



Civil War Printable Activities

For Grades 5-8

82 INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

Perfect for Interactive Notebooks

Perfect for Morning Work or Assessments

MR. NUSSBAUM
LEARNING + FUN



**Relating to Civil War Themes:
Integrated CRITICAL THOUGHT
Activities and WRITING PROMPTS**

For Grades 5-8

26 INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES
Perfect for Interactive Notebooks
Perfect for Morning Work or Assessments

MR. NUSSBAUM
LEARNING + FUN

Terms of Use and Answers

This bundle is the property of Nussbaum Education Network, LLC. You may use the exercises within this bundle with your students or children. These exercises may be used in the classroom or distributed for homework. You may not re-publish this bundle or activities within these bundles, post them online, re-sell them, or use them in standardized tests. Any other uses not mentioned here are prohibited without consent from the Nussbaum Education Network, LLC .

For licensing inquires regarding this bundle, or any other works from Nussbaum Education Network, LLC, please e-mail us at:

mrnussbaumcom@gmail.com, or, visit our website at
<https://mrnussbaum.com>

Terms of Surrender at Appomattox Courthouse – Primary Source Text

Ulysses S. Grant to Robert E. Lee

Appomattox Court-House, Virginia April 9, 1865.

General: In accordance with the substance of my letter to you of the 8th instant, I propose to receive the surrender of the army of Northern Virginia on the following terms, to wit: Rolls of all the officers and men to be made in duplicate, one copy to be given to an officer to be designated by me, the other to be retained by such officer or officers as you may designate. The officers to give their individual paroles not to take up arms against the government of the United States until properly exchanged; and each company or regimental commander to sign a like parole for the men of their commands. The arms, artillery, and public property to be parked and stacked, and turned over to the officers appointed by me to receive them. This will not embrace the side-arms of the officers nor their private horses or baggage. This done, each officer and man will be allowed to return to his home, not to be disturbed by United States authority so long as they observe their paroles and the laws in force where they may reside.

U.S. Grant, Lieutenant-General. General R. E. Lee.

Robert E. Lee to Ulysses S. Grant

Head-Quarters, Army of Northern Virginia April 9, 1865.

General: I received your letter of this date containing the terms of the surrender of the army of Northern Virginia, as proposed by you. As they are substantially the same as those expressed in your letter of the 8th instant, they are accepted. I will proceed to designate the proper officers to carry the stipulations into effect.

R. E. Lee, General. Lieutenant-General U.S. Grant.

The text above describes the surrender negotiations at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865. Confederate General Robert E. Lee and Union General Ulysses S. Grant are trying to agree on the terms of the Confederate surrender.

Questions:

1. Describe how Robert E. Lee responds to Grant's terms. Does he accept or not accept? What is his next step?
2. Would you describe Grant's terms as outlined in his letter generous or demanding? Explain your answer.
3. What does Lee's response to Grant tell you about the condition of the Army of Northern Virginia?
4. What does Grant mean when he writes "...this will not embrace the side-arms of the officers nor their private horses or baggage."?

Answers

1. He agrees to Grant's surrender terms. His next step was to manage the surrender by making sure officers carried out Grant's demands.
2. Grant's terms, as far as surrenders go, were very generous. In his letter, he indicates there will be no prisoners. As long as the soldiers agree to stop fighting, they would be free to go home, rather than become prisoners of war.
3. The Army of Northern Virginia was likely in such a weakened state that Lee deemed them unable to continue the fight.
4. Confederate Officers will be able to keep their personal weapons (those not used in battle) and will be able to keep their horses and private property.



Sequel

The rolling piedmont of Manassas, Virginia, was the site of two major battles of the Civil War, known as The First Battle of Bull Run, and the Second Battle of Bull Run. The first battle, which occurred in 1861, was the first major battle of the Civil War. The second battle, which occurred in the summer of 1862, was a far larger battle. Each was a decisive Confederate victory. Using the chart below, compare and contrast your favorite book or movie and its sequel, and then, compare and contrast the battles at Bull Run.

Similarities and Differences Between a Book or Movie and its Sequel	
Part 1 Name:	Part 2 Name:
Similarities and Differences Between Bull Run I and Bull Run II	
Bull Run I:	Bull Run II:

Extra, Extra – A Compromise has Been Made

Instructions – Design the front cover of the newspaper below to reflect the four points of the Compromise of 1850. Make sure to draw pictures and a clever “taglines” (like) “Califreedom!”

THE WASHINGTON GAZETTE

JANUARY 30, 1850

COMPROMISE MADE!

SENATOR CLAY’S PLAN SAVES THE DAY

NORTH AND SOUTH AVERT WAR FOR NOW!



CALIFREEDOM!

**CALIFORNIA IS
FOREVER FREE!**

Abraham Lincoln – Letter to Fanny McCullough – Primary Source Text

Executive Mansion,

Washington, December 23, 1862.

Dear Fanny

It is with deep grief that I learn of the death of your kind and brave Father; and, especially, that it is affecting your young heart beyond what is common in such cases. In this sad world of ours, sorrow comes to all; and, to the young, it comes with bitterest agony, because it takes them unawares. The older have learned to ever expect it. I am anxious to afford some alleviation of your present distress. Perfect relief is not possible, except with time. You can not now realize that you will ever feel better. Is not this so? And yet it is a mistake. You are sure to be happy again. To know this, which is certainly true, will make you some less miserable now. I have had experience enough to know what I say; and you need only to believe it, to feel better at once. The memory of your dear Father, instead of an agony, will yet be a sad sweet feeling in your heart, of a purer, and holier sort than you have known before.

Please present my kind regards to your afflicted mother.

Your sincere friend,
A. Lincoln.

Questions:

1. What does Abraham Lincoln mean when he writes, “I am anxious to afford some alleviation of your present distress”?
2. According to Lincoln, what will eventually cure Fanny’s sadness?
3. Why does Lincoln suggest that the death of a loved one is hardest on the young?
4. Do you think Lincoln’s letter made Fanny feel better? Why or why not?

Answers:

1. This means that Lincoln is eager to make her feel better.
2. Time
3. Because young people don't expect or think about death; when it happens it comes suddenly and unexpectedly.
4. Answers will vary. Perhaps a letter from someone as important and famous as Abraham Lincoln would help her feel better, especially because he writes from the heart and relates to her directly. On the other hand, perhaps something as insignificant as a letter from a stranger (albeit a famous stranger) can make someone feel better after they've just learned of the death of their father.



Abraham Lincoln's Dream

Just days before his death, Abraham Lincoln related a dream he had experienced:

"Determined to find the cause of a state of things so mysterious and so shocking, I kept on until I arrived at the East Room, which I entered. There I met with a sickening surprise. Before me was a catafalque, on which rested a corpse wrapped in funeral vestments. Around it were stationed soldiers who were acting as guards; and there was a throng of people, gazing mournfully upon the corpse, whose face was covered, others weeping pitifully. 'Who is dead in the White House?' I demanded of one of the soldiers, 'The President,' was his answer; 'he was killed by an assassin.' Then came a loud burst of grief from the crowd, which woke me from my dream. I slept no more that night; and although it was only a dream, I have been strangely annoyed by it ever since."

On April 14, 1865, Lincoln was indeed assassinated. To those who had heard Lincoln's description of his dream, the assassination was particularly eerie. Have you ever had a dream so vivid that you weren't sure it was just a dream when you woke up? Draw a picture below of a "scene" from that dream and do your best to explain it.

A large, empty rectangular box with a blue border, intended for a student to draw a scene from a dream.

My Dream

A series of seven horizontal black lines provided for the student to write their explanation of the dream scene.

Celebrating 5 years online

Welcome to:

A thousand sites in one!

MrNussbaum.com

Famous Last Words

On May 2, 1863, following the Confederate victory at Chancellorsville, Confederate General Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson was shot in the arm by one of his own soldiers who mistook him for a member of a Union cavalry force. Jackson's arm would be amputated. Eight days later, he succumbed to pneumonia, a common fate among those with amputated limbs. According to his attending physician, Dr. McGuire, Jackson became delirious in the moments before his death and uttered the famous last words, "Let us cross over the river, and rest under the shade of the trees."

It may be hard to imagine YOUR OWN last words, but put yourself in a position where your last words would be immortalized forever. In no more than two sentences, what would you say? If you are uncomfortable thinking of your own last words, think of a character in the movies or literature. What would their last words be?

Last Words of _____

Decoding Presidential Quotes

Decode the presidential quote. The letters to use correspond with their numerical order. For example, 6 would stand for "F."

20	8	5		6	18	9	5	14	4	
9	14		13	25						
1	4	22	5	18	19	9	20	25		9
19	8	1	12	12						
1	12	23	1	25	19					
3	8	5	18	9	19	8				
13	15	19	20							

Who uttered this quote? _____

What do you think it means?

Answers:

The Friend in My Adversity I Shall Always Cherish Most was uttered by Ulysses S. Grant

It meant that friends who supported him in his darkest moments, were those that he held in the highest esteem.

Wilmer McLean

One of the great ironies of the Civil War regards the story of a grocer named Wilmer McLean. It is often said that the Civil War “started in his front lawn and ended in his front parlor.” On July 21, 1861, the first major battle of the Civil War took place on McLean’s farm in Manassas, Virginia. In the battle, a cannonball tore through his roof, and Confederate General P.G.T. Beauregard made the house his headquarters. Concerned about the welfare of his family and business, McLean moved everything to Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, a place he believed would be safe from warfare and battles. To his dismay, however, on April 9, 1865, the war returned to the residence of the McLean family when Lee surrendered to Grant in his front parlor. Following the surrender, Union officers made off with nearly all of McLean’s furniture as souvenirs.

Below are four cells. Make a short (and funny) comic showing the following scenes:

- 1.) Wilmer McLean living happily in his old brick home in Manassas, Virginia.
- 2.) Wilmer McLean assessing the damage to his kitchen after a Union cannonball smashed through the ceiling.
- 3.) Wilmer McLean living happily away from the fighting in remote Appomattox Courthouse
- 4.) Wilmer McLean angrily watching as Union officers take his furniture as souvenirs.



Oh Captain! My Captain!

Walt Whitman was a 19th century journalist and poet, most famous for his lyrical poems and verses describing nature. He was also a volunteer nurse for the Union Army during the Civil War. Whitman penned the elegy (mourning poem) below in 1865 in honor of his hero, Abraham Lincoln.

Who is your hero or “Captain?” Read the poem below to get a sense of the anguish Walt Whitman felt upon learning of Lincoln’s assassination. Then, pen a short “Oh Captain! My Captain” poem about your hero. See the example on the second page.

O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,
The ship has weather’d every rack, the prize we sought is won,
The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring;
But O heart! heart! heart!
O the bleeding drops of red,
Where on the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;
Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle trills,
For you bouquets and ribbon’d wreaths—for you the shores a-crowding,
For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;
Here Captain! dear father!
This arm beneath your head!
It is some dream that on the deck,
You’ve fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,
My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will,
The ship is anchor’d safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,
From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won;
Exult O shores, and ring O bells!
But I with mournful tread,
Walk the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

Your Captain: _____

Your poem does not have to be an elegy and probably should not be. It can be about his or her current life, accomplishments, or why your “captain” is special.

EXAMPLE (Benjamin Franklin)

Oh Captain! My Captain! You wrote an almanac;

You invented sayings, you printed papers, you traced our country’s track;

From Boston, Mass. to Paris, France, you stood up for our nation;

In the war, you argued for, America’s creation.

YOUR POEM

Oh Captain! My Captain! _____

Emphasis – What was the actual meaning of Jackson’s iconic nickname?

Sometimes two sentences take on different meanings depending on what is emphasized. For example, read the sentences below and emphasize the words in bold font.

1. I never said **she** stole my money.
2. I never said she **stole** my money.

In the first sentence, it seems as if money was stolen, but the perpetrator was not “she.”

In the second sentence, it seems as if money might have been given away or lent to “she,” but it was not stolen.

Even though the sentences are the same, the meaning changes as different words are emphasized. Similarly, historians aren’t sure exactly what Bernard Bee meant when he uttered something like, “there stands Jackson like a stone wall.” Some believe he was inspired by Jackson’s presence, and some believe he uttered those words because of Jackson’s inaction. Whatever the case, from that moment on, Confederate General Thomas J. Jackson was known as Stonewall Jackson.

In the chart below, make up two fictional accounts of what Bernard Bee might have said after uttering “there stands Jackson like a stone wall.” You’ll need to make up accounts for both sentences that emphasize different words.

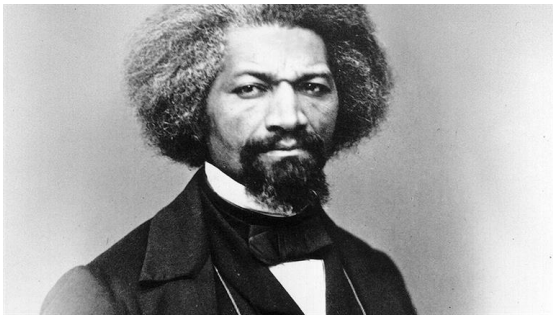
There stands Jackson like a stone wall!	There stands Jackson like a stone wall !

Answers:

There stands Jackson like a stone wall!	There stands Jackson like a stone wall!
Answers will vary, but in this version, students should write something about how Jackson's figure, strong like a stone wall, inspired Bee and his soldiers to continue fighting.	Answers will vary, but in this version, students should write something that indicates that Bernard Bee was irritated with Stonewall Jackson and implored him to stop "standing there" and move his soldiers into action.

The National Abolitionist Hall-of-Fame

Directions: Pretend you have been chosen to induct Frederick Douglass and Harriet Beecher Stowe into the fictional abolitionist hall-of-fame. Your first job, however, is to design a “flyer” that advertises the inductees and the reasons for their inductions. In the spaces provided continue the narratives that highlight each inductee’s accomplishments. Secondly, design an abolitionist hall-of-fame medal each would receive upon their entry. Medals can include icons, symbols, color, and their names.



