## Writing Activity: Reflecting on *A House Divided*

Using the information in this book, and in other books, movies, and television shows you might have seen, write an argumentative essay answering the essential question: Why is the Civil War considered a defining moment in American history? Use examples to support your arguments.

Use the graphic organizer on the following screens to help you organize important information in your essay.

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Quotation or Detail	Cause or Justification	

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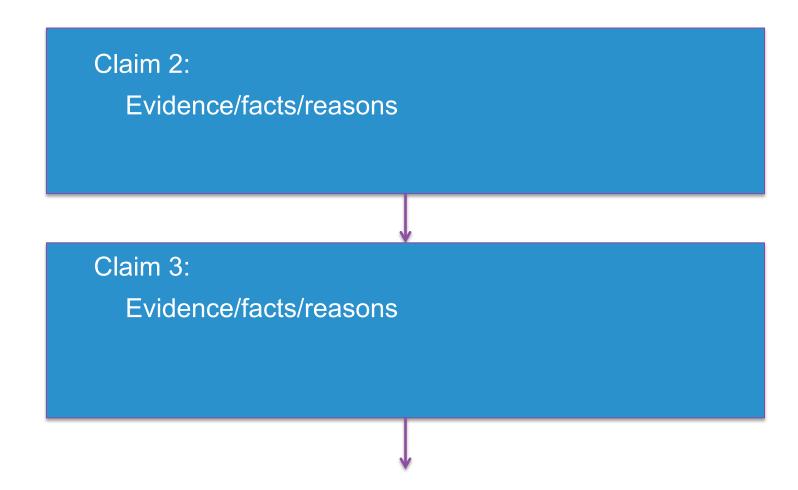
Synthesize your information into an argumentative essay. Fill in the blank with your main idea. Then use the graphic organizer to help you organize your essay.

Main Idea: The	Civil War was a defining moment in A	American
history		
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Introduction: Creates interest, states main idea Claim 1: Evidence/facts/reasons

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### Conclusion:

Summarizes, restates main idea, unifies the writing