Essential Question and Standards

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Date _____ Class _____

How should historians evaluate the aims, methods and consequences of John Brown's raid?

NJSLS Social Studies

6.1.8.HistoryCC.5.a and 6.1.8.HistoryCC.5.g, weigh causes of the Civil War and construct an argument using varied sources. 6.1.12.CivicsDP.3.c, examine antislavery movements and significant events. 6.1.12.HistoryUP.3.b, evaluate perspectives and claims about slavery.

Common Core Literacy

RH.6–8.1, RH.6–8.2, RH.6–8.7 and WHST.6–8.1, cite evidence, summarize, integrate maps and data, and write arguments. RH.9–10.1 and WHST.9–10.1 extend evidence and argument work. RH.11–12.1 and WHST.11–12.1 extend source evaluation and counterclaims.

Math and Science Connections

NJSLS Mathematics 6.RP.A.3, ratios, rates and percent. NJSLS Science MS.PS3.5, connect changes in kinetic energy with energy transfer. The science model is a supporting application, not a complete performance assessment.

Read, discuss and support your conclusions with evidence. Complete each Do Now before its reading and each Quick Write afterward. The final RACE response follows the 15 question assessment.

Day 1 | Aims and Outcomes

Do Now

What makes evidence stronger than an opinion?

Source A | An event in the struggle against slavery

On October 16, 1859, John Brown began an armed raid at Harpers Ferry, then in Virginia and now in West Virginia. He intended to obtain federal weapons for a campaign against slavery. His force held parts of the federal armory complex and took hostages. Local resistance blocked escape. On October 18, United States Marines captured Brown at the engine house. Army officer Robert E. Lee commanded the federal response. Brown’s immediate military objective failed. A Virginia court convicted him of murder, treason against Virginia and conspiracy to incite a rebellion. He was executed on December 2, 1859. The raid deepened sectional conflict before the Civil War. These consequences do not establish that the raid alone caused the war. [1]

Interdisciplinary Task

Create a three event sequence. Label one event an intention and another an outcome.

Quick Write

How can an action fail immediately yet have lasting consequences? Use Source A.