FREDERICK DOUGLASS

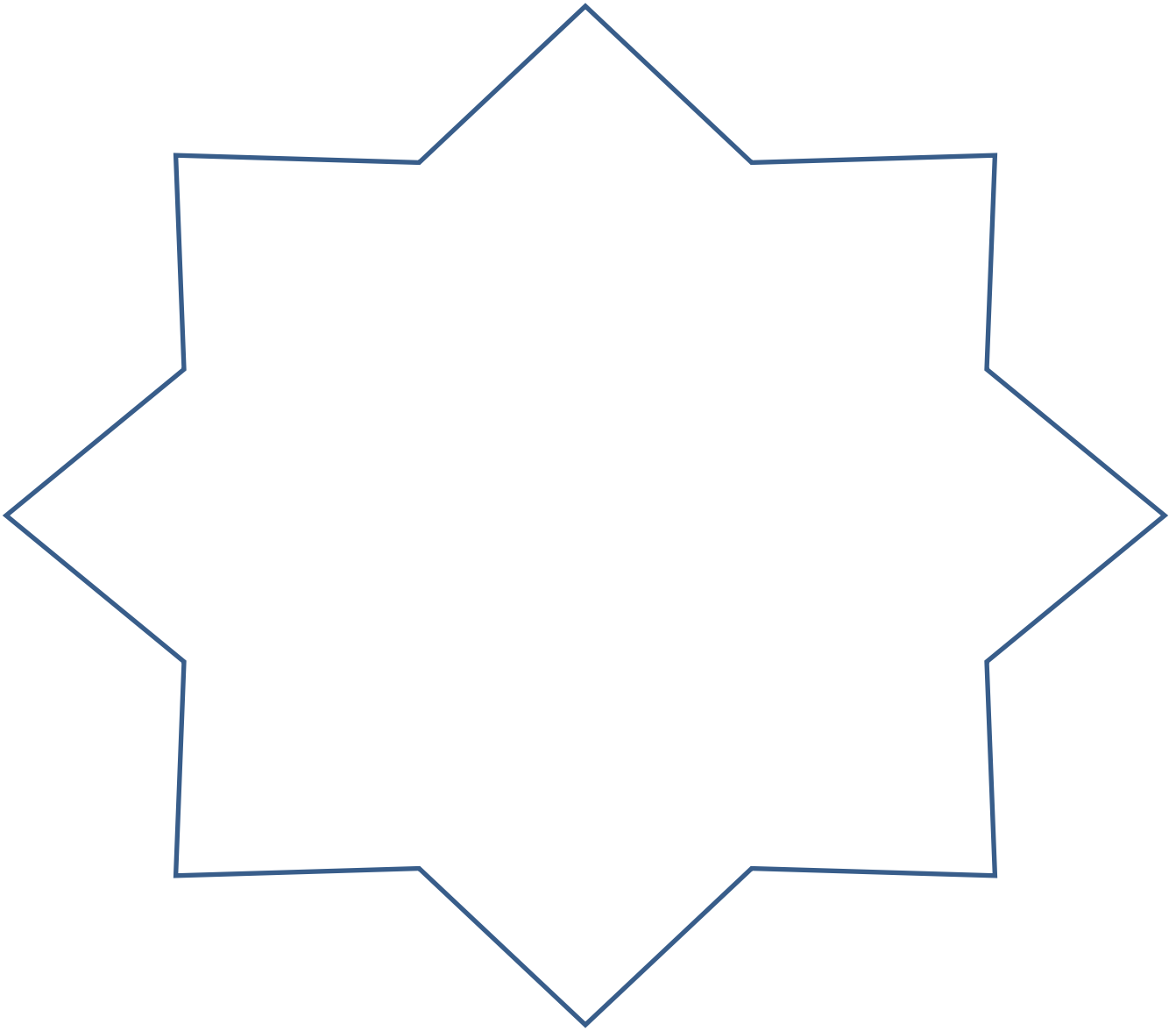


HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

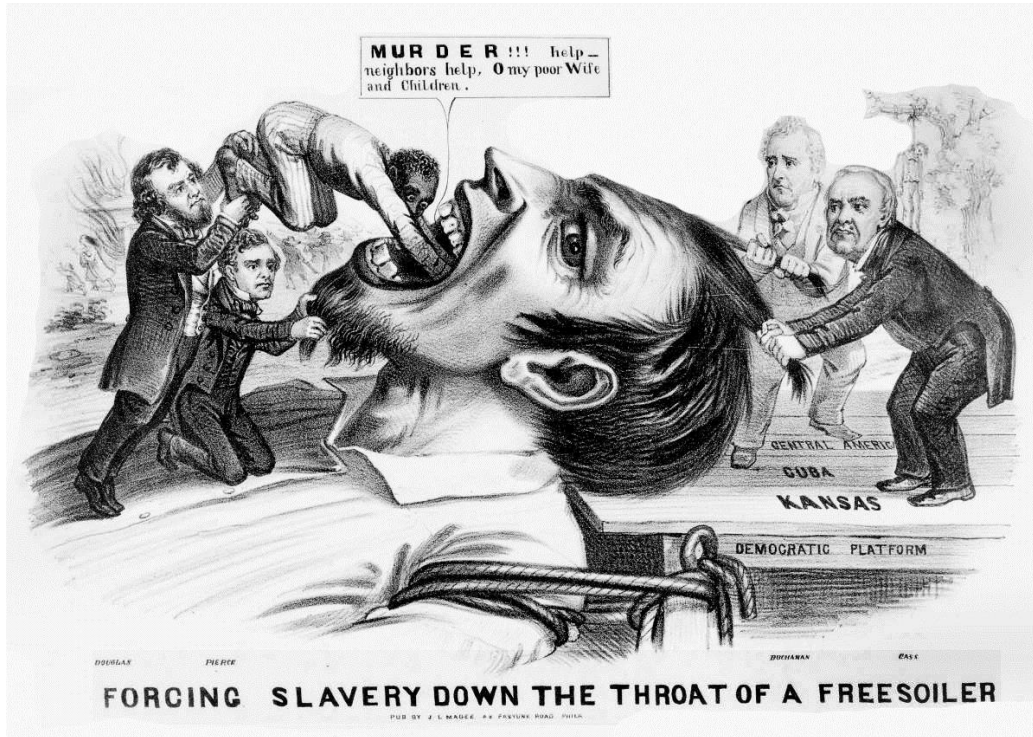
FREDERICK DOUGLASS, DEDICATED ENEMY OF SLAVERY AND ONE OF THE ...

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE, AUTHOR OF ONE OF THE.....

National Abolition Hall-of-Fame Medal of Honor



Bleeding Kansas Billboard



Following the controversial Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, antislavery northern settlers rushed into Kansas in an attempt to sway the popular vote against slavery. These settlers were buoyed by political cartoons such as the example above, which shows President Franklin Pierce, among others, “forcing slavery down the throat” of Americans.

Pretend you are an antislavery activist during this time period. Design a fictional “billboard” that literally represents Bleeding Kansas and that urges likeminded citizens to move to Kansas to prevent the spread of slavery.

KANSAS IS BLEEDING AND NEEDS YOUR HELP!

WHY?

-
-



WHAT'S AT STAKE?

BORDER RUFFIANS!



Best Sellers!

Harriet Beecher Stowe's landmark novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was not only controversial, but extremely popular as well! It was the second top-selling book in the entire 19th century, trailing only the Bible.

Fast forward to more modern times. Can you GUESS the top ten best-selling children's books or novels of all time? List what books you think make the list and then guess the approximate number of copies that have been sold. Your teacher will reveal the answers after you've made your guesses and estimations.

Hint: None of the top ten books were written by Dr. Seuss as sales records for these books are not available. In addition, different volumes of the same series are included in this list. For example, books from one particular series occupy six of the top ten books!

Book Title	Number of Copies Sold
1.	Apx. 150,000,000
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	Apx. 55,000,000

Answers

Book Title	Number of Copies Sold
1. <i>Lord of the Rings</i> ; J.R.R. Tolkein	Apx. 150 million copies sold
2. <i>The Hobbit</i> ; J.R.R. Tolkein	Apx. 142 million copies sold
3. <i>Le Petit Prince</i> ; Antoine de Saint Expurey	Apx. 140 million copies sold
4. <i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</i> ; J.K. Rowling	Apx. 107 million copies sold
5. <i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</i> ; C.S. Lewis	Apx. 85 million copies sold
6. <i>Harry Potter and the Half-blood Prince</i> ; J.K. Rowling	Apx. 65 million copies sold
7. <i>Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets</i> ; J.K. Rowling	Apx. 60 million copies sold
8. <i>Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban</i> ; J.K. Rowling	Apx. 55 million copies sold
9. <i>Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire</i> ; J.K. Rowling	Apx. 55 million copies sold
10. <i>Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix</i> ; J.K. Rowling	Apx. 55 million copies sold

Also of note:

Charlotte's Web by E.B. White is ranked twelfth with apx. 50 million copies sold

The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter is ranked thirteenth with apx. 45 million copies sold

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle is ranked fourteenth with apx. 30 million copies sold.


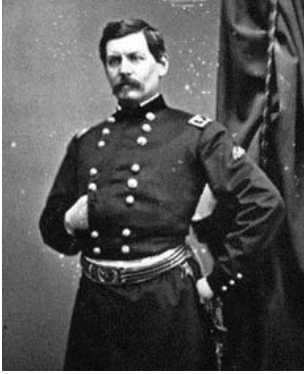



The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins is ranked fifteenth with apx. 21 million copies sold.

SOURCE: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_best-selling_books

- These are ESTIMATIONS. Some book, such as those written by Dr. Seuss, are not on this list because sales figures are not available.

Wanted: A Good Union Commander

The Union Army was plagued with poor generals throughout the first half of the Civil War. President Abraham Lincoln went through five commanders before finally settling on one. Read the captions below and learn why each commander ultimately lost his post as Commander of the Army of the Potomac. Then, based on the captions below that describe traits of INEFFECTIVE generals make a WANTED poster on the next page announcing a vacancy for Commander of the Army of the Potomac and list the qualities of EFFECTIVE generals required for the job.

		
Irvin McDowell	George B. McClellan	Ambrose Burnside
Battle Plans were too complex for inexperienced soldiers	Too indecisive; often overestimated the size of opposing army; insubordinate to the president.	Prone to critical delays in attacking; poor communicator
		
Joseph Hooker	George Meade	
Disorganized; immoral; and easily outwitted by superior Confederate generals	Fairly effective, although grumpy; prone to complacency. Failed to pursue Confederates at Gettysburg.	

WANTED

COMMANDER OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

REPORT FOR DUTY BY MARCH, 1864

In-action Drawing

THE UNION ARMY NEEDS A LEADER WITH THE FOLLOWING QUALITIES:



1.



2.



3.



4.

Harriet Tubman Quotes

Name _____

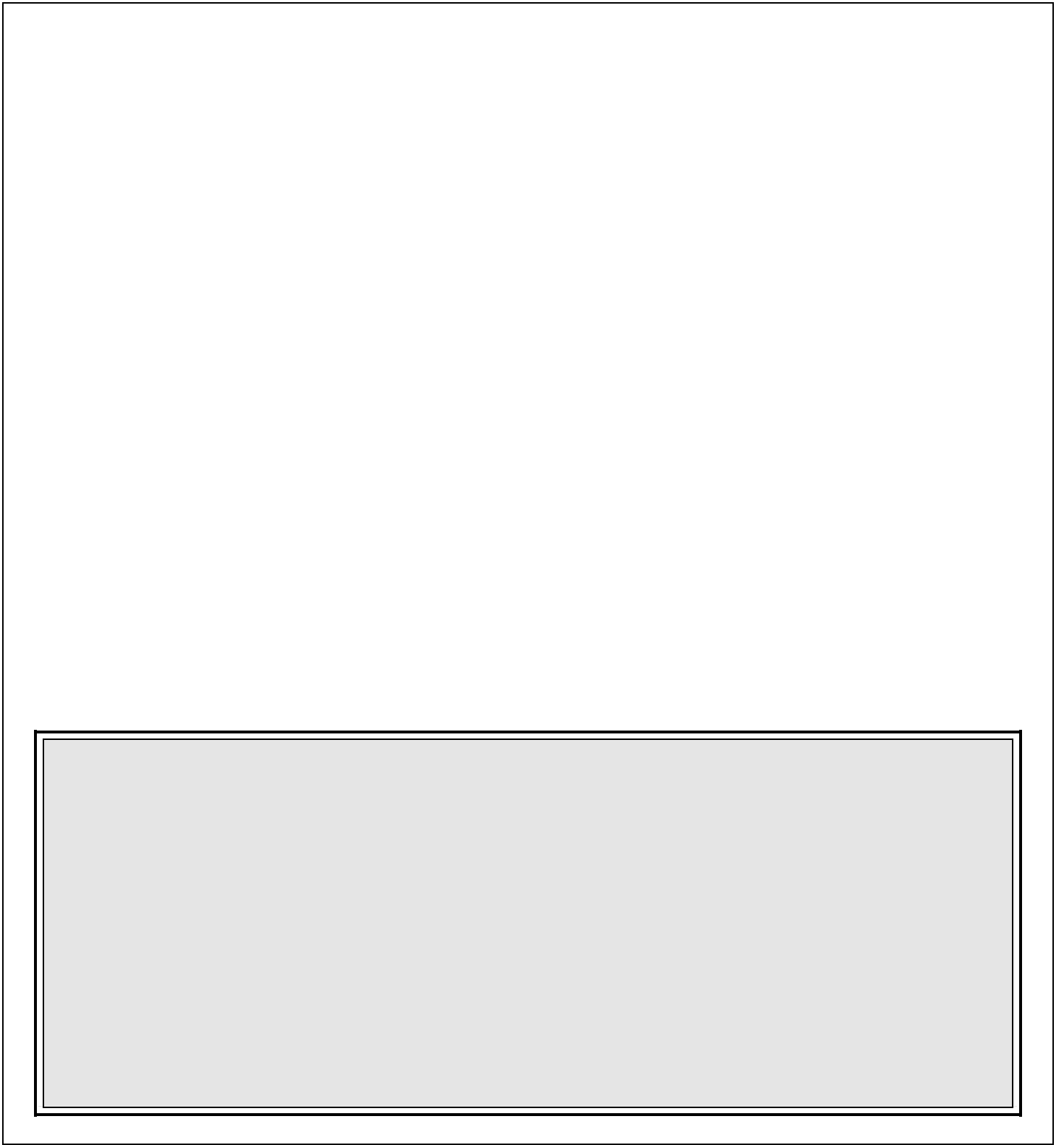
Read the Harriet Tubman quotes below. Choose one and create an inspirational portrait on the next page. Draw a colorful scene you think could accompany Tubman's quote and copy the quote neatly into the box.

I looked at my hands to see if I was the same person. There was such a glory over everything. The sun came up like gold through the trees, and I felt like I was in heaven.

In my dreams and visions, I seemed to see a line, and on the other side of that line were green fields, and lovely flowers, and beautiful white ladies, who stretched out their arms to me over the line, but I couldn't reach them no-how. I always fell before I got to the line.

Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.

I grew up like a neglected weed - ignorant of liberty, having no experience of it.





