Jade Ortwein

P2

Sources D and B agree that Lincoln could appeal to the republicans and democrats because he was a strong speaker. Source b asserts that Lincoln was a strong speaker in that he “utterly demolished” douglas. And source D less directly agrees that he beat douglas but rather thinks highly in favor of the republican party noted by his “new found enthusiasm” and that the source also states that Lincoln was “ direct in his appeal to the deomcrats as to the repulicans.” Meaning that Lincoln must have strong skills in persuasion and rhetoric, in order to persuade two entirely different perspectives (one democratic, while the other seems in favor of the democratic party) to think in favor of him. This is further seen that Lincoln became famous and this depate helped him gain recognition for his speechs because he was later elected president. So according to both accounts agree that despite Lincoln being the underdog he is seen more favorably than his competitor. They also agree that Lincoln was “direct” in source B because he “lead the debate” by “asking some questions”.

However sources B and D differ in their accounts that one is from a newspaper and the other is from a 1st hand account. Meaning that Source b as the newspaper might be more accurate in the account of events but very prone to bias comments and statements because there is a vested intrest of selling to a target audience. While D is a 1st hand account form a professor, meaning that he has the advantage of hindsight knowledge and is less fiery in language but his memory of the account of events might not be so accurate from the time he was fourteen. They also disagree on the account of Douglas. Source B says he was “double dealing and was cowardice” so much so that his “friends slunk away”. This democratic source mostly comments on this probably because of the freeport doctorine that he came up with at this time which was to make popular sovereignty the determiner of slavery, and also to add that bleeding Kansas just happned where the south did not get their way in the end despite the mini civil war. So it seems that this source is bitter in relation to that, and even more so that douglas is a northern democrat and his reputation at the time is not exactly the best because of the Kansas Nebraska act. While Source D says that douglas was an “aggressive, defiant party” making him seem strong and impressive, but also overbearing. Especially because he was determined to “browbeat and cow his oppenents by violence of bearing.” Suggesting that Douglas might actually be a strong speaker because of his well known reputation because compared to Lincoln he is quite famous already at the time while Lincoln is the new comer. In the final conclusion, the accounts differ in the support of douglas, as he was either “aggressive” versus “cowardice”. Which is quite a clear contrast of opinions and accounts.

Overall, they agree that Lincoln was a strong speaker in that he could appeal to the people but the other says that he just “demolished” douglas, while they disagree on the account of douglas in their accounts far contrasted that he was “cowardice” or he was “aggressive”.