMERICAN CIVIL WAR:

There were many events that matured, developed and triggered American Civil War. Those events can be further broken down into three main categories:



i) POLITICAL CAUSES:

a) Federalists and Anti-Federalists:

The Northerners supported the Federalists system basically a strong federal government, which is the center must be strong whereas the Anti-federalists supported strong states and weaker government. The Southerners strongly supported Anti-Federalists which would give each state the right to decide for themselves. Thus, Slavery was the will of Southerners and Northerners were completely against it.

b) Territorial Crisis:-

The USA was expanding further either by negotiations, purchase or conquest. The Westward expansion further caused the problem amongst the inhabitants of the USA. There was a balance of 11 states each of slave states and free states respectively. The compromise of 1850 further caused disruption as the free states were

gaining more representation in the Senate and after California all states added were free states. Minnesota, Oregon and Kansas. Thus, this angered the Southerners.

c) Constitutional Violation and State Rights:

The Southerners believed it was the right of the state to either be in a Union or not. The Southerners considered the Union to be an agreement and dissolution the choice of the states. Thus, felt it was violation of their constitutional rights, first to morally attack on slavery and next to not use their right of secession.

d) National Elections of 1860:

Abraham Lincoln was a northern candidate and was against slavery. In his speeches many times, he declared his intention of slavery being an evil institute. Thus, this was a threat for the Southerners. The Southerners were dependent on slavery. The states where slavery was in major proportion in South, threatened they would secede from the Union, if Abraham Lincoln won the elections.

e) Secession Crisis:

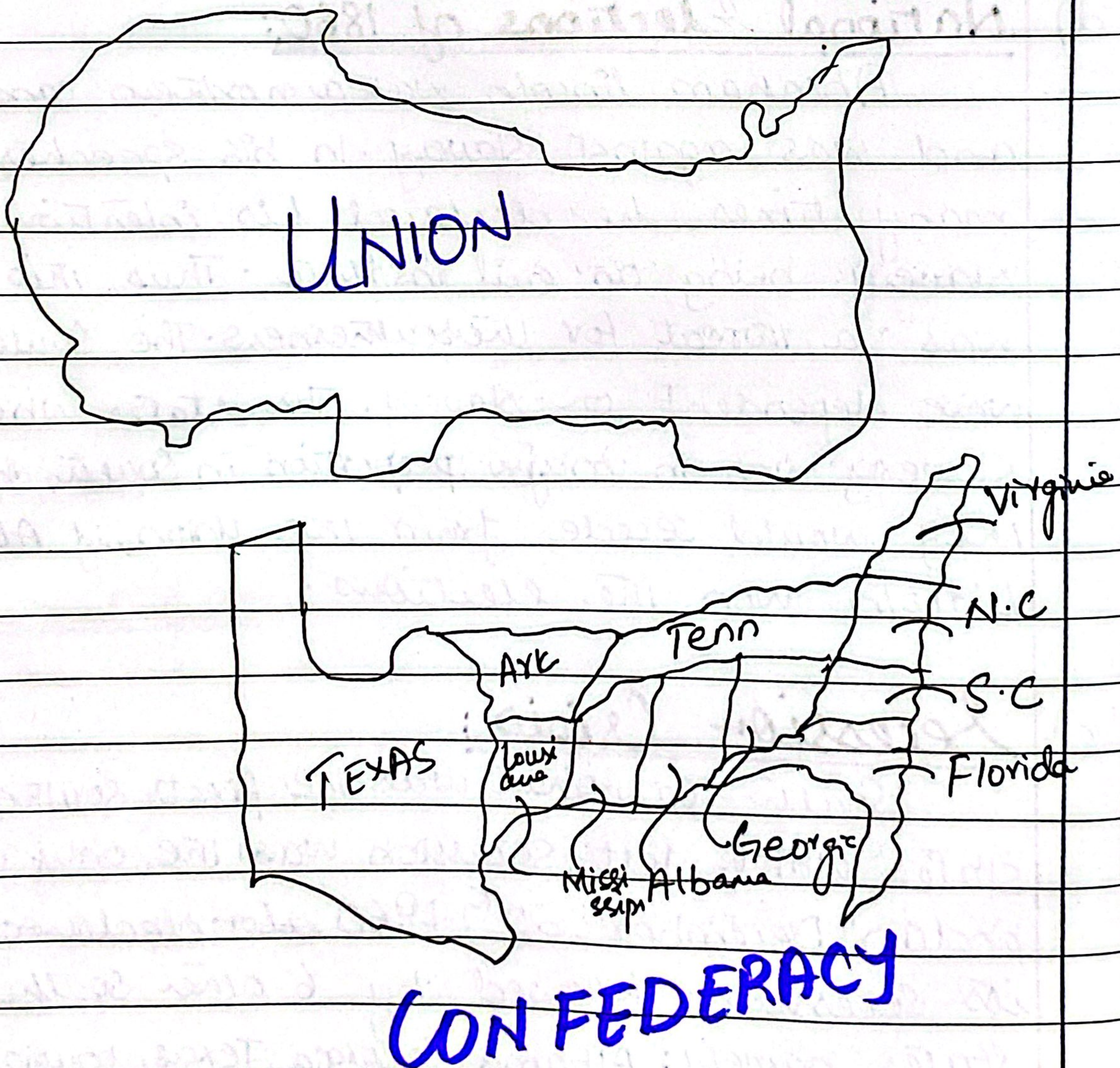
South Carolina was the first Southern state which felt secession was the only option and on December 20th 1860 ~~also~~ declared its secession. Followed by 6 other Southern states namely; Alabama, Georgia, Texas, Louisiana,