Civil War Battles Reading Comprehension Bundle
Integrated Reading and
CRITICAL THOUGHT
Activities

For Grades 5-8

16 INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES
Perfect for Interactive Notebooks
Perfect for Morning Work or Assessments

MR. NUSSBAUM
LEARNING + FUN

Terms of Use and Answers

Fort Sumter	B, C, D, A, B, C, A, A, D, C
Bull Run I	A, C, B, C, A, D, A, B, D, D
Ironclads	D, B, D, A, D, C, B, C, C, D
Shiloh	D, B, C, B, C, B, A, A, A, C

This bundle is the property of Nussbaum Education Network, LLC. You may use the exercises within this bundle with your students or children. These exercises may be used in the classroom or distributed for homework. You may not re-publish this bundle or activities within these bundles, post them online, re-sell them, or use them in standardized tests. Any other uses not mentioned here are prohibited without consent from the Nussbaum Education Network, LLC .

For licensing inquires regarding this bundle, or any other works from Nussbaum Education Network, LLC, please e-mail us at:

mrnussbaumcom@gmail.com, or, visit our website at <https://mrnussbaum.com>

Siege at Vicksburg Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

The Gibraltar of the Confederacy

By 1863, Union forces had gained control over much of the Mississippi River. President Abraham Lincoln considered control of the nation's largest waterway crucial, but the fortified city of Vicksburg, Mississippi, located above a horseshoe-shaped bend in the river, stood in the way of Union success. As long as Vicksburg was controlled by the Confederacy, the Union could not navigate the river and the Confederacy could ship supplies and send communications between its parts east and west of the river. Located high on the bluffs overlooking the river, Vicksburg was referred to as "the Gibraltar of the Confederacy." Attacking Vicksburg was difficult. It was surrounded by swamps and poor country roads. Furthermore, there was a giant fortress atop the bluffs making a naval assault virtually impossible.

Direct Assault, Impossible. Preparing for a Siege

Prior to the Siege of Vicksburg, Union General Ulysses S. Grant had won control of Mississippi River ports in Louisiana, as well as Mississippi's capital, Jackson. Confederate forces, facing an overwhelming Union assault, were forced to withdraw to the fortifications of Vicksburg. Grant, fully cognizant of the difficulties of taking Vicksburg, ordered an immediate assault on the city before the Confederates could get fully organized and entrenched. Union forces would come under withering fire as they attempted to negotiate steep ravines, deep ditches, and the 17-foot-high walls of what was called the Stockade Redan. Their first assault, on May 19th, under the command of Major Generals William T. Sherman and Francis Blair, were summarily repulsed resulting in crushing casualties as Confederate forces fired on them from above. In a second series of assaults ordered by General Grant on May 22nd, Union forces suffered even greater casualties and made virtually no progress in advancing on the fortifications. Union losses totaled over 3,000 soldiers on May 22, compared to less than 500 in the Confederate ranks. It soon became apparent that Union success would rely on a prolonged siege, something that Grant hoped to avoid.

Misery on the Bluffs

Union forces began to build entrenchments in the hopes of gradually moving closer and closer to the Fortifications and trapping Confederate forces and the population of Vicksburg. Over time, Grant moved 77,000 Union soldiers into positions completely encircling Vicksburg and eventually cutting off their supply line. Any chance of a Confederate escape was gone. By the end of June, many Confederate soldiers began suffering from malnutrition and scurvy, a condition which frequently afflicted sailors in the Age of Exploration, caused by an acute lack of Vitamin-C. Others suffered from unsanitary conditions and came down with diarrhea, dehydration, malaria, and dysentery. Confederate forces were forced to eat their horses, dogs, and to steal vegetables from the gardens of Vicksburg residents. Amidst the misery, Union gunboats and cannons continuously bombarded the city and fortifications, destroying suitable shelters. Residents and soldiers would dig over 500 caves into the hillside to escape the bombardment.

Surrender

By July, the situation had grown hopeless for the Confederates. Surrender negotiations began and Grant agreed to parole the remaining Confederate soldiers, rather than having to ship 30,000 to prison camps. On July 4, 1863, a day after Lee's defeat at Gettysburg, surrender terms were finalized and the Union gained total control of the Mississippi River (five days later Fort Hudson, Louisiana fell into Union hands as well). Confederate forces were forced to relinquish 172 cannons and over 50,000 rifles.

The 82 year-long Grudge

For the Confederacy, the Vicksburg defeat, combined with the Gettysburg defeat, is often considered the turning point in the Civil War. July 4th, America's birthday, would not be celebrated in Vicksburg again until World War II.

1. Which of the following best explains why control of the Mississippi River was advantageous for the Union?

- a) The river allowed for the transport of messages and supplies.
- b) It was the nation's largest waterway.
- c) The Confederacy was using the river to invade Union settlements.
- d) It was close to the Confederate capital of Richmond.

2. Which best describes the Union's battle plans at Vicksburg?

- a) Reckless, but isolated
- b) Careful, but unsuccessful
- c) Tactical, but close-minded
- d) Strategic, but flexible

3. Which statement about initial attacks on Vicksburg is supported by the passage?

- a) The first assault was led by only one Union general.
- b) Confederate casualties outweighed the Union ones.
- c) Grant waited too long to order the first attack.
- d) The city's high location gave the Union a disadvantage.

4. Which was not a struggle faced by the Confederates during the Union siege?

- a) Lack of food
- b) Illness
- c) Spies within the ranks
- d) Destruction from Union fire

5. Which statement about Vicksburg is false?

- a) The Confederacy lost cannons and rifles to the Union at the end of the battle.
- b) The battle would have been over more quickly had it been a naval assault.
- c) It ended with a Confederate surrender.
- d) The battle is considered a turning point in the Civil War.

6. Which is the best synonym for the word "parole" as it is used in the passage?

- a) Release
- b) Forgive
- c) Protect
- d) Kill

7. Which general did not fight with the Union at Vicksburg?

- a) William T. Sherman
- b) Francis Blair
- c) Abraham Lincoln
- d) Ulysses S. Grant

-----Key-----

1. (a)
2. (d)
3. (d)
4. (c)
5. (b)
6. (a)
7. (c)

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____

Below is a passage on Fort Sumter. On the following page is a chart with ten statements. Indicate whether each statement is fact or fiction.

From Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter

The Battle of Fort Sumter marked the first exchange of fire in the Civil War. After seven southern states ratified their declarations of secession, the state of South Carolina demanded that Federal (United States) troops stationed at Fort Moultrie (in Charleston Harbor) abandon the fort. On December 26, 1860, however, Union Major General Richard Anderson moved his troops from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter, because he thought Fort Sumter was more easily defended. South Carolina subsequently seized all other Federal forts in South Carolina except for Fort Sumter. About two weeks later, U.S. president at the time James Buchanan authorized the delivery of reinforcements to Fort Sumter. The ship carrying the reinforcements was fired upon by batteries from the South Carolina shore and the reinforcements never made it.

The South is Serious!

Over the course of the next few months, Confederate forces strengthened batteries around Fort Sumter. Furthermore, the new president of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis, appointed his first military officer, P.G. T. Beauregard, to command forces in Charleston. Ironically, Anderson and Beauregard were close friends and Beauregard even served as Anderson's assistant after graduation from West Point.

The Bombardment and Siege

Inside the fort, Anderson and his troops were running short on food and supplies as a siege began to form. New president Abraham Lincoln again tried to resupply the fort and notified South Carolina Governor Francis Pickens that he was sending in ships. In response, Confederate forces demanded the immediate surrender of the fort. After General Anderson refused the demand, they began bombarding Fort Sumter at 4:30 in the morning on April 12, 1861.

Surrender

Confederate forces firing on Fort Sumter quickly took their toll. Badly outgunned and outmanned, Anderson's forces inside the fort initially returned fire, but were soon overwhelmed. After 34 hours, Major General Anderson agreed to evacuate the fort. No American or Confederate soldiers were killed during the battle, though two soldiers would die as a result of a gun explosion during the surrender ceremonies on April 14.

	FACT	FICTION
The Battle of Fort Sumter marked the first exchange of fire in the Civil War.		
The battle occurred before seven states seceded from the Union.		
Following the demand for surrender, Richard Anderson moved his soldiers from Fort Sumter to Fort Moultrie.		
Richard Anderson and P.G.T. Beauregard were actually close friends.		
After General Anderson refused the order to surrender, Confederate forces opened fire on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861.		
Union forces inside Fort Sumter were no match of the Confederate firepower.		
One of the effects of the battle of Fort Sumter was President Lincoln's request for the mobilization of soldiers for the Union army.		
Two Union soldiers were killed during the fighting.		
P.G.T. Beauregard was the first military officer appointed in the Confederacy.		
Following Fort Sumter, four additional states seceded from the Union.		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
The Battle of Fort Sumter marked the first exchange of fire in the Civil War.	X	
The battle occurred before seven states seceded from the Union.		X
Following the demand for surrender, Richard Anderson moved his soldiers from Fort Sumter to Fort Moultrie.		X
Richard Anderson and P.G.T. Beauregard were actually close friends.	X	
After General Anderson refused the order to surrender, Confederate forces opened fire on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861.	X	
Union forces inside Fort Sumter were no match of the Confederate firepower.	X	
One of the effects of the battle of Fort Sumter was President Lincoln's request for the mobilization of soldiers for the Union army.	X	
Two Union soldiers were killed during the fighting.		X
P.G.T. Beauregard was the first military officer appointed in the Confederacy.	X	
Following Fort Sumter, four additional state seceded from the Union.	X	

Battle Breakdown: Fort Sumter

Name _____

Instructions: Read the narrative and fill in the chart on the next page.

From Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter

The Battle of Fort Sumter marked the first exchange of fire in the Civil War. After seven southern states ratified their declarations of secession, the state of South Carolina demanded that Federal (United States) troops stationed at Fort Moultrie (in Charleston Harbor) abandon the fort. On December 26, 1860, however, Union Major General Richard Anderson moved his troops from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter, because he thought Fort Sumter was more easily defended. South Carolina subsequently seized all other Federal forts in South Carolina except for Fort Sumter. About two weeks later, U.S. president at the time James Buchanan authorized the delivery of reinforcements to Fort Sumter. The ship carrying the reinforcements was fired upon by batteries from the South Carolina shore and the reinforcements never made it.

The South is Serious!

Over the course of the next few months, Confederate forces strengthened batteries around Fort Sumter. Furthermore, the new president of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis, appointed his first military officer, P.G. T. Beauregard, to command forces in Charleston. Ironically, Anderson and Beauregard were close friends and Beauregard even served as Anderson's assistant after graduation from West Point.

The Bombardment and Siege

Inside the fort, Anderson and his troops were running short on food and supplies as a siege began to form. New president Abraham Lincoln again tried to resupply the fort and notified South Carolina Governor Francis Pickens that he was sending in ships. In response, Confederate forces demanded the immediate surrender of the fort. After General Anderson refused the demand, they began bombarding Fort Sumter at 4:30 in the morning on April 12, 1861.

Surrender

Confederate forces firing on Fort Sumter quickly took their toll. Badly outgunned and outmanned, Anderson's forces inside the fort initially returned fire, but were soon overwhelmed. After 34 hours, Major General Anderson agreed to evacuate the fort. No American or Confederate soldiers were killed during the battle, though two soldiers would die as a result of a gun explosion during the surrender ceremonies on April 14.

Mobilizing for War

Both the North and the South became galvanized in their war efforts after Fort Sumter. President Lincoln's request for the mobilization of 75,000 additional troops prompted the secession of four other states.

What was the cause of the battle?	
What were the roles of each of the following players?	
Abraham Lincoln	
Richard Anderson	
P.G.T. Beauregard	
Jefferson Davis	
Francis Pickens	
Which side won the battle?	
What was the effect of the battle?	

Answers:

What was the cause of the battle?	
Union forces refused to abandon Forts Moultrie and Sumter in South Carolina after it seceded from the Union.	
What were the roles of each of the following players?	
Abraham Lincoln	Abraham Lincoln was the president of the United States at the time. He tried to send reinforcements to Fort Sumter, but the ship was fired upon by batteries on the South Carolina shore.
Richard Anderson	Richard Anderson was the Union general in charge of American soldiers at Fort Moultrie and Fort Sumter. He was forced to surrender the fort when the situation became hopeless inside of it.
P.G.T. Beauregard	P.G.T. Beauregard was a former assistant to Richard Anderson. Beauregard was in charge of military forces within Charleston and led the bombardment of Fort Sumter.
Jefferson Davis	Jefferson Davis was the president of the Confederate States of America, who made Beauregard his first military appointment.
Francis Pickens	Francis Pickens was the governor of South Carolina.
Which side won the battle? Confederacy	
What was the effect of the battle?	
Following the surrender of Fort Sumter, President Lincoln requested the mobilization of 75,000 troops for military service to the Union. This request prompted four additional states to secede from the Union and join the Confederacy. The states were: Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, and Arkansas.	

Battle of Shiloh Reading Comprehension

The Battle of Shiloh, sometimes referred to as the Battle of Pittsburg Landing (in the South), was a major engagement of the Western Theater of the American Civil War that occurred on April 6–7, 1862, in western Tennessee. The Union Army of the Tennessee, led by future president and hero of the Civil War, Ulysses S. Grant, had occupied much of Tennessee after winning the Battles at Forts Henry and Donelson. Confederate forces under Generals P.G.T. Beauregard and Albert Sidney Johnston launched a surprise attack on Grant's army of nearly 50,000, which was encamped on the west bank of the Tennessee River. The Confederates hoped to drive Grant's army into nearby swamps before reinforcements could arrive and prevent two major divisions of the Union army from uniting in Tennessee.

On the morning of April 6, Johnston's army launched a surprise attack on Grant. Confederate forces, however, proved inexperienced with inadequate weaponry. Furthermore, Johnston and Beauregard differed concerning attack strategy, which led to mass confusion amongst Confederate ranks. Nevertheless, the attack proved effective, as many shocked Union soldiers threw down their weapons and ran. Union Brigadier General William T. Sherman, however, rallied his troops, despite being wounded and having three horses shot out from under him. Confederate forces, however, continued to gain ground, and many acquired more effective weapons from those left behind by dead or fleeing Union soldiers. Meanwhile, Union forces had also been overrun at a portion of the battlefield known as the "Hornet's Nest." Confederate forces would ultimately capture as many as 2,400 Union soldiers after surrounding this position, but the brave Union stand allowed General Grant to establish a strong three-mile-long defense line with 50 cannons and several gunboats positioned in the Tennessee River at Pittsburg Landing. During this part of the battle, General Johnston was killed, adding even more confusion in the Confederate ranks. By the end of the day, Confederate forces had pushed the Union back along the river but not into the swamps. The Union Army of the Tennessee would fight another day. General Beauregard, however, believed he had Grant exactly where he wanted him, and celebrated a "complete" Confederate victory prematurely. By 4:00 in the morning of April 7, Grant's army received significant reinforcements, giving them a huge advantage in manpower. Beauregard ignored intelligence that suggested Union reinforcement.

