

Outline of the Raid on Harpers Ferry

The raid on Harpers Ferry, led by abolitionist John Brown in 1859, was a pivotal event in the lead-up to the American Civil War. Complete this outline of the raid on Harpers Ferry.

- I. Introduction
 - a. Significance:

 - b. Main objectives of John Brown and his followers:

- II. Background and Context
 - a. Explain John Brown's anti-slavery beliefs and his commitment to armed resistance against slavery:

 - b. Describe the political and social climate of the United States in the late 1850s, including the escalating tensions over slavery:

- III. Planning and Preparation
 - a. Detail John Brown's plan to seize the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia (now West Virginia):

 - b. Discuss how Brown recruited a small group of supporters, including both white and African American men:

- IV. The Raid
 - a. Describe the events of the raid, which began on the night of October 16, 1859, when Brown and his men captured the federal armory and arsenal:

 - b. Discuss the initial capture of hostages, including prominent citizens of Harpers Ferry:

- V. Response and Standoff
 - a. Explain the response of local militia and U.S. Marines under the command of Colonel Robert E. Lee:

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- b. Detail the standoff that ensued, with Brown and his men taking refuge in the armory's fire engine house (later known as John Brown's Fort):

VI. End of the Raid

- a. Describe the final assault on Brown's position on October 18, 1859:

- b. Discuss the capture of Brown and the surviving raiders:

VII. Aftermath

- a. Explain the impact of the raid on both the North and the South:

- b. Discuss the trial and execution of John Brown and some of his followers:

VIII. Significance

- a. Analyze the significance of the raid as a catalyst for the intensification of tensions between the North and the South:

- b. Discuss how the raid further radicalized anti-slavery sentiment and heightened fears of slave insurrection in the South:

IX. Legacy

- a. Explore the long-term impact of the raid on the coming of the Civil War:

- b. Discuss how John Brown came to be seen as a martyr by some and a terrorist by others: