

Main Idea and Details

"A House Divided"

by President Abraham Lincoln



A House Divided

by Abraham Lincoln

If we could first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could then better judge what to do, and how to do it. We are now far into the fifth year, since a policy was initiated, with the avowed object, and confident promise, of putting an end to slavery agitation. Under the operation of that policy, that agitation has not only, not ceased, but has constantly augmented. In my opinion, it will not cease, until a crisis shall have been reached, and passed. "A house divided against itself cannot stand." I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved -- I do not expect the house to fall -- but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing or all the other. Either the opponents of slavery, will arrest the further spread of it, and place it where the public mind shall rest in the belief that it is in the course of ultimate extinction; or its advocates will push it forward, till it shall become alike lawful in all the States, old as well as new -- North as well as South.

The 5 "W's"

President Lincoln's Speech
A House Divided

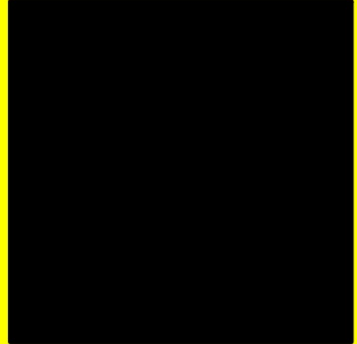
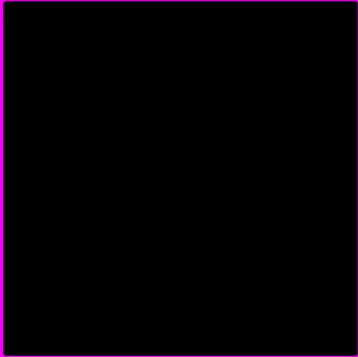
What happened?	
When did it happen?	Why did it happen?
Where did it happen?	Who was there?

A HOUSE DIVIDED

main idea



details



Summarize:

Cover the main points