On April 7, Beauregard ordered his army to attack Union ranks and drive them entirely into the river. Grant, now reinforced by Don Carlos Buell's Division of the Ohio and Lew Wallace's division, launched a devastating surprise counterattack from defensive positions along the river. Beauregard's Confederates fought bravely but were low on morale and supplies. They were forced to move to positions behind the Shiloh Church and eventually retreated to Corinth, Mississippi. Grant, knowing his soldiers were exhausted, failed to order pursuit of the fleeing Confederates. On April 8, Grant sent General Sherman on a mission to find out whether or not the Confederates had made a full retreat. In what came to be known as the Battle of Fallen Timbers, Union forces came upon a Confederate hospital camp. Confederate forces launched a wild attack under Colonel Nathan Bedford Forrest that resulted in the capture of 100 or so Union soldiers before retreating at the sight of the larger Union force.

Despite the Union victory, General Grant was vilified in the Northern press for failing to pursue the Confederates. Many called for Grant, who had a reputation for being a drunk, to be removed from command. President Lincoln refused. The Battle of Shiloh left the Confederate strongholds of Memphis and Corinth, Mississippi, vulnerable to Union occupation. Both would fall into Union hands in 1862. The battle resulted in a staggering 24,000 combined casualties, by far the deadliest engagement in American history to that point.

1.) The Battle of Shiloh is considered...

- a.) a minor battle in the Western Theater of the Civil War.
- b.) a major Confederate victory in the Civil War.
- c.) an indecisive victory in the Civil War.
- d.) a major battle in the Western Theater of the Civil War.

2.) At Pittsburg Landing, Confederate forces hoped to...

- a.) drive the Union Army out of Tennessee.
- b.) drive the Union Army into nearby swamps.
- c.) win the American Civil War.
- d.) capture Union artillery firing at them from the Tennessee River.

3.) After the first day of the battle...

- a.) the Union Army seemed to have the advantage.
- b.) Confederate forces were pinned up against the river.
- c.) the Confederacy seemed to have the advantage.
- d.) General Grant was ready to surrender.

4.) General P.G.T. Beauregard's biggest mistake after the first day of the Battle of Shiloh was...

- a.) failing to counterattack
- b.) ignoring valuable intelligence
- c.) rejecting reinforcements
- d.) attacking the Union left flank

5.) Why did Beauregard celebrate prematurely?

- a.) General Johnston had been killed in battle.
- b.) General Sherman had been killed in battle.
- c.) He believed he had the Union Army in a position in which he could destroy them.
- d.) Confederate reinforcements arrived at 4:00 A.M.

6.) On April 7, the Union Army...

- a.) had been seriously weakened
- b.) had gained a tremendous advantage in manpower
- c.) had retreated into nearby swamps
- d.) had made plans to evacuate the area

7.) Which of the following WAS NOT true about the Confederate Army on April 7?

- a.) They were ready to fight another day.
- b.) They were exhausted.
- c.) They fought bravely.
- d.) They were outnumbered.

8.) After the Battle of Shiloh, General Grant was...

- a.) criticized deeply
- b.) considered a hero in the North
- c.) badly injured
- d.) promoted

9.) The Battle of Shiloh eventually resulted in...

- a.) The Union occupation of major Confederate strongholds.
- b.) The Union victory in the Civil War.
- c.) The reelection of Abraham Lincoln.
- d.) The freeing of slaves.

10.) What can you infer about how President Lincoln felt about General Grant?

- a.) He believed Grant should have been removed from command.
- b.) He believed Grant was a drunk.
- c.) He believed in Grant's military capabilities.
- d.) It is impossible to tell from the passage.

Prelude of Gettysburg Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

Read the passage and answer the questions.

Lee Intends to Invade Pennsylvania

Buoyed by confidence in his army after its decisive victory at Chancellorsville, Virginia, in May of 1863, Confederate Commander Robert E. Lee decided to make a second invasion in the North. Lee believed he could threaten the major cities of Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and even Washington, further eroding the dwindling support for the War in the North. Furthermore, Lee wanted to move hostilities to the North because Virginia had been ravaged by hundreds of battles. The land in the North was still unspoiled and Lee believed Confederate soldiers could subsist from the products from the pristine farms of Maryland and Pennsylvania.

The Forces

On June 3, 1863, Lee directed his Army of Northern Virginia to move north from Fredericksburg. He also organized his army into three corps, Corps I led by General James Longstreet, Corps II led by Richard Ewell, and Corps III led by A.P. Hill. Cavalry would be led by J.E.B. Stuart. Confederate manpower totaled about 72,000 soldiers, whereas Union forces totaled over 94,000 soldiers.

Where is Stuart? Meade Takes Command for the Army of the Potomac

On June 26, Major General Jubal Early's division from Ewell's Corps had reached the town of Gettysburg. Ewell's men burned railroad cars and a covered bridge, but at this point, there was no indication the largest battle in recorded history in the Western Hemisphere would occur in Gettysburg. In what would become a pivotal moment in Lee's campaign, he gave vague orders to Cavalry Commander J.E.B. Stuart to ride around the right flank of Union forces to determine exact locations and numbers. Stuart, who was indispensable to Lee in previous battles with his cavalry raids and intelligence gathering, failed to report back until the third and last day of the battle. Meanwhile, on the Union side, President Lincoln accepted the resignation of General Joseph Hooker, and replaced him with General George Meade, who would now be in charge of Union forces (the Army of the Potomac) at Gettysburg.

The Shoes Determine the Location of an Epic Battle

As Confederate forces concentrated in Cashtown, PA, about eight miles south of Gettysburg, Confederate Brigadier General Joseph Pettigrew was sent to Gettysburg to commandeer supplies, especially shoes, for the Confederate Army. Finding an enemy force at Gettysburg, Pettigrew withdrew to Cashtown, and Confederate forces began their advance.

1. Which statement is false?

- a) Corps I was led by James Longstreet.
- b) The Confederates had more manpower than the Union army as of June 1963.
- c) Lee led the Union army north on June 3, 1963.
- d) Lee divided his army into three groups.

2. Which of the following is not a reason why Lee wanted to advance battles into the North?

- a) He was more confident due to previous Southern victories.
- b) He wanted to decrease Northern morale and support for the war.
- c) Many battles had already destroyed the Southern lands, and Lee wanted to take the fight to the mostly intact Northern ones.
- d) Lee felt less sure leading the army during a battle on Confederate lands.

3. Which event happened first?

- a) Confederate forces gather in Cashtown, PA.
- b) Lincoln appoints General George Meade commander of Union forces.
- c) General Early's division reaches Gettysburg
- d) Confederate forces begin their advance on Gettysburg after Pettigrew retreats to Cashtown.

4. What inference can be made from the fact that Commander Stuart did not report back to Lee until the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg?

- a) Stuart's failure to report exact numbers of Union forces was disadvantageous to Confederate forces in battle.
- b) Stuart reported back to Lee just in time for the beginning of the Battle of Gettysburg.
- c) Stuart's failure to report exact numbers of Union forces meant that he was betraying the Confederate forces as a Union spy.
- d) Stuart had a history of being unreliable, so Lee was not waiting for Stuart's report anyway.

5. Which statement about the prelude to Gettysburg is true?

- a) The South chose to mobilize at Gettysburg as a last-ditch attempt to make its first victory of the war.
- b) The Union made a change in army leadership prior to the battle.
- c) Gettysburg, PA, was Confederate territory.
- d) Cashtown, PA, is north of Gettysburg.

6. What did General Joseph Pettigrew find when he was sent to Gettysburg?

- a) Confederate forces mobilizing.
- b) Union forces mobilizing.
- c) Union forces mobilizing, led by Joseph Hooker.
- d) A storage unit of supplies and shoes, open for the taking

7. Infer why shoes were an important commodity desired for soldiers fighting in the war.

- a) Soldiers did a lot of marching and marching in different terrains, which wore out their shoes frequently.
- b) Soldiers fought most of their battles barefoot, hence, they did not need shoes very often.
- c) Shoes were sold in the Northern states, but not the Southern ones
- d) The material from shoes could be used to make ammunition.

-----Key-----

1. (c)
2. (d)
3. (c)
4. (a)
5. (b)
6. (b)
7. (a)

Battle of Gettysburg Day 1 Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Ridges of Gettysburg

Anticipating a Confederate assault, Union Brigadier General John Buford and his soldiers would produce the first line of defense. Buford positioned his defenses along three ridges west of the town. Buford's goal was simply to delay the Confederate advance with his small cavalry unit until greater Union forces could assemble their defenses on the three storied ridges south of town known as Cemetery Ridge, Cemetery Hill, and Culp's Hill's. These ridges were crucial to control of Gettysburg. Whichever army could successfully occupy these heights would have superior position and would be difficult to dislodge.

The Death of Major General Reynolds

The first of the Confederate forces to engage at Gettysburg, under the Command of Major General Henry Heth, succeeded in advancing forward despite Buford's defenses. Soon, battles erupted in several locations, and Union forces would suffer severe casualties. Union Major General John Reynolds would be killed in battle while positioning his troops. Major General Abner Doubleday, the man eventually credited with inventing the formal game of baseball, would assume command. Fighting would intensify on a road known as the Chambersburg Pike, as Confederate forces continued to advance.

Jubal Early's Successful Assault

Meanwhile, Union defenses positioned north and northwest of town would soon be outflanked by Confederates under the command of Jubal Early and Robert Rodes. Despite suffering severe casualties, Early's soldiers would break through the line under the command of Union General Francis Barlow, attacking them from multiple sides and completely overwhelming them. Barlow would be wounded and captured. Union forces were forced to retreat to Cemetery Hill, west of town, to regroup. Here, command of the battlefield was turned over to Major General Winfield Hancock. Hancock made the decision that the bulk of his forces would be deployed at Gettysburg, ensuring it would be the scene of the largest battle of the War.

Confusing Orders

On the Confederate side, Lee instructed Major General Richard Ewell to take Cemetery Ridge "if practical." Ewell determined such an assault to be impractical leaving Union forces to form defenses on the ridge. Ewell's decision not to assault Cemetery Ridge and the reeling Union forces has been viewed as a major mistake and missed opportunity for the Confederacy. At the end of the first day of Gettysburg, only a little more than 1/4 of the total number of troops for the two sides combined had been engaged in battle.

1. Infer the meaning of the prefix dis- given the way the word "dislodge" is used in context in the passage.

- a) (move) away
- b) (move) towards
- c) With
- d) Across

2. By the end of the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg, what approximate ratio of the total number of Union and Confederate armies combined had fought?

- a) 3/5
- b) 33%
- c) 0.25
- d) 20%

3. Put the following events in order.

- I. Major General John Reynolds is killed.
- II. General Francis Barlow is captured.
- III. General Lee tells Ewell to take Cemetery Ridge if possible.
- IV. General Abner Doubleday assumes command.

- a) I, II, III, IV
- b) II, I, IV, III
- c) II, I, IV, III
- d) I, IV, II, III

4. Which statement about the Union forces on the first day of battle is false?

- a) Their defenses, set up by Buford, were broken down.
- b) One of their generals was killed, and one captured.
- c) They crumbled when attacked from multiple sides by Early.
- d) They retreated to Chambersburg Pike.

5. Which statement can be inferred only from the information given in the passage?

- a) An attack on Union forces on Cemetery Ridge could have been a major Confederate victory.
- b) More than half of the troops on both sides fought on the first day at Gettysburg.
- c) The low ground was most advantageous to seize control of during the battle.
- d) The low ground was somewhat advantageous to seize control of during the battle.

6. Who was not a significant Union general during the first day of battle at Gettysburg?

- a) Winfield Hancock
- b) Richard Ewell
- c) Henry Heth
- d) Two of the above

7. Which statement is an effect of Hancock sending most of his army to fight at Gettysburg, according to the passage?

- a) The battle became one of the most significant of the war.
- b) The Union was ambushed at Cemetery Ridge.
- c) Lee cut back on his troops at Gettysburg.
- d) The Confederate soldiers returned Barlow to the Union.

-----Key-----

1. (a)
2. (c)
3. (d)
4. (d)
5. (a)
6. (d)
7. (a)

Battle of Gettysburg Day 2 Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Fishhook

During the night of July 1st, most of the remaining Union and Confederate forces arrived in Gettysburg. The Union army was able to establish a strong line in the shape of a fishhook running over two miles from Cemetery Hill, along Cemetery Ridge and terminating at Culp's Hill. Confederate lines ran the length of Seminary Ridge, through the town of Gettysburg and terminated at a location opposite of Culp's Hill. In all, Confederate lines stretched for more than five miles. The stage was set for a massive battle.

Missing Intelligence

Without intelligence from J.E.B. Stuart's cavalry, however, Lee could not be certain of the exact positioning of Union forces, thus, his battle strategy for the second day of Gettysburg was somewhat flawed. Lee planned to launch a series of successive attacks with Longstreet's Corps on the Union left flank. The series of attacks and the diagonal formation of the attackers, would, theoretically, prevent the shifting of Union troops to reinforce the left flank. Meanwhile, other divisions would attack Union positions at Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill. Lee did not know, however, that Union Major General Daniel Sickles and his troops were positioned in between Confederate forces and the Union left flank.

Attacks on Devil's Den and Little Round Top

On the sweltering afternoon of July 2nd, General Longstreet's soldiers engaged Sickles' III Union Corps, driving them back and forcing Union Commander Meade to send 20,000 reinforcements. Confederate Major General John Bell Hood launched attacks on Union divisions positioned at a location known as Devil's Den and a hill called Little Round Top. Sickles' III Corps was driven into a nearby wheatfield by Confederate forces under Lafayette McClaws before being thoroughly routed in a peach orchard. Pennsylvania Reserve soldiers eventually repulsed McClaws' assaults on Little Round Top, an important hill on the extreme Union left flank. Meanwhile, a division of McClaws' Army under the command of Richard Anderson led an assault on Cemetery Ridge that would have been successful if not for a desperate bayonet charge by the 1st Minnesota Regiment. The assaults on Little Round Top, however, were far from over. Positioned at the extreme left flank of the Union line, it represented

a major prize for the Confederacy if it could gain control of the hill. If Little Round Top could be occupied, Rebel forces could outflank the Union and attack the line from two directions.

Chamberlain's Stand

The Union position at Little Round Top was precarious, but their small forces fought valiantly and repulsed numerous assaults by Confederate divisions. Just before Rebel soldiers under the command of John Bell Hood arrived at Little Round Top, Union reinforcements reached the scene and repulsed additional assaults. In the battle, the 20th Maine Regiment under the Command of Colonel Joshua Chamberlain, ran out of ammunition after fighting for four hours. Facing yet another Rebel charge from up the hill, the soldiers responded with a vicious bayonet charge, scattering the exhausted Confederates, and ending the assault on Little Round Top, preventing the Confederates from flanking the Union Army.

