" Can a negro, whose ancestors weresold as slaves, become a member of the political communityand brought into existence by the Constitution of the United States, and as such become entitled to all the rights, and privileges, guarantied by the Constitution to the citizen? One of which is the right of suing in a court of the United States."
"For if they became citizens, it would exempt them from the operation of the special laws necessary for their own safety (laws specific for slaves and Africans)And all of this would be done in the face of the subject race of the same color, both free and slaves, and inevitably producing discontent and defiance among them, and endangering the peace and safety of the State."
Chief Justice Taney, Majority Opinion Dred Scott Case
1: What is the main question that Taney feels the need to address in his opinion?
2: Why would one decision on that question lead to an endangerment of peace and safety in a state? Be sure to explain what that decision would have to be.

"Well! No man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent. I say this is the leading principle, the sheet-anchor of American republicanism. Our Declaration of Independence says:

'We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, DERIVING THEIR JUST POWERS FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED.'"

Abraham Lincoln, "Speech at Peoria in Reply to Senator Douglas" October 16, 1854

"That Declaration of Independence is to be construed (interpreted) by the circumstances and purposes for which it was made. The communities were declaring their independence; the people of those communities were asserting that no man was born-to use the language of Mr. Jefferson—booted and spurred to ride over the rest of mankind; that men were created equal—meaning the men of the political community; that there was no divine right to rule; that no man inherited the right to govern; that there were no classes by which power...descended to families, but that all stations were equally within the grasp of [everyone in politics]. These were the great principles they announced; these were the purposes for which they made their declaration."

Jefferson Davis, On Retiring from the Senate, January 21, 1861

: Compare and contrast the view of Davis with the view of Lincoln when it comes to the Declaration of Independence.	

t me ask you where have you succeeded in excluding slavery by an act of Congress from e inch of the American soil? You may tell me that you did it in the northwest territory, by the inance of 1787. You prohibited slavery by law, but you did not exclude it in fact. Illinois was art of the northwest territory. When Illinois was organized into a territorial government it ablished and protected slavery, and maintained it in spite of your ordinance, and in defiance its express prohibition."
phen Douglas, Nebraska Territory, January 30, 1854
How does Douglas defend his position of popular sovereignty?