Florida and Virginia. Mississippi also followed and gave clear reasons:

"Our position is identified with the institution of slavery - the only material interest of the world" - Secession Declaration of Mississippi.

1) FORMATION OF THE CONFEDERATE:

The secession gave birth to the Confederate States of the USA. The Confederacy grew from 7 states to 11 states. The United States of America was divided into two parties: The Union (Northern) and Confederates (Southern).



These two became the major rivals of the USA in the Civil War.

Abraham Lincoln said in his speech:-

"A home against itself, cannot stand".

ii)

SOCIAL CAUSES:

a) Cultural Differences:-

The Southerners and Northerners while living in the same country were very different. The Southerners lived a luxury, aristocratic sort of life whereas the northerners were hard-working people. The Southerners had a culture of slavery and the northerners were completely against it.

b) Abolitionist Movements:-

Abolitionist movements were carried by Northerners in order to emancipate slaves. They used ~~underground~~ railroad system, slave-abolition movement, newspapers, books and other practices to free slaves from South and move them to safe. These practices violated laws in the eyes of Southern leaders as slaves were their property. The USA was built on liberty, life and pursuit to happiness. Thus, offended Southerners.

iii) ECONOMIC REASONS:

a) The Economic lines of Southerness and Northerness:

The Southerness or Confederates were agriculture. The Northerners were industrialists and literate. The Economy of South highly dependent on slavery. Thus, abolishing slavery was attacking the Economic lifestyle of South. The Northerners gave it a name of morality but in reality it was one of the way to attack the economy of South. This became one of the reason of Civil War. As King Corn and other agricultural products were based on slavery.

b) Protectionism:

The North and South had different perspectives on tariffs as well. The South was in favor of minimum tariffs and South maximin in order to protect local products and ~~increase~~ uplift economy.

c) SLAVERY:

All the reasons came down to slavery. SLAVERY became the major of the rivalry. SLAVERY was acceptable in Southern States but Abraham Lincoln's emancipation Proclamation cleared slavery was not acceptable anywhere in the USA. This became the reason for the

formation of Confederate states and eventually Civil War.

Emancipation Proclamation:

"All slaves in rebellious states are now and henceforth shall be free".

CONCLUSION:

The Constitution and the perception of Federalism and Anti-Federalism was the seed which grew into Rivalry. Missouri Compromise of 1820, did settle for time being but divided the country on all aspects by allowing slavery in the South and eliminating from North. The Abraham Lincoln's election and his intent to emancipate slaves was the last nail in the coffin and the situation were clear for Civil War which lasted for 4 years and is remembered as the deadliest war of America.