Attacks on Culp's Hill

Attacks on the Union right flank began around 7:00 P.M. Because the majority of Union defenders on Culp's Hill had been moved to reinforce the left flank, Confederate forces under Edward Johnson attempted to exploit the vulnerability there. Union forces remaining on the hill, however, had constructed strong defensive works and were able to repulse most of the attacks. The Rebels did succeed in gaining control of a portion of the lower slope of Culp's Hill. By the end of the second day of fighting, it was still unclear who would ultimately prevail.

1. Which statement about the second day of fighting at Gettysburg is supported by the passage?

- a) The Union and Confederate forces were positioned in differently-shaped arrangements prior to the second day of fighting.
- b) Prior to the battle, Robert E. Lee had gained intelligence regarding the size and distribution of the Union forces.
- c) There were far more Union troops in Gettysburg than Confederate troops.
- d) Confederate battle lines stretched for eight miles prior to the second day of fighting.

2. Which of the following was not part of Lee's strategy going into the second day of fighting?

- a) Multiple attacks one after the other
- b) A slanted attack formation
- c) Use of different types of weaponry
- d) Besieging the enemy

3. Which inference can be made from the passage?

- a) The 1st Minnesota Regiment did nothing to stop the assault on Cemetery Ridge.
- b) The Union forces retained control of Little Round Top without needing to call for any reinforcements.
- c) If the Confederate forces took control of Little Round Top, they could have outnumbered and conquered the Union soldiers.
- d) Ulysses S. Grant led the Union troops fighting to secure control of Little Round Top.

4. Which event happened first?

- a) John Bell Hood attacks Little Round Top and Devil's Den.
- b) Richard Anderson leads an assault on Cemetery Ridge.
- c) Sickles' III Corps is driven into a wheatfield during battle.
- d) Commander Meade sends reinforcements to the III Union Corps.

5. Which was not an advantage experienced by the Union during the battle?

- a) Reinforcements arriving at Little Round Top
- b) A bayonet charge from the 1st Minnesota Regiment
- c) The sudden death of a prominent Confederate general
- d) Lee's lack of knowledge of the Union force positioning

6. Where were Confederate forces stationed prior to the second day of fighting?

- a) Seminary Ridge
- b) Cemetery Hill
- c) Both of the above
- d) None of the above

7. Which statement about the end of the second day is true?

- a) It was clear the Union would win the overall battle.
- b) The Union retained control of most of its ground.
- c) The Confederacy was unable to gain control of any of major Union positions.
- d) The Confederacy easily broke through the Union's feeble defenses.

-----Key-----

1. (a)
2. (c)
3. (c)
4. (d)
5. (c)
6. (a)
7. (b)

Battle of Gettysburg Day 3 Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

Read the passage and answer the questions.

On the third and final day of fighting, Confederate General Robert E. Lee wished to maintain the offensive and crush the Union Army. His plan was nearly identical to the day before - Longstreet would attack the Union left flank and Ewell would assault and occupy Culp's Hill on the Union right flank.

Failure at Culp's Hill

At around 4:00 A.M. on the 3rd, however, Lee's plans were foiled when Union forces launched an artillery bombardment on the lower portion of Culp's Hill that the Confederates had occupied the day before, forcing the Confederates there into battle. By 11:00 A.M., Confederate forces had gained little, if any, ground and suffered significant casualties. The failure at Culp's Hill required Lee to change his plans. He decided on an artillery bombardment on the Union line at Cemetery Ridge, before sending a massive infantry charge, which came to be known as Pickett's Charge.

Preparing for a Massive Assault

The artillery bombardment, however, proved relatively ineffective, even though the 150 guns used represented the largest such bombardment in the entire war. The massive amounts of smoke produced from the thundering cannons obscured targets, causing gunners to overshoot. Union forces eventually countered with 80 cannon of their own, adding to the chaos and confusion. To save ammunition, Union Brigadier General Henry Hunt ordered cannon fire to be gradually phased out, confusing Confederate gunners into believing they had been destroyed. The Confederate artillery bombardment was totally unsuccessful, and failed in its objective to soften Union defenses before the ill-fated infantry assault.

Pickett's Charge up Cemetery Ridge

At 3:00 in the afternoon, some 12,500 Confederate soldiers under the command of James Longstreet started their nearly mile-long uphill march to Union positions on Cemetery Ridge behind a stone wall. Interestingly, Longstreet had desperately tried to convince Lee to abandon the assault, believing it to be the equivalent of suicide, but Lee refused, intent on piercing the center of the Union line. Major General George Pickett's brigade was chosen to lead the charge, giving rise to the event's popular name: Pickett's Charge.

Unimaginable Carnage

The Confederates marching through the open fields were easy targets for Union guns and cannons, which fired from all directions on the nine brigades of Rebel soldiers. Huge gaps quickly formed in the Confederate lines from devastating artillery fire that killed or wounded groups of soldiers in a single blast. The carnage quickly demoralized the Confederate soldiers, many of whom turned around and ran. Others were gunned down by musket fire as they neared the stone wall. "Pickett's Charge" was a massacre. Of the 12,500 soldiers who advanced upon Cemetery Ridge, over half were killed or wounded. Union forces suffered about 1,500 casualties. Between 3,000 and 4,000 Confederate soldiers were reportedly captured. Lee, fully aware of the massacre, and worried about a Union counterattack, attempted to rally his soldiers crying out "it's all my fault," but there would be no rally, nor would there be a serious counterattack against the retreating Rebels.

A Decisive Union Victory in the Largest Battle in American History

On July 4, a truce was called so each side could collect their dead and wounded. In the July heat, the stench of the decomposing bodies which littered the fields caused many in Gettysburg to become violently ill.

As many as 51,000 casualties were documented at the end of the Battle of Gettysburg, with the Confederacy suffering as many as 28,000, and the Union about 23,000. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia retreated back to Virginia and would never fight again on Union soil. President Abraham Lincoln urged General Meade to pursue and attack the reeling Confederates, but the half-hearted pursuit proved ineffective and the Confederates escaped to Virginia. Meade would be soundly criticized for failing to deliver a decisive blow to the Confederates in their retreat.

1. Which of the following was NOT a disadvantage the Confederate forces during the third day of fighting?

- a) The Union's surprise attack on Culp's Hill
- b) The Confederates' failed artillery bombardment
- c) The capture of Lee at Cemetery Ridge
- d) The massacre of Pickett's Charge

2. Which strategy was used by the Union during the third day of fighting?

- a) Creating the illusion of destroyed cannons
- b) A combined bayonet and musket attack
- c) Seizing the low ground for an advantage
- d) A raid on the Confederate artillery base

3. Why did Lee cry out “it’s all my fault” to his soldiers?

- a) To reveal his part in causing the Civil War
- b) To take responsibility for sending soldiers on a suicide mission
- c) To encourage them to retreat from the battle and fight another day
- d) To punish the soldiers deserting the army

4. Which statement is true?

- a) Pickett’s Charge began at sunrise.
- b) More Union soldiers died in the Battle of Gettysburg than Confederate soldiers.
- c) The Union had fewer cannons than the Confederates at Cemetery Ridge.
- d) Less than 30,000 people total died at Gettysburg.

5. Which statement about Pickett’s Charge is true?

- a) It was ultimately unsuccessful
- b) The massacre scared many Confederates into running from the scene.
- c) Over half of the Confederate soldiers died or were injured.
- d) All of the above

6. Which of the following is the best synonym for “reeling” as used in the passage?

- a) Revolving
- b) Vulnerable
- c) Steady
- d) Approaching

7. Why was Meade criticized at the end of the Battle of Gettysburg?

- a) For failing to defeat Pickett’s Charge
- b) For failing to prevent the Confederates from regrouping in Virginia
- c) For disobeying Lincoln’s direct orders to attack the retreating Confederates
- d) For acting cowardly during the Battle of Gettysburg

-----Key-----

1. (c)
2. (a)
3. (b)
4. (c)
5. (d)
6. (b)
7. (b)

Battle of the Ironclads Reading Comprehension

The Battle of the Ironclads, also known as the Battle of Hampton Roads, was likely the most important naval battle of the American Civil War. On March 8–9, 1862, Confederate forces attempted to break a powerful Union naval blockade that had isolated Norfolk and Richmond from international trade by deploying their ironclad warship, the CSS Virginia, which was originally the USS Merrimack.

After the secession of the Southern states, the Confederacy had gained control of the Gosport Navy Yard and all of its ships formerly under Union control. Nevertheless, Union naval forces remained in control of several forts in the region and staged a powerful blockade that the Confederacy was initially powerless to break. Because of the Union's naval and industrial superiority, Confederate engineers were forced to think of new ways to combat the Union advantage. The world's first ironclad ship had set sail in France in 1860, and Southern engineers believed they could duplicate the idea. Work began in 1861 on the Merrimack, which had been partially destroyed and which was recently raised from the bed of the Elizabeth River. The plan was to build an iron shell around the ship and to outfit it with an iron ram. It took seven months to complete. When it was done, the armor encasing the Virginia was two inches thick backed by two feet of iron and pine. It was equipped with ten guns and fourteen gun ports and was ready for action by February of 1862.

When Union intelligence learned of the construction of the Virginia, they scrambled to make their own ironclad warship. Union naval officials commissioned Swedish architect John Ericsson to design what would be called the Monitor, an ironclad warship to equal the Virginia. Even though Ericsson actually completed the Monitor before the Virginia was finalized, the Virginia would be activated first and would wreak havoc in Hampton Roads before the Monitor could arrive. On the morning of March 8, 1862, the CSS Virginia stormed into the waters of Hampton Roads where it immediately engaged the Union fleet, utterly destroying the USS Cumberland with the ram, sinking the ship, and killing 120 sailors. The Virginia next destroyed the USS Congress, resulting in its surrender. Union attempts to shoot at the Virginia proved completely useless. Only darkness saved the remainder of the Union fleet. Naval officers aboard the Virginia and its support fleet planned to finish the job on the morning of March 9.

The next morning, much to the surprise of the Confederates, the Union ironclad Monitor met the Merrimack on her way to dispatching the remainder of the Union fleet. The two ironclads fired at each other at close range for hours, neither side able to sink the other. Eventually, each ship withdrew, prompting both sides to proclaim victory. Surprisingly, neither ship would ever fight again. The Virginia was set afire by the Confederacy after she became stuck in the shallow water of the James River. The Monitor would sink en route to North Carolina on December 31, 1861.

Today, most historians believe the Battle of the Ironclads was a draw, even though the Confederates failed to break the Union blockade. One thing is for sure—the ironclad warships used in this battle influenced navies around the world to abandon the construction of wooden war ships in favor of iron ones.

1.) Why did the Confederacy decide to build the CSS Virginia?

- a.) For naval superiority over the Union.
- b.) To capture as many Union sailors as possible.
- c.) To intimidate the Union.
- d.) To break the Union blockade.

2.) Why was the Union blockade so harmful to the Confederacy?

- a.) It prevented them from building ships.
- b.) It prevented major cities in Virginia from trading with foreign countries.
- c.) Thousands of sailors were captured or killed.
- d.) It threatened Washington DC.

3.) Union forces...

- a.) had completely evacuated Hampton Roads.
- b.) were in control of all of the Hampton Roads.
- c.) were destroying southern port cities.
- d.) were in control of some Hampton Roads forts.

4.) What does an engineer do?

- a.) Figure out ways to build things
- b.) Sails ships
- c.) Figures out how to buy things
- d.) Decides what military tactics to use

5.) Which of the following is true about ironclad ships?

- a.) The CSS Virginia was the world's first.
- b.) The Monitor was the world's first.
- c.) The idea was first thought of by the Confederacy.
- d.) The first ironclad ship sailed in France.

6.) The CSS Virginia...

- a.) was equipped with 24 guns.
- b.) was equipped with iron plates four feet thick.
- c.) was equipped with 14 gun ports.
- d.) was ready for action in 1861.

7.) In its first combat, the CSS Virginia...

- a.) was destroyed by Union warships.
- b.) destroyed several Union warships.
- c.) was badly damaged.
- d.) broke the naval blockade.

8.) Who won the Battle of the Ironclads?

- a.) The Confederacy
- b.) The Union
- c.) Neither side
- d.) The Monitor

9.) Which of the following phrases best explains what happened to the CSS Virginia and the USS Monitor after the Battle of the Ironclads?

- a.) They both played an important part in the war after their initial battle.
- b.) They were both used after the war.
- c.) They both played no role in the remainder of the war.
- d.) They were both sold to other countries to improve their respective navies.

10.) The main effect of the Battle of the Ironclads was...

- a.) the devastation of the Confederate fleet.
- b.) the withdrawal of Union forces from their naval blockade.
- c.) an increase in iron manufacturing in the Confederacy.
- d.) a worldwide conversion of wooden naval ships to iron naval ships.

The Battle of Chancellorsville

Name _____

Yet, Another Union Commander

The Battle of Chancellorsville was fought between April 30th and May 6th, 1863, near the city of Fredericksburg, Virginia, where the Confederates had scored a major victory in December. Union General Joseph Hooker, recently named Commander of the Army of Potomac, planned to launch a massive assault against Lee's Army of Northern Virginia by attacking them at the front and the rear. Hooker's Army was roughly twice the size of Lee's and was well rested and provisioned.

Lee Outsmarts Hooker

On May 1, 1863, Hooker launched his attack on Lee's Army at Chancellorsville. Lee, in an unconventional military move, decided to split his smaller army into two parts, leaving a small force at nearby Fredericksburg, Virginia, and confronting Hooker's assault with roughly 80% of his army. Union General Hooker, inexperienced and perhaps unconfident in handling such a massive force, ordered his forces to withdraw to defensive positions in the nearby forests around Chancellorsville in the wake of Lee's assaults.

Jackson Crushes the Union Right; but is Shot by Friendly Fire

On May 2, 1863, Confederate General Stonewall Jackson attacked the right flank of the Union Army entrenched around Chancellorsville. Jackson marched his forces of 28,000 men 12 miles undetected to reach the Union right flank. At dinnertime, Confederate forces screaming their "rebel yell" stormed out of the forest and attacked the Union right flank. Union forces were totally unprepared and many were eating dinner. Within an hour, the right flank was totally disintegrated and was in full retreat. They suffered at least 2,500 casualties. Later that evening, however, General Stonewall Jackson was mistaken for Union cavalry and was shot in the arm as he rode out to investigate the feasibility of launching a nighttime attack on the Federals. Jackson contracted pneumonia and died on May 10th. Jackson's death was devastating to the Confederate cause and to Lee's battle strategies through the remainder of the war.

