Compromises Activity

Do Now: Review Compromises Objectives, Essential Questions, and Agenda for this lesson.

Objectives:

SWBAT create compromises with a group to solve a situation.

Essential Questions:

*Overarching:* How did the United States grow and change into the modern country you know it as today? How did its evolution impact its citizens?

*Topical:* Which event had the greatest impact on the United States in the years leading up to the Civil War?

Agenda:

- Do Now
- Objectives
- Essential Questions
- Read the Background Information
- Prepare for Conferences
- Evaluate Historical Compromises
- Exit Ticket

**PAUSE**

Have you reviewed the Objectives and Essential Questions? If yes, move on to the activity. If no, go back to review.

Activity:

**Step 1:** Read the World Factbook on Oceanopolis

**Step 2:** As a regional group, read the background information and your challenge. Prepare for the negotiations for each of the three challenges.

**Step 3:** During the Conference, negotiate the best Compromise that you can based on what you want and what the opposing side is willing to give up. Record the COMPROMISE below.

Exit Ticket
**Country:** Oceanopolis

**Introduction:** Oceanopolis is finally prospering as the Industrial Revolution is sweeping the nation, and making a name for itself throughout the world. Having only recently gained its independence from its mother country, Oceanopolis is discovering the challenges of managing its distinct sectional demands on trade, politics and its workers. The year is 2024, and Oceanopolis consists of 26 states, united under a federal government. The dominate sections of the country are the East and West, both with unique characteristics and requests from the federal government. The vast northern territory of Oceanopolis is experiencing a rapid expansion, with new territories and states being established, creating a problem for both Easterners and Westerners. Whose set of rules should apply in the newly created territories?

**Geography:** The Eastern region of the country is criss crossed with rapid flowing rivers, a moderate to cold climate, and rocky soil. The Western region of the country provides a moderate to warm climate, with fertile soil, and slower moving rivers. The Northern region is a vast, open expansion of land ready for farming and further expansion.

**People and Society:** The people of Oceanopolis are a diverse collection of people from around the world. Built on the foundation of immigration, thousand of people emigrate to Oceanopolis each year. Aside from the recent immigrants who bring their culture to the new land, there are distinct traditions of the Oceanopolis natives. Founded on the basis of individual freedom, people have fought and died to maintain the liberties guaranteed by the government.

**Government:** A federation of 26 states united for the common defense, to promote justice, and protect the general welfare. The federal government is made up of three branches of government. The Executive Branch is lead by the President of Oceanopolis, who enforces the laws of the land. The Legislative Branch consists of two houses, the House of Commons and the Senate. The Legislative role is to make the laws for all citizens of Oceanopolis. The Judicial Branch consists of many courts and judges, with the Supreme Court as the highest judicial authority. The Supreme Court interprets laws passed by the Legislature and determines whether they are constitutional or unconstitutional.
**Economy:** Oceanopolis is one of the world’s fastest growing economies. The Industrial Revolution has spurred the economy and created a wealthy class of individuals. Oceanopolis relies heavily on internal trade amongst the 26 states, and upon the exports to foreign countries. Tariffs, taxes on imported goods, are an important source of revenue for the government. The different regions of the country have developed specific economic qualities.

The East has become prosperous from its early days as an industrial center. Beginning with its ship building and merchant economy, the people of the East have an incredibly strong work ethic. When the Industrial Revolution swept across the nation, factories sprang up in towns across the East. To fill the factory positions, owners turned to women and girls as a cheap form of labor. The mills of the East produced a large portion of Oceanopolis’ widgets, but relied heavily on the West for the raw materials.

From the founding of Oceanopolis, the West’s fertile soil and geographic location have made it ideal for agriculture. The earlier farmers came to rely on seaweed and the widge bush as a stable of the economy. Both crops are labor intensive, requiring lots of land and man hours. To fill the labor needs, plantation owners turned to indentured servants from foreign countries. In the beginning the indentured servants were shipped to Oceanopolis, often against their own free will. Then the Legislature banned the import of indentured servants, so owners begin trading servants throughout the country.

**Communication:** New inventions, especially the telegram, are creating a nation that is able to communicate faster and easier. For the first time in the nation’s history, people are learning what is taking place in the other regions of the country through newspapers. The government is able to communicate with the farthest reaches of the nation to inform citizens of changes in the law.

**Transportation:** The Transportation Revolution has dramatically altered the nation. Railroads, canals, steamboats, national roads have contributed to the Northern expansion and the rise of the cities. These new transportation methods are increasing trade, making it easier and more reliable.

The East quickly adopted the railroad and canal system as a means to connect the factories to the markets. The railroad system is greater than in any other region of the country. Factory owners, businessman and the government have supported the growth of the railroad and canal system.

The West has been slower to adopt the new methods of transportation, instead relying on their large, slow moving rivers to transport goods, especially the widge bush. However, Westerners have come to rely on the steamboat as a faster method of shipping the widge bush to the West coast to trade overseas.

**Military:** The newly created military has been tested by two major wars with Great Newfoundland. Oceanopolis has struggled under the new government to fill the military and to develop a navy. Old disagreements about the power of the federal government have limited how many troops states are willing to send to the military.

**Transnational Issues:** Oceanopolis is careful to impose its will upon other larger nations, that have long been established in world politics. Presidents of Oceanopolis have adopted a policy of non intervention and neutrality, with other countries. The main effort is to maintain trade relations that benefit the farmers and merchants of Oceanopolis.

Charles Willis, 2015
Step 2: As a regional group, read the background information and your challenge. Prepare for the negotiations for each of the three challenges.

**Oceanopolis**

You are representatives of Oceanopolis’ House of Commons and have been asked to create a compromise over issues that are affecting the Eastern and Western regions of the country. As a representative you must first decide with your region what you are unwilling to compromise on, what details you are willing to give up, and what you would like the West to give up. Which region are you representing?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge #1: STATES’ RIGHTS CHALLENGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What are your goals of the negotiations?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What will you NOT give up?</td>
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Step 3: During the Conference, negotiate the best Compromise that you can based on what you want and what the opposing side is willing to give up. Record the COMPROMISE below.
### Challenge #2: TRADE CHALLENGE

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<th>What are your goals of the negotiations?</th>
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**COMPROMISE**

[Diagram of Venn diagram with WEST and EAST circles overlapping]
**Challenge #3: SERVANTS CHALLENGE**

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**COMPROMISE**

WEST

EAST

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