B. Reaction to Slavery

1. Northern viewpoint
   a. They opposed the slave trade, but were willing to overlook slavery in the South
   b. Abolition : movement to end slavery
   c. Anti-slavery, but many were still racist :

Critical Thinking 15

2. Southern viewpoint
   a. economy relied upon it; it was a necessary evil
   b. poor farmers in southern (and western) states opposed slavery
   c. **"Positive good theory"**: slavery helped civilize the native tribes of Africa
3. Slaves' viewpoint
   a. nothing they could do but accept their status

Reading

   b. **Underground Railroad:** a network of escape routes for runaway slaves to the north and eventually to Canada were slavery was illegal
   c. Buy freedom
   d. Slave revolts : none were successful and they often made the masters more strict

C. Increased Conflicts Over Slavery

1. Missouri Compromise of 1820. To keep a balance between slave states and free states, MO was admitted as a slave state and Maine was admitted as a free state; slavery was banned north of 36° 30'.
2. Mexican Cession. The War with Mexico raised the question of expanding slavery westward; the Free Soil Party formed to keep slavery out of the western territories

P15

3. Compromise of 1850
   a. CA was admitted as a free state
   b. In the Utah and New Mexico territory, the status of slavery would be determined by **popular sovereignty**: (the right of the people to decide an issue)
   c. Slave trade banned in Washington, D.C.
   d. The Fugitive Slave Law required all runaway slaves to be returned to their owners

Primary Source – Sumner