Hooker's Incompetence

Despite the initial setback, Union forces were still in control. Nearly 76,000 Union soldiers were still in positions defending Chancellorsville compared to 43,000 soldiers available to the Confederacy. The two largest parts of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia were positioned on either side of Union forces that occupied an area of high ground known as Hazel's Grove. Luckily for the Confederacy, General Hooker ordered those soldiers, under the command of General Sickles, to a different position on a local road called the Plank Road. Confederate forces proceed to occupy the high ground, where they placed thirty heavy guns. At 5:30 in the morning on May 3, Confederate forces now under the leadership of J.E.B. Stuart (after Jackson was wounded and after the next in command, A.P. Hill, was also wounded) launched a massive attack on the Federal positions around Chancellorsville, aided by the newly installed guns. Fires were sparked in the woods around Chancellorsville, confusing soldiers and killing wounded soldiers rendered immobile. Confederate forces overwhelmed their Union counterparts and Hooker ordered a retreat. Hooker was wounded in the fighting, but refused to turn over command, despite being rendered unconscious for over an hour. Meanwhile, Union forces under

John Sedgwick were defeated in their attempts to salvage the battle and the Union Army ultimately withdrew across the Rappahannock River on May 6.

Lee's Greatest Victory; Time to Invade the North

In what is considered one of the most decisive Confederate victories of the Civil War, Confederate forces suffered over 13,000 casualties, while Union forces suffered over 17,000. Confederate forces, however, suffered a much greater percentage of casualties. Hooker's reputation was forever tarnished in his handling of the battle. After the battle, he blamed the "incompetence" of his subordinate generals despite the fact that over half of his available soldiers were never deployed into combat. On the Confederate side, the battle is often called "Lee's greatest victory," and gave him the feeling his army was destined to win the war. The victory at Chancellorsville gave Lee the confidence that his army could win in the North and resulted in his invasion of Pennsylvania and ultimately the Battle of Gettysburg.

1. Which statement about the Battle of Chancellorsville is false?

- a) Stonewall Jackson was shot by Union forces during the battle.
- b) The battle was a Confederate victory.
- c) The Union suffered a greater number of casualties than the Confederacy.
- d) The battle was fought in less than two weeks.

2. What can be inferred about General Joseph Hooker from the passage?

- a) Hooker was renowned as a great general after the battle.
- b) Hooker was weak-willed and dropped out of leadership as soon as he was injured.
- c) His lack of experience caused him to lead his side to defeat.
- d) He was highly assertive and confident about leading his army.

3. Which event happened first?

- a) Stonewall Jackson leads an attack on the right side of the Union army in Chancellorsville.
- b) Union forces retreat along the Rappahannock River.
- c) Hooker attacks Confederate forces at Chancellorsville, and Lee splits his forces into two parts.
- d) The Confederates experience one of their greatest victories of the war.

4. Who did not lead the Confederate army at some point during the Battle of Chancellorsville?

- a) Stonewall Jackson
- b) J.E.B. Stuart
- c) John Sedgwick
- d) A.P. Hill

5. Which of the following was a consequence of the Battle of Chancellorsville?

- a) The Confederate army was forced to retreat and regroup.
- b) Hooker solidified his position as leader of the Union forces.
- c) The Union forces are decimated to a point where they can no longer fight.
- d) Lee begins his invasion of the North.

6. Fill in the blank.

CAUSE: _____

EFFECT: The Confederate forces catch the Union by surprise and cause them to suffer at least 2,500 casualties.

- a) Lee leads his full army to an assault on Chancellorsville.
- b) Jackson surprises the Union forces with an attack while they are still eating dinner.

- c) Union forces scream their rebel yell, revealing their presence to the Confederates.
- d) Hooker betrays the Union's location to the Confederate army.

7. Which was not a strategy used by the Confederate army during the battle?

- a) Surprise ambush
- b) Army splitting
- c) Heavy weaponry
- d) Bayonet attack

-----Key-----

1. (a)
2. (c)
3. (c)
4. (c)
5. (d)
6. (b)
7. (d)

Battle Breakdown: Bull Run I

Name _____

Instructions: Read the narrative and fill in the chart on the next page.

A Nice Day at the Battlefield!

The first major battle of the American Civil War occurred on July 21, 1861, in Manassas, Virginia. The Battle is known both as the First Battle of Bull Run, after the creek that ran through the battlefield, or, the First Battle of Manassas. Union forces under General Irvin McDowell, hoping for a decisive blow against the newly formed Confederacy, planned a surprise attack against the left flank of Confederate General P.G.T. Beauregard's forces at the railroad junction of Manassas. Both sides were unseasoned and unprepared for the carnage that would ensue. Hundreds of spectators from Washington lined the hills of the battlefield to cheer on the Union. McDowell, who was skeptical of the Union plan, amassed 35,000 soldiers - the largest land army ever assembled in America at the time, to attack the Confederate positions.

"Stonewall" Saves the Day

At 2:30 in the morning on July 21, McDowell sent two detachments from nearby Centreville toward Confederate positions. By 5:15, the first shots had been fired. Through the morning, Union forces had slowly pushed Confederate forces back until they broke through the Confederate right flank at about 11:30, sending them into a disorganized retreat. Gen McDowell elected not to pursue the retreating Confederates, who were able to regroup at the Henry Hill House. At 12:00, Confederate reinforcements under General Thomas J. Jackson arrived on the battlefield. It was at this moment, when Confederate General Bernard Bee is said to have uttered the timeless words "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall." From that point on Thomas J. Jackson would be known as Stonewall Jackson. Some historians believe Bee was actually angry at Jackson for not sending his troops directly into battle. The tide of the battle soon changed when Confederate forces under Jackson and Calvary Commander J.E.B. Stuart captured Union artillery around 3:00. Jackson commanded his soldiers to press on and for the first time in the war, Union forces would be horrified by the "rebel yells" screamed by Confederate soldiers on the attack. At 4:00, more Confederate reinforcements led by Kirby Smith and Jubal Early crushed a Union brigade and caused the collapse of McDowell's Union Army. Union forces began a disorderly and poorly managed retreat, accompanied by screaming spectators who clogged the retreat path. Confederate forces, also in a state of disarray, captured several hundred Union soldiers but failed to pursue the remaining forces back to Washington.

A Grim Reality

The First Battle of Bull Run proved to be the deadliest battle in American history to that point. Nearly 5,000 total casualties were recorded, with Union forces suffering roughly 1,000 more than the Confederates. The North was shocked and dismayed at the Union defeat and many feared the Confederacy would move immediately on Washington. At the very least, the First Battle of Bull Run proved the war would be long and violent. President Lincoln was forced to sign a bill that allowed for the enlistment of up to 500,000 additional soldiers.

What was the cause of the battle?	
What were the roles of each of the following players?	
Irvin McDowell	
P.G.T. Beauregard	
Stonewall Jackson	
Jeb Stuart	
Jubal Early and Kirby Smith	
Which side won the battle?	
What was the effect of the battle?	

Answers:

What was the cause of the battle?	
Union Forces wanted to deliver a decisive blow against the newly formed Confederacy with a surprise attack at Manassas – an important railroad center in the Confederacy.	
What were the roles of each of the following players?	
Irvin McDowell	Irvin McDowell was the Union General in command at the First Battle of Bull Run. McDowell was in charge of the largest land force ever assembled in American history.
P.G.T. Beauregard	P.G.T. Beauregard was one of the Confederate generals at Manassas. Union General Irvin McDowell first planned to attack Beauregard's Army.
Stonewall Jackson	Stonewall Jackson was a Confederate general at the Battle of Bull Run. The momentum of the battle shifted toward the Confederacy when he came with reinforcements around noon. Jackson also received his nickname "Stonewall" during the battle.
Jeb Stuart	Jeb Stuart was the cavalry commander for the Confederate Army at the First Battle of Bull Run.
Jubal Early and Kirby Smith	Smith and Early were Confederate generals that led the attack that ultimately crushed a Union brigade and sent the army into a disorganized retreat.
Which side won the battle? Confederacy	
What was the effect of the battle?	
The First Battle of Bull Run proved the war would be long and deadly. It forced President Lincoln to call for 500,000 additional soldiers.	

Battle Breakdown: Antietam

Name _____

Instructions: Read the narrative and fill in the chart on the next page.

The Liberators

The Battle of Antietam occurred on September 17, 1862, in Sharpsburg Maryland. The battle was named after a creek in the region. It was the bloodiest one-day battle in American history. As Robert E. Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia attempted to assert the will of the Confederacy in the North, they were followed by Union General George B. McClellan and the Army of the Potomac into Maryland. Lee, believing the majority of Marylanders were being held in the Union against their will, thought he and his army would be regarded as heroes or liberators as he entered the border state. In reality, however, the sentiments of western Marylanders had turned toward the Union, and Lee's Army was regarded with suspicion.

Serendipity Wasted

Before the battle began, Union forces had serendipitously found a copy of Lee's battle plan wrapped around three cigars. The plans indicated that Lee had divided his army and sent brigades to Harper's Ferry, Virginia, and Hagerstown, Maryland. This allowed for Union forces to attack each brigade in isolation, but General McClellan failed to act quickly enough and the opportunity was lost.

McClellan's Indecision is Costly

On September 15, General Robert E. Lee positioned his army of 18,000 in a defensive position behind Antietam Creek in the town of Sharpsburg. McClellan's Army arrived in town the same night with over four times the number of soldiers as Lee's Army. McClellan, however, overestimated the strength of the Confederates, causing him to delay an attack. During the delay, Lee was reinforced by the corps of General Longstreet and Jackson.

Control of the High Ground near the Dunker Church



The Dunker Church today at Antietam National Battlefield

On the morning of September 17th, General McClellan ordered General Joseph Hooker to attack the Confederate left flank for the purposes of occupying the high ground near the Dunker Church. A vicious and violent battle ensued in the cornfield adjacent to the church featuring bayonet charges, hand-to-hand combat, and gun battles at close range. Hundreds of soldiers were killed in this initial combat, and neither side had gained a clear advantage. One brigade, known as the Louisiana Tiger Brigade lost 323 out of 500 men when they were isolated. Hooker's brigade lost 2,500 men in a matter of two hours and historians believe the cornfield at the Antietam Battlefield changed hands at least fifteen times during the morning and afternoon. By the end of the morning, casualties for both sides numbered over 13,000.

Bloody Lane



In the afternoon, Union forces struck the center of the Confederate line in an attempt to divert some of their forces from a patch of forest known as the West Woods. Confederate forces were in a good defensive position atop a hill in an old, sunken road. From the Sunken Road, Confederate forces fired withering rounds into the Union brigades, inflicting terrible casualties. Union forces

eventually exploited a weakness in the Confederate defenses and began to break through. Amidst growing confusion, the Confederates along the Sunken Road fled toward Sharpsburg. Union forces, however, were violently driven back during their pursuit by Longstreet's Brigade. All told, over 5,600 total casualties were recorded along the Sunken Road, which would eventually be called Bloody Lane.

Burnside's Bridge and the Confederate Retreat



Burnside's Bridge Overlooking Antietam Creek

Toward the later afternoon, the battle moved to the southern end of the battlefield, particularly for control of a bridge spanning Antietam Creek that would come to be known as Burnside's Bridge. Union Major General Ambrose Burnside ordered his soldiers to storm the bridge, where they took heavy fire from Confederate gunners. It took three separate attempts before Union soldiers successfully crossed. While Burnside's men crossed the narrow bridge with their artillery and wagons, General Robert E. Lee took the time to reinforce the right flank of his army. Numerous assaults and repulsions marked the remainder of the afternoon. By 5:30 p.m., it was clear there would be no winner. In total, the two sides suffered almost 23,000 casualties, making it the single bloodiest day in American military history. Although Lee expected another Union assault on the 18th, it never came, and an informal truce was established so each side could collect and tend to the injured and dead. On the night of the 18th, Confederate forces left Sharpsburg, crossing the Potomac River back to Virginia.

A Devastating Turn of Events for Robert E. Lee

Despite the fact that neither army was victorious, Union soldiers paraded through the streets of Frederick, Maryland, after the battle. The Confederate foray into Northern territory ultimately proved unsuccessful, delivering a crushing blow to its hope for foreign recognition. President Lincoln, meanwhile, saw Antietam as enough of a Northern victory to have the confidence to issue

the Emancipation Proclamation five days after the battle. This landmark proclamation freed all slaves in “enemy territory” and ensured that slavery would cease to exist if the North were to win the war.

What was the cause of the battle?	
What were the roles of each of the following players?	
General McClellan	
Robert E. Lee	
Joseph Hooker	
Ambrose Burnside	
Abraham Lincoln	
Which side won the battle?	
What was the effect of the battle?	

Answers:

What was the cause of the battle?	
The Battle of Antietam was the first attempt of Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Army to invade the North and bring the fighting there. In addition, Lee believed a victory in Northern territory would secure foreign recognition from England and France.	
What were the roles of each of the following players?	
General McClellan	George McClellan was the Commander of the Union Army, known as the Army of the Potomac at Antietam. His indecision at Antietam proved costly and likely prevented a decisive victory against Lee.
Robert E. Lee	Lee was the Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia. He mistakenly believed that upon entering Maryland, his army would swell with eager Maryland farm boys.
Joseph Hooker	Joseph Hooker commanded a Union brigade that was involved in heavy and violent fighting at the Dunker Church.
Ambrose Burnside	Ambrose Burnside was in command of a unit that finally took a crucial bridge (that would later become known as Burnside's Bridge) after several violent and unsuccessful attempts.
Abraham Lincoln	Abraham Lincoln was the President of the United States. Five days after the battle, he issued the landmark Emancipation Proclamation.
Which side won the battle? It was a draw; although the Confederates were unsuccessful in their objective to win a battle in the North.	
What was the effect of the battle?	
There were several effects of the battle: 1. Abraham Lincoln saw the Union stand at Antietam as a victory of sorts; at least enough of a victory to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. 2. Because of the defeat (or at least lack of victory), Lee was unable to achieve foreign recognition of the Confederacy and was unable to bring suffering to the people of the North.	

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____

Below is a passage on the First Battle of Bull Run. On the following page is a chart with ten statements. Indicate whether each statement is fact or fiction.

A Nice Day at the Battlefield!

The first major battle of the American Civil War occurred on July 21, 1861, in Manassas, Virginia. The Battle is known both as the First Battle of Bull Run, after the creek that ran through the battlefield, or, the First Battle of Manassas. Union forces under General Irvin McDowell, hoping for a decisive blow against the newly formed Confederacy, planned a surprise attack against the left flank of Confederate General P.G.T. Beauregard's forces at the railroad junction of Manassas. Both sides were unseasoned and unprepared for the carnage that would ensue. Hundreds of spectators from Washington lined the hills of the battlefield to cheer on the Union. McDowell, who was skeptical of the Union plan, amassed 35,000 soldiers - the largest land army ever assembled in America at the time, to attack the Confederate positions.

