Zinn Chapter 8

1. Why was Polk’s ordering of Taylor to the Rio Grande a provocation?
2. What does Zinn mean when he says that Mexico fired the first shot, but the US wanted a war?
3. Why did the Whigs want California, but not the war, even though they voted for it?
4. What was Lincoln’s view of the war? What did he tell the President though that he would do even if he did not disagree?
5. Why did anti-slavery people fear the war?
6. How did Thoreau try to show his protest for the war? What other people does this type of Civil Disobedience become a model for?
7. How did the war illustrate a racist tendency towards Mexicans?
8. What was the public opinion over all about the war?
9. Who made up a majority of the US army?
10. Besides bullets what issues caused death in the ranks of the army?
11. How was some of the soldier’s behavior very un-American?
12. How did speculators take advantage of the returning soldiers?
13. What did some people call for at the end of the war?