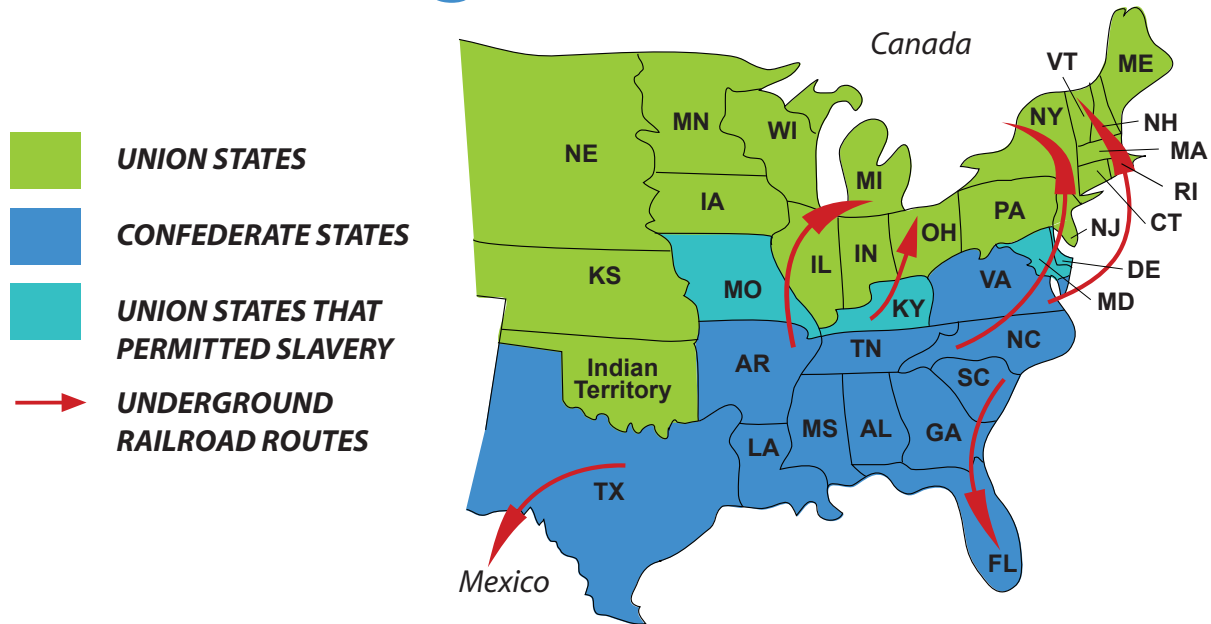


# The *Underground Railroad*



The Underground Railroad was a network of people that helped slaves used to escape to freedom. Slaves had attempted to escape from plantations as soon as slavery began in the United States, but around the 1830s, scores of slaves and sympathetic free men and women helped establish the Underground Railroad.

The goal was to get to a **free state**, a state where slavery was not legal. Ideally, escaping slaves would go all the way to Canada, where slavery had been illegal since 1833. Though the journey on the railroad occasionally involved water travel or train travel, most **passengers** on the railroad traveled in small groups by foot. The routes were indirect and inconsistent to confuse people who might come looking for them. People who called themselves **conductors** helped lead the way to **stations**, or safe places where passengers could stop and rest. **Stockholders**, who were people who donated money to help make the passengers' journey easier, would sometimes give passengers new clothes to help them blend in with society as they traveled. Passengers on the Underground Railroad would usually travel at night, walking between 10 and 20 miles from station to station.

1. Of these five states, which were free states?

Kansas Iowa Illinois Tennessee Missouri

2. Was West Virginia a free state or slave state?

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3. What would be the fastest way to get to Ohio from Florida?

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4. What would be the fastest route to freedom for slaves in Texas?

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