"Stonewall" Saves the Day

At 2:30 in the morning on July 21, McDowell sent two detachments from nearby Centreville toward Confederate positions. By 5:15, the first shots had been fired. Through the morning, Union forces had slowly pushed Confederate forces back until they broke through the Confederate right flank at about 11:30, sending them into a disorganized retreat. Gen McDowell elected not to pursue the retreating Confederates, who were able to regroup at the Henry Hill House. At 12:00, Confederate reinforcements under General Thomas J. Jackson arrived on the battlefield. It was at this moment, when Confederate General Bernard Bee is said to have uttered the timeless words "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall." From that point on Thomas J. Jackson would be known as Stonewall Jackson. Some historians believe Bee was actually angry at Jackson for not sending his troops directly into battle. The tide of the battle soon changed when Confederate forces under Jackson and Cavalry Commander J.E.B. Stuart captured Union artillery around 3:00. Jackson commanded his soldiers to press on and for the first time in the war, Union forces would be horrified by the "rebel yells" screamed by Confederate soldiers on the attack. At 4:00, more Confederate reinforcements led by Kirby Smith and Jubal Early crushed a Union brigade and caused the collapse of McDowell's Union Army. Union forces began a disorderly and poorly managed retreat, accompanied by screaming spectators who clogged the retreat path. Confederate forces, also in a state of disarray, captured several hundred Union soldiers but failed to pursue the remaining forces back to Washington.

A Grim Reality

The First Battle of Bull Run proved to be the deadliest battle in American history to that point. Nearly 5,000 total casualties were recorded, with Union forces suffering roughly 1,000 more than the Confederates. The North was shocked and dismayed at the Union defeat and many feared the Confederacy would move immediately on Washington. At the very least, the First Battle of Bull Run proved the war would be long and violent. President Lincoln was forced to sign a bill that allowed for the enlistment of up to 500,000 additional soldiers.

	FACT	FICTION
The First Battle of Bull Run and the First Battle of Manassas actually refer to the same battle.		
Union General P.G.T. Beauregard was hoping to deliver a decisive blow to Confederate forces.		
The battlefield hills were full on spectators who came to watch the battle and cheer for the Union soldiers.		
The Union army that assembled at Manassas was the largest land army in American history.		
From the start, the battle looked grim for the Union army.		
The tide (or momentum) of the battle changed around 3:00 P.M.		
Confederate forces pursued Union soldiers all the way to Washington.		
Combined, there just over 1,000 total casualties at the First Battle of Bull Run.		
The battle caused President Lincoln to call for hundreds of thousands of soldiers to serve in the Union army.		
For the Union army, the defeat at Bull Run was a small setback.		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
The First Battle of Bull Run and the First Battle of Manassas actually refer to the same battle.	X	
Union General P.G.T. Beauregard was hoping to deliver a decisive blow to Confederate forces.		X
The battlefield hills were full on spectators who came to watch the battle and cheer for the Union soldiers.	X	
The Union army that assembled at Manassas was the largest land army in American history.	X	
From the start, the battle looked grim for the Union army.		X
The tide (or momentum) of the battle changed around 3:00 P.M.	X	
Confederate forces pursued Union soldiers all the way to Washington.		X
Combined, there just over 1,000 total casualties at the First Battle of Bull Run.		X
The battle caused President Lincoln to call for hundreds of thousands of soldiers to serve in the Union army.	X	
For the Union army, the defeat at Bull Run was a small setback.		X

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____

Below is a passage on the First Battle of Bull Run. On the following page is a chart with ten statements. Indicate whether each statement is fact or fiction.

The Liberators

The Battle of Antietam occurred on September 17, 1862, in Sharpsburg Maryland. The battle was named after a creek in the region. It was the bloodiest one-day battle in American history. As Robert E. Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia attempted to assert the will of the Confederacy in the North, they were followed by Union General George B. McClellan and the Army of the Potomac into Maryland. Lee, believing the majority of Marylanders were being held in the Union against their will, thought he and his army would be regarded as heroes or liberators as he entered the border state. In reality, however, the sentiments of western Marylanders had turned toward the Union, and Lee's Army was regarded with suspicion.

Serendipity Wasted

Before the battle began, Union forces had serendipitously found a copy of Lee's battle plan wrapped around three cigars. The plans indicated that Lee had divided his army and sent brigades to Harper's Ferry, Virginia, and Hagerstown, Maryland. This allowed for Union forces to attack each brigade in isolation, but General McClellan failed to act quickly enough and the opportunity was lost.

McClellan's Indecision is Costly

On September 15, General Robert E. Lee positioned his army of 18,000 in a defensive position behind Antietam Creek in the town of Sharpsburg. McClellan's Army arrived in town the same night with over four times the number of soldiers as Lee's Army. McClellan, however, overestimated the strength of the Confederates, causing him to delay an attack. During the delay, Lee was reinforced by the corps of General Longstreet and Jackson.

Control of the High Ground near the Dunker Church



The Dunker Church today at Antietam National Battlefield

On the morning of September 17th, General McClellan ordered General Joseph Hooker to attack the Confederate left flank for the purposes of occupying the high ground near the Dunker Church. A vicious and violent battle ensued in the cornfield adjacent to the church featuring bayonet charges, hand-to-hand combat, and gun battles at close range. Hundreds of soldiers were killed in this initial combat, and neither side had gained a clear advantage. One brigade, known as the Louisiana Tiger Brigade lost 323 out of 500 men when they were isolated. Hooker's brigade lost 2,500 men in a matter of two hours and historians believe the cornfield at the Antietam Battlefield changed hands at least fifteen times during the morning and afternoon. By the end of the morning, casualties for both sides numbered over 13,000.

Bloody Lane



In the afternoon, Union forces struck the center of the Confederate line in an attempt to divert some of their forces from a patch of forest known as the West Woods. Confederate forces were in a good defensive position atop a hill in an old, sunken road. From the Sunken Road, Confederate forces fired withering rounds into the Union brigades, inflicting terrible casualties. Union forces eventually exploited a weakness in the Confederate defenses and began to break through. Amidst growing confusion, the Confederates along the Sunken Road fled toward Sharpsburg. Union forces, however, were violently driven back during their pursuit by Longstreet's Brigade. All told, over 5,600 total casualties were recorded along the Sunken Road, which would eventually be called Bloody Lane.

Burnside's Bridge and the Confederate Retreat



Burnside's Bridge Overlooking Antietam Creek

Toward the later afternoon, the battle moved to the southern end of the battlefield, particularly for control of a bridge spanning Antietam Creek that would come to be known as Burnside's Bridge. Union Major General Ambrose Burnside ordered his soldiers to storm the bridge, where they took heavy fire from Confederate gunners. It took three separate attempts before Union soldiers successfully crossed. While Burnside's men crossed the narrow bridge with their artillery and wagons, General Robert E. Lee took the time to reinforce the right flank of his army. Numerous assaults and repulsions marked the remainder of the afternoon. By 5:30 p.m., it was clear there would be no winner. In total, the two sides suffered almost 23,000 casualties, making it the single bloodiest day in American military history. Although Lee expected another Union assault on the 18th, it never came, and an informal truce was established so each side could collect and tend to the injured and dead. On the night of the 18th, Confederate forces left Sharpsburg, crossing the Potomac River back to Virginia.

A Devastating Turn of Events for Robert E. Lee

Despite the fact that neither army was victorious, Union soldiers paraded through the streets of Frederick, Maryland, after the battle. The Confederate foray into Northern territory ultimately proved unsuccessful, delivering a crushing blow to its hope for foreign recognition. President Lincoln, meanwhile, saw Antietam as enough of a Northern victory to have the confidence to issue the Emancipation Proclamation five days after the battle. This landmark proclamation freed all slaves in “enemy territory” and ensured that slavery would cease to exist if the North were to win the war.

	FACT	FICTION
The Battle of Antietam was named after a nearby creek that flowed through the region.		
The Battle of Antietam was the deadliest battle in American history.		
Robert E. Lee’s men were hailed as heroes as they marched into Maryland.		
Union General George McClellan acted quickly and decisively from the onset of the battle as is regarded as the hero of Antietam.		
Lee’s army and McClellan’s army had amount the same number of soldiers.		
The Confederacy failed in its objective to win an important battle on Northern soil.		
The Sunken Road and Bloody Lane referred to the same place.		
One of the effects of the battle was Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation.		
Although the battle was technically a draw, it served a more positive purpose for the Confederacy.		
At the end of the battle, an informal truce was called so that each side could tend to its dead and wounded.		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
The Battle of Antietam was named after a nearby creek that flowed through the region.	X	
The Battle of Antietam was the deadliest battle in American history.		X
Robert E. Lee's men were hailed as heroes as they marched into Maryland.		X
Union General George McClellan acted quickly and decisively from the onset of the battle as is regarded as the hero of Antietam.		X
Lee's army and McClellan's army had amount the same number of soldiers.		X
The Confederacy failed in its objective to win an important battle on Northern soil.	X	
The Sunken Road and Bloody Lane referred to the same place.	X	
One of the effects of the battle was Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.	X	
Although the battle was technically a draw, it served a more positive purpose for the Confederacy.		X
At the end of the battle, an informal truce was called so that each side could tend to its dead and wounded.	X	

First Battle of Bull Run Reading Comprehension

The first major battle of the American Civil War occurred on July 21, 1861, in Manassas, Virginia. The battle is known both as the First Battle of Bull Run, after the creek that ran through the battlefield, or the First Battle of Manassas. Union forces under General Irvin McDowell, hoping for a decisive blow against the newly formed Confederacy, planned a surprise attack against the left flank of Confederate General P.G.T. Beauregard's forces at the railroad junction of Manassas. Both sides were unseasoned and unprepared for the carnage that would ensue. Hundreds of spectators from Washington lined the hills of the battlefield to cheer on the Union. McDowell, who was skeptical of the Union plan, amassed 35,000 soldiers—the largest land army ever assembled in America at the time—to attack the Confederate positions.

At 2:30 in the morning on July 21, McDowell sent two detachments from nearby Centreville toward Confederate positions. By 5:15, the first shots had been fired. Through the morning, Union forces had slowly pushed Confederate forces back until they broke through the Confederate right flank at about 11:30, sending them into a disorganized retreat. General McDowell elected not to pursue the retreating Confederates, who were able to regroup at the Henry Hill House. At 12:00, Confederate reinforcements under General Thomas J. Jackson arrived on the battlefield. It was at this moment when Confederate General Bernard Bee is said to have uttered the timeless words, "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall." From that point on, Thomas J. Jackson would be known as Stonewall Jackson. Some historians believe Bee was actually angry at Jackson for not sending his troops directly into battle. The tide of the battle soon changed when Confederate forces under Jackson and Calvary Commander J.E.B. Stuart captured Union artillery around 3:00. Jackson commanded his soldiers to press on, and for the first time in the war, Union forces would be horrified by the "rebel yells" screamed by Confederate soldiers on the attack. At 4:00, more Confederate reinforcements led by Kirby Smith and Jubal Early crushed a Union brigade and caused the collapse of McDowell's Union Army. Union forces began a disorderly and poorly managed retreat, accompanied by screaming spectators who clogged the retreat path. Confederate forces, also in a state of disarray, captured several hundred Union soldiers but failed to pursue the remaining forces back to Washington.

The First Battle of Bull Run proved to be the deadliest battle in American history to that point. Nearly 5,000 total casualties were recorded, with Union forces suffering roughly 1,000 more than the Confederates. The North was shocked and dismayed at the Union defeat, and many feared the Confederacy would move immediately on Washington. At the very least, the First Battle of Bull Run proved the war would be long and violent. President Lincoln was forced to sign a bill that allowed for the enlistment of up to 500,000 additional soldiers.

1.) Why did the Union Army attack at Bull Run?

- a.) They were hoping to end the war as quickly as it started.
- b.) They were hoping to prolong the war.
- c.) They had better generals.
- d.) They wanted to capture Confederate soldiers.

2.) At Bull Run, both the Union and Confederate Armies were...

- a.) battle tested.
- b.) ready for a long, violent war.
- c.) Inexperienced.
- d.) tired from fighting many battles.

3.) McDowell's army was...

- a.) small in comparison to other armies.
- b.) the largest ever assembled in America at the time.
- c.) fighting for the Confederacy.
- d.) smaller than Beauregard's.

4.) If the Battle of Bull Run had ended at 11:30 A.M., then...

- a.) the Confederacy would have been destroyed.
- b.) Washington DC would have been attacked.
- c.) the Union would have been considered victorious.
- d.) the Confederacy would have been considered victorious.

5.) Who coined the nickname "Stonewall Jackson"?

- a.) Bernard Bee
- b.) Union soldiers
- c.) Thomas J. Jackson
- d.) Confederate prisoners

6.) When was the turning point in the First Battle of Bull Run?

- a.) 2:30 A.M.
- b.) 11:30 A.M.
- c.) When Stonewall Jackson arrived
- d.) About 3:00 P.M.

7.) Which of the following do you think is a major reason why the Confederates won the First Battle of Bull Run?

- a.) They received many reinforcements.
- b.) They had many more soldiers.
- c.) Their soldiers were more experienced.
- d.) They had better weapons.

8.) The First Battle of Bull Run proved...

- a.) the Confederacy would ultimately win.
- b.) the Civil War would be long and violent.
- c.) President Lincoln would ultimately be assassinated.
- d.) the Union would lose the will to fight.

9.) What happened first?

- a.) 4:00 P.M.
- b.) Stonewall Jackson arrived with reinforcements.
- c.) Kirby Smith arrived with reinforcements.
- d.) Spectators from Washington lined the hills to view the battle.

10.) Which of the following is NOT TRUE about the First Battle of Bull Run?

- a.) It is also called the Battle of Manassas.
- b.) It was the Civil War's first major battle.
- c.) It featured Stonewall Jackson, P.T. Beauregard, and Irvin McDowell as military officers.
- d.) Lincoln became reluctant to request mobilization of more soldiers for the Union cause.

Battles of Bull Run Text Structure

Read the paragraphs below and identify the text structure:

Compare and Contrast | Problem-Solution | Chronological | Cause-Effect

1. The first and second battles of Bull Run were two of the most important battles of the Civil War. Both battles took place in Manassas, Virginia, and both were decisive Confederate victories. Although the result of each battle was the same, the second battle proved far more deadly with over 17,000 combined casualties. Furthermore, it proved of greater importance from a tactical perspective and the Confederate victory prompted Robert E. Lee's first invasion of the North.

2. Because the Union government wanted to bring a quick end to what was becoming the Civil War, and because a large Confederate force was encamped at the critical railroad junction of Manassas, Virginia, only 35 miles from Washington, President Lincoln ordered Union Commander Irvin McDowell to conduct a massive strike on the Confederates. On July 21, 1861, McDowell attacked. While the battle started out well for the Union Army, the Confederates would gain the advantage when thousands of reinforcements began arriving in the early afternoon. Soon, the Confederates broke through Union lines, sending them fleeing back to Washington by the thousands. The Confederate victory at Manassas proved a crushing blow to Lincoln and the Union and proved the war would be long and violent. As a result, Lincoln requested he mobilization of 500,000 additional soldiers for the purposes of subduing the South.

