

For this class, one of the ways you may write the research paper is to take an event, person, law, or idea and see what Ohioans or Clevelanders thought about it as expressed in newspaper editorials and letters to the editor. The following are possibilities for you to consider as the subject of such “reaction” papers.

How did Ohioans react to, or what did they think about:

Escaped slaves

Margaret Garner

Anthony Burns

The Christiana Riot

or another incident

Free black people living in Ohio

The American Anti-slavery Society

The Underground Railroad

John Rankin

Levi Coffin

Sojourner Truth

Josiah Henson

Emigration/colonization

Others; see below under abolitionists

Abolitionists

William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, The Grimke Sisters

Ohio: Benj. Lundy, Charles Osborn, James Birney, Salmon Chase, Harriet B.

Stowe, John Parker, Theodore Weld, Joshua Reed Giddings, Benj. Wade

Attacks on abolitionists (Elijah Lovejoy)

The Lane Seminary debates & controversy

Oberlin College

The Oberlin-Wellington Rescue

The Anti-Slavery Pamphlet Campaign, Post Office Riots, & the Ban

The Anti-Slavery Petition Campaigns and the Gag Rule

Southerners' Pro-Slavery Ideology

Attempts to Expand Slavery:

The Knights of the Golden Circle

Filibusters into Cuba, Mexico, or Central America

The Ostend Manifesto

The Mexican War

The Wilmot Proviso and other proposals about slavery in the Mexican Cession

Politics

The Missouri Compromise

Nat Turner's Rebellion

The Annexation of Texas

The Admission of Oregon

The Crisis of 1850

The Compromise of 1850

The Fugitive Slave Act

Personal Liberty Laws

Various Elections (in terms of slavery and the sectional conflict)

Presidential elections: 1844, 1848, 1852, 1856, 1860

Congressional, State, & Local Elections in various years

The Liberty Party, formation, political battles

The Free-Soil Party, formation, political battles

The Whig Party, etc.

The American Party ("Know-Nothings"), etc.

The Republican Party, etc.

The Kansas-Nebraska Act

“Bleeding Kansas” and the LeCompton Constitution

John Brown and His Raid on Harper’s Ferry, VA

The Dred Scott Case

Secession—the first and second wave