

Looking for Lincoln's Views on Slavery - Video Organizer Answer Key

Complete Column 2 as you watch each segment. Once the segment is over, complete the third column, summarizing Lincoln's viewpoint on slavery during that segment.

Video Segment	What You Learned About Lincoln and Slavery	Summarize this segment in 1-2 complete sentences
1. Early Views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The idea that the Emancipation Proclamation immediately freed slaves across the South is nonsense. Frederick Douglass, an abolitionist openly criticized Lincoln, calling him a "slave catcher" and "slave hound." The Lincoln administration returned fugitive slaves to the South and did not want to make war over slavery. Lincoln supported paying slave owners for the slaves, and voluntary emigration of slaves to Panama or Liberia. 	<p>Potential summary sentence: At the beginning of his presidency, Abraham Lincoln returned fugitive slaves to their owners, and he did not want war with the South over slavery. He supported a plan of voluntary emigration of freed slaves to Panama or Liberia.</p>
2. White Supremacist?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lincoln did not think blacks should vote, sit on juries, or hold public office. Stubbornly supported colonization. Lincoln could not imagine making the freed slaves politically or socially equal to whites. During the three decades from 1830-1860, though there was a vigorous abolitionist movement, Lincoln did nothing to end slavery. 	<p>Potential summary sentence: Lincoln did not believe in the equality of the races, and was largely inactive during the height of the abolitionist movement.</p>
3. The Road to Emancipation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The poor progress of the war influenced Lincoln's views of slavery. Lincoln realized that he couldn't win the war without destroying slavery, a key asset in the South's economy. He feared that emancipation would lead Union soldiers to desert the army. Upon issuing the Emancipation Proclamation, he felt he was doing right, and his "whole soul [was] in it." The Proclamation only freed slaves in rebelling states. It did not free all the slaves. 	<p>Potential summary sentence: The Emancipation Proclamation was partially a strategic political and military move in the midst of the Civil War, but it also illustrated Lincoln's changing views on the morality of slavery.</p>
4. Growth and Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frederick Douglass grew to appreciate Lincoln's growth and change on the issues of slavery and race. He said, "when he could no longer withstand the current, he swam with it." Lincoln changed dramatically between the outbreak of the war and his assassination. By the time of his death, he thought about slavery and the war very differently. It's unknown how Lincoln would have impacted American history further if he lived. Following Lincoln's death, progress for black Americans came to a standstill after Reconstruction. 	<p>Potential summary sentence: Lincoln let experience shape his views, and showed great personal growth during his presidency, especially regarding the topics of slavery and race.</p>