

Name:\_\_\_\_\_.

## **Causes of the Civil War - 25 point Assessment**

To wrap up our exploration of the causes of the Civil War, you are to write 1-2 pages (2 pages at the most), responding to the focus question:

*How did the causes of the Civil War demonstrate the tension between how the North and the South viewed the increasing power of the federal government and the increasing power of the people in the United States?*

### **What resources do you have?**

The t-chart breaking down the political profiles of the North and the South, the chart you completed on the differing views of democracy at the individual, state and federal level as well as the various “bubbles” we created as groups and the reader, provide you with ample material to use for this assignment. You are to 1. form a central claim (an argument) and 2. support that central claim with S.P.A.R.C evidence. You will be assessed on the extent to which your central claim is original, analytical and argumentative. Also, you will be assessed on your ability to include S.P.A.R.C evidence and the extent that you analyze your evidence to prove your central claim. The S.P.A.R.C chart provided will act as a checklist for grading.

### **So am I writing an essay?**

No. You are writing a central claim and then 1-2 pages to support it. You DO NOT need to include separate body paragraphs.

### **Requirements**

- Typed, Times New Roman 12 point font.
- Double Spaced

**Due Date:**\_\_\_\_\_.

Name:\_\_\_\_\_.

## **S.P.A.R.C Assessment Rubric**

### **For Central Claim**

Exemplary (5)	Proficient (4)	Needs Improvement (3)	Unsatisfactory (1-2)
Strong and original, analytical, and argumentative claim. Central claim is contextualized in the paper.	Analytical and argumentative statement. Central claim is contextualized in the paper.	Central claim contains an argument but is too broad and/or vague. Central claim lacks precise word choice.	Central claim is unclear and/or historically inaccurate. Thesis statement is factual and lacks reasons. Central claim cannot be proven.

### **For S.P.A.R.C - each letter S.P.A.R will be worth 5 points.**

<b>S</b>	Sufficient	Every written paragraph, oral presentation, or visual representation of an argument must have no less than 2 separate and specific examples to support your argument. Sufficient evidence must support all angles of the argument. In a comparative essay, sufficient evidence must not only support the comparison you draw in the topic sentence, but it must also clearly reject the contrast presented in the counterargument.
<b>P</b>	Precise	Precise evidence must prove, without a reasonable doubt, that the argument you are making in the topic sentence and thesis statement is logically concluded from the evidence you are citing. This logical conclusion should be explicitly stated with analysis after each instance of SPARC evidence.
<b>A</b>	Accurate	Accurate evidence is taken directly from primary sources in the historical record or from a credible secondary source. Additionally, the evidence you cite must be a “whole truth” example from history. <b>You cannot ignore evidence that may contradict your argument.</b> On the contrary, this evidence may serve as a valuable source for a counterargument. By conducting more research on this counterargument, you may likely evolve your thesis to include this counterargument, or you may work diligently to incorporate it in your paper and dispute it.
<b>R</b>	Relevant	The evidence you cite must be directly relevant to both the topic sentence and thesis statement. Even if you have done research and have a good quote or source, it is <u>useless</u> without finding a relevant way to connect it to your argument.

Name:\_\_\_\_\_.

C	Credible	Every example of evidence you cite must be appropriately vetted with the CART rubric. Please see the CART source evaluations in this packet for more specific information. *For this assignment, the sources are credible since I gave them to you. In the future, you will be evaluated on this letter as well, just not now.
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Name:\_\_\_\_\_.