

Name _____

Cause and Effect

- A **cause** is what makes something happen. An **effect** is what happens as a result of the cause.
- An effect may have more than one cause, and a cause may have more than one effect.

Directions Read the following passage and complete the diagram below.

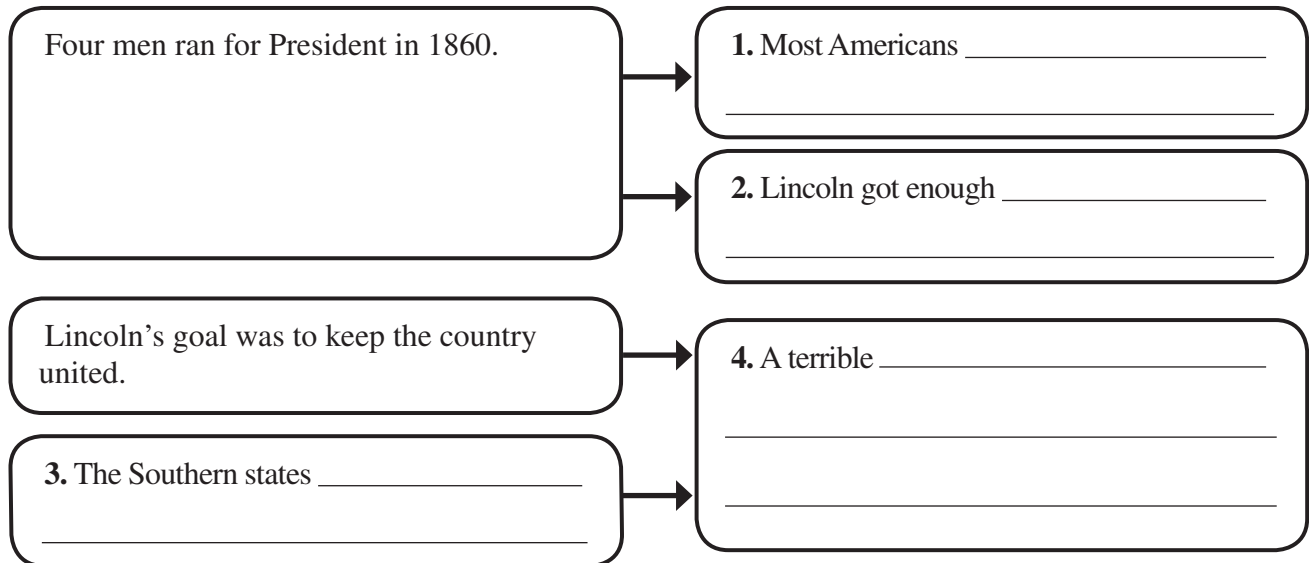
When Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860, most Americans didn't even vote for him. Four men ran for President that year, and no one won more than 50% of the vote. Lincoln won because he got enough electoral votes to win. Without a majority, however, his presidency was difficult from the very start. Many Southern states wanted their own separate country in which slavery

would continue to be legal. But Lincoln promised to end slavery.

Some people were so opposed to Lincoln's goals that they threatened his life. He had to be brought to Washington, D.C., secretly in the dark of night. In spite of the threats, Lincoln did not change his mind about his goals. Unfortunately, the Southern states did not want to change either, and the Civil War started.

Causes

Effects



5. Write a summary of the passage.

Copyright © Pearson Education, Inc., or its affiliates. All Rights Reserved. 5



Home Activity Your child read a short passage and identified causes and effects. Read an article about a government officeholder and talk about how he or she has caused things to happen in your community.