

**Created by:** Kay Schaeffer, Tecumseh Middle School

**Grade level:** 7

**Primary Source:** "The Undecided Political Prize Fight," 1860, Harper's Weekly. Accessed at *Slavery and the Making of America*, PBS, <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/slavery/experience/freedom/feature1a.html>.

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the cartoon while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

### **Level I: Description**

1. In what sport are the two main characters participating?
2. What famous building is in the background of the cartoon?
3. How are the people in the crowd dressed?

### **Level II: Interpretation**

1. Who are the two main characters?
2. Why would the black boy be shown assisting one of the fighters?
3. What did the building symbolize?

### **Level III: Analysis**

1. Where would this cartoon have appeared?
2. Could an illiterate person have understood this message?
3. How do you think the public might have responded to the cartoon?

THE UNDECIDED POLITICAL PRIZE FIGHT.

