

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### THE DRED SCOTT CASE (1857)

#### Student Task Sheet

1. Who was Dred Scott, and why was this case brought to the Supreme Court?
2. What were the three legal issues that this case addressed?
3. For each of these three issues, describe the reasoning behind Dred Scott's claim.
4. What was the ruling of the Court? What reasons did the majority of the Court give for Scott not being allowed to sue in a court of law?
5. What was the majority opinion concerning Scott's claim to freedom, which was based on the fact that he had been first to Illinois and then Wisconsin?
6. Why did the Court rule that the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional?
7. Which two of the following statements explain the Court's ruling in the case?  
\_\_\_\_ a. Under the Constitution slaves could not be citizens.  
\_\_\_\_ b. Slavery was to be prohibited in all new territories.  
\_\_\_\_ c. The Thirteenth Amendment ending slavery was unconstitutional.  
\_\_\_\_ d. Congress had no constitutional authority to ban slavery in territories like Wisconsin.
8. Which of the following amendments eventually overturned the Dred Scott decision?  
\_\_\_\_ a. The Tenth Amendment  
\_\_\_\_ b. The Thirteenth Amendment  
\_\_\_\_ c. The Fourteenth Amendment  
\_\_\_\_ d. The Seventeenth Amendment

#### ESSAY

Explain how the decision of the court created further tensions between the states and eventually led to the Civil War.