3. The first battle of the Civil War occurred on April 12, 1861, at Fort Sumter, South Carolina. Although not a major battle, it set the stage for the violence and carnage to come. Just a little more than two months later, on July 21, 1861, the first major battle of the Civil War occurred at a small railroad junction near Manassas, Virginia. Known as the First Battle of Manassas, or, the First Battle of Bull Run, the Confederate victory crushed any hope of a short, protracted war. On August 28, 1862, Manassas would be the site of the much larger and bloodier Second Battle of Bull Run, which resulted in more than four times the casualty numbers as the first battle.

4. In the Second Battle of Bull Run, Robert E. Lee found himself and his Army of Northern Virginia in a precarious position. Union General George B. McClellan and his Army of Virginia was recalled from its Peninsula Campaign to combine with the newly formed Army of Virginia under John Pope. The goal was for the new colossal army to strike at the Confederate capital at Richmond, Virginia. Lee knew that both his army and capital would be vulnerable to such an overwhelming force. Luckily, he had an idea. Lee called a preemptive strike on Pope's army before it could combine with McClellan. Lee split his army into two divisions, which confused Union generals, leading to poor communication, poor decisions, faulty intelligence, and ultimately, the defeat of the Union Army (again) at Manassas.

Answers:

1. Compare-Contrast
2. Cause-Effect
3. Chronological
4. Problem-Solution



Civil War Figures Reading Comprehension Bundle

Integrated Reading and CRITICAL THOUGHT Activities

For Grades 5-8

29 INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES
Perfect for Interactive Notebooks
Perfect for Morning Work or Assessments

MR. NUSSBAUM
LEARNING + FUN

Terms of Use

Belle Boyd	C, A, D, B, C, A, C, C, D, B
Jefferson Davis	A, C, C, D, D, B, B, D, D
Frederick Douglass	D, B, D, A, C, C
Harriet Tubman on the Underground Railroad	C, D, B, C, A, A, D
Harriet Tubman	A, D, B, B, C, D, A, C, C, B
Thomas Garrett	C, B, D, D, A, B, C
Abe Lincoln Childhood	A, B, A, A, C, D, C, D, B, D
Abe Lincoln Middle Years 1	B, C, ABC, D, B, B, A, D, D, C
Abe Lincoln Middle Years 2	C, A, B, C, A, C, C, C, D, A
Abe Lincoln Middle Years 3	B, B, D, D, B, A, B, A, C, C
Abe Lincoln Presidential Years 1	A, D, A, D, A, C, B, B, C, B
Abe Lincoln Presidential Years 2	B, B, B, D, B, C, D, B, D, B
Abe Lincoln Presidential Years 3	D, A, D, A, A, B, A, D, C, C
Abe Lincoln Presidential Years 4	B, C, A, B, C, A, B, B, D, A
Harriet Beecher Stowe	A, D, C, B, D, B, B

This bundle is the property of Nussbaum Education Network, LLC. You may use the exercises within this bundle with your students or children. These exercises may be used in the classroom or distributed for homework. You may not re-publish this bundle or activities within these bundles, post them online, re-sell them, or use them in standardized tests. Any other uses not mentioned here are prohibited without consent from the Nussbaum Education Network, LLC .

For licensing inquires regarding this bundle, or any other works from Nussbaum Education Network, LLC, please e-mail us at:

mrnussbaumcom@gmail.com, or, visit our website at
<https://mrnussbaum.com>

ABRAHAM LINCOLN – The Presidential Years (part 4)

After the historic victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, the situation had vastly improved for the Union, but the war was far from over. On November 22, 1863, President Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address at the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg. The 272-word speech, which followed a two-hour address by Harvard professor Edward Everett, would become one of the greatest speeches in American history.

In March of 1864, President Lincoln appointed General Ulysses S. Grant Commander of the Army of the Potomac, the main branch of the Union Army. Finally, after nearly three years of war, the president had found a general who would pursue fleeing Confederates. Grant, known as "Unconditional Surrender Grant" after his exploits at Fort Donelson, Tennessee, in 1862, was by this time a Union hero after leading the Army of the Tennessee to numerous victories in the West, including those at Shiloh and Vicksburg. Grant would spend 1864 waging his bloody Overland Campaign through much of the state of Virginia, suffering massive casualties while gradually diminishing the numbers and spirit of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Eventually, Grant would corner Lee's Army at Petersburg, Virginia, where he staged a ten-month siege. During the siege, Lincoln would visit Grant's headquarters at City Point, outside of Petersburg, where his presence excited and inspired the Union soldiers.

Meanwhile, Union General William T. Sherman struck another blow to the spirit of the Confederacy with his destructive march through the state of Georgia, which would become known as Sherman's March to the Sea. Sherman's Army destroyed farms, railroad lines, and virtually anything in its path. After Sherman's capture of Atlanta, Georgia, President Lincoln easily won reelection to a second term. In contrast to his campaign platform in 1860, Lincoln made the emancipation of slaves a primary emphasis. Over 78 percent of Union soldiers would support his bid for a second term as president.

On April 9, 1865, the Confederate States of America surrendered at Appomattox Court House, Virginia. The Civil War was over and the Union would be preserved. At this point, President Lincoln had to consider the complicated task of reconstructing the Union and how to reintegrate the Confederate states back into the United States.

Lincoln believed in a policy of forgiveness and took a moderate approach to Reconstruction, hoping to reconstruct the Union as quickly as possible rather than indefinitely punish the rebel states. Unfortunately, the president did not have much of a chance to preside over Reconstruction. Just five days after the end of the war, Southern sympathizer and actor John Wilkes Booth assassinated the president while he was watching a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, DC. Lincoln's bodyguard had abandoned his post, allowing Booth access to the presidential box. Lincoln died at 7:22 the next morning at the Peterson House across the street from the theater. Upon his death, Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton uttered the timeless words, "Now, he belongs to the ages."

- 1.) **After the Battles of Gettysburg and Vicksburg, the situation had _____ for the Confederacy.**
 - a.) remained the same
 - b.) worsened
 - c.) improved
 - d.) become impossible

- 2.) **When did President Lincoln give his Gettysburg Address?**
 - a.) After the war was over
 - b.) During the Battle of Gettysburg
 - c.) After the Battle of Gettysburg
 - d.) Before the Battle of Gettysburg

- 3.) **Which of the following was not true about Ulysses S. Grant?**
 - a.) He led the Confederacy to victories in the Overland Campaign.
 - b.) He was known as "Unconditional Surrender" Grant.
 - c.) He was the general President Lincoln was looking for since the war started.
 - d.) He had led the Army of the Tennessee to many victories.

- 4.) **How would you best describe Grant's Overland Campaign?**
 - a.) A campaign through Virginia in which Lee's Army of Northern Virginia defeated Grant.
 - b.) A campaign through Virginia that caused many casualties and weakened the Confederate spirit.
 - c.) A campaign through Virginia that caused many casualties but strengthened the Confederate spirit.
 - d.) A campaign through Virginia that crushed the spirit of the Union.

- 5.) **Which of the following was a major reason why President Lincoln was elected to a second term in 1864?**
 - a.) There were no other candidates who ran against him.
 - b.) Because the South seemed to be winning the war.
 - c.) After the capture of Atlanta, it seemed as if the war was coming to an end.
 - d.) People were happy that the slaves were free.

- 6.) **Which of the following describes how Union soldiers probably felt about President Lincoln?**
 - a.) Most liked him.
 - b.) All disliked him.
 - c.) Most disliked him.
 - d.) All liked him.

- 7.) **What did Lincoln think about the process of Reconstruction after the Civil War?**
 - a.) He believed the Southern states had to be punished.
 - b.) He believed the Southern states would be readmitted to the Union as quickly as possible.
 - c.) He believed that some states should return to the Union and others should not.
 - d.) He believed the Southern states should never be allowed to be states.

- 8.) **When was Abraham Lincoln assassinated?**
 - a.) Just days before the end of the Civil War.
 - b.) Just days after the end of the Civil War.
 - c.) 1864
 - d.) During his first term as president.

9.) Which of the following is NOT true?

- a.) Lincoln died the morning after he had been shot.
- b.) Lincoln's bodyguard may have been asleep or not where he was supposed to be.
- c.) Lincoln died at the Petersen House.
- d.) Lincoln died at Ford's Theater.

10.)What does the word "timeless" mean in the sentence below?

Edwin M. Stanton uttered the timeless words "Now, he belongs to the ages."

- a.) always relevant
- b.) aspiring
- c.) taking a long time
- d.) irrelevant

ABRAHAM LINCOLN – The Presidential Years (part 3)

Leadership in the Union Army

After the First Battle of Bull Run, Lincoln had appointed West Point graduate General George McClellan as Commander of the Army of the Potomac. McClellan set his sights upon the capture of the Confederate capital of Richmond. In what he called the Peninsula Campaign, McClellan planned to move the huge army by boat to the Eastern Shore (Peninsula) of Virginia and then over land to Richmond itself. McClellan, however, took an inordinate amount of time planning and mobilizing the movements, and challenged the president's authority several times in the process. Furthermore, McClellan was slow to strike when he had the opportunities and always exaggerated the number of enemy troops waiting to engage his army.

On September 16, 1862, the Union Army scored a major victory at Sharpsburg, Maryland, in what came to be known as The Battle of Antietam. Antietam would prove to be the bloodiest one-day battle of the war. The battle forced the battered Confederate Army under General Robert E. Lee to cross the Potomac River back into Virginia and foiled Lee's attempt to carve a path of military victories in Union territory. Despite the urgings of the president and Congress, McClellan failed to order his army to pursue the fleeing Confederates, enabling them to regroup in their own territory. Lincoln, having had enough of McClellan's indecision and insubordination, replaced him as Commander of the Army of the Potomac. Finding a suitable replacement, however, would prove no easy task. In fact, Lincoln went through several more commanders before settling on General Ulysses S. Grant.

The Slavery Issue

From the time the war had started, Lincoln had wrestled with himself and members of his cabinet concerning the proper timing of emancipating slaves in the South. With the momentum of the war swinging back to the Union, and on the heels of the major victory at Antietam, Lincoln issued his famous Emancipation Proclamation on September 22, 1862, to be effective on January 1, 1863. The decree freed all slaves in "enemy territory." The proclamation, however, failed to address slavery in the Border States. Lincoln believed forcing the Border States of Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware, and Missouri to free their slaves would push them to join the Confederacy. Despite his failure to free slaves in the Border States, Lincoln believed that slavery would die as long as it did not extend into new territories.

Despite the Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln maintained his primary goal was not the liberation of slaves, but rather the preservation of the Union. In fact, Lincoln believed the best plan of action for the newly freed slaves was to set up a colony for them in Africa. Lincoln enjoyed little, if any, support for the plan, and by 1863 abandoned the idea. By the end of 1863, Lincoln had formulated a plan to recruit black soldiers to the Union Army in the belief that "the bare sight of 50,000 armed and drilled black soldiers on the banks of the Mississippi would end the rebellion at once."

Good News for the Union

July of 1863 would prove a major turning point in the war. On July 3, the Army of Northern Virginia led by Robert E. Lee was repulsed at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, in arguably the most storied battle in American history. The following day, on July 4, 1863, General Ulysses S. Grant and Union forces took Vicksburg, Mississippi, after a long siege, gaining control of the Mississippi River for the Union Army and splitting the Confederacy into two separate parts. For Lincoln, control of the Mississippi River, its ports, and its navigation were one of the main objectives in eventual military victory.

- 1.) **Which of the following statements correctly describes George McClellan?**
 - a.) An indecisive general who always struck quickly
 - b.) A decisive general who always knew the size of an enemy force
 - c.) A decisive general who failed to strike quickly but always knew the size of an enemy force
 - d.) An indecisive general who failed to strike quickly and who exaggerated the size of an enemy force

- 2.) **The Battle of Antietam was...**
 - a.) the bloodiest one-day battle in the war.
 - b.) a battle that occurred in 1864.
 - c.) a decisive victory for the Confederate Army.
 - d.) the bloodiest battle in the war.

- 3.) **Why did Lincoln replace McClellan as General of the Army of the Potomac?**
 - a.) He failed to pursue the fleeing Confederates.
 - b.) He challenged the president's authority.
 - c.) He was slow to strike.
 - d.) All of the above

- 4.) **Why did Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation fail to free slaves in the Border States?**
 - a.) He did not want those states to be persuaded to join the Confederacy.
 - b.) Those states had no slaves.
 - c.) Freeing those slaves would mean certain victory for the Confederacy.
 - d.) Lincoln did not believe that slaves in those states deserved their freedom.

- 5.) **What was Lincoln's primary goal in the war?**
 - a.) Preserve the nation
 - b.) Punish the South
 - c.) To free the slaves
 - d.) Win the presidential election of 1864

- 6.) **Which of the following was NOT TRUE about Abraham Lincoln?**
 - a.) He believed in allowing former slaves to become soldiers for the Union Army.
 - b.) He thought slaves should not be allowed to become soldiers for the Union Army.
 - c.) He thought, at least for some time, that freed slaves should be sent to a colony in Africa.
 - d.) He believed slavery would die if it was not extended into the new territories.

- 7.) **Which of the following was NOT a reason why July of 1863 was a "turning point" for the Union Army?**
 - a.) July 4th became a national holiday after the fall of Vicksburg.
 - b.) The Union took Vicksburg, Mississippi.
 - c.) The Union Army drove the Confederates from Northern soil at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.
 - d.) The Union Army took control of the Mississippi River.

- 8.) **What happened first?**
 - a.) The Battle of Gettysburg ended.
 - b.) The slaves were actually freed.
 - c.) July 4th
 - d.) The Emancipation Proclamation

9.) Which of the words in the following sentence means the act of "keeping together"?

Despite the Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln maintained his primary goal was not the liberation of slaves, but rather the preservation of the Union.

- a.) primary
- b.) liberation
- c.) preservation
- d.) Proclamation

10.) Which battle was arguably "the most storied" in American history?

- a.) Vicksburg
- b.) Antietam
- c.) Bull Run
- d.) Gettysburg

Stonewall Jackson Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

"Old Blue Light"

Thomas J. Jackson was born January 21, 1824, in Clarksburg, Virginia (now Clarksburg, West Virginia). He graduated from the US Military Academy in 1846 and earned two brevets serving in the Mexican War. After his service in Mexico, he became a professor at the Virginia Military Academy where he earned the nickname "Old Blue Light."

Becoming "Stonewall"

When the Civil War began, he was dispatched to Harper's Ferry where he was in charge of recruiting soldiers to the Confederate Army. After Harper's Ferry, Jackson's brigade moved to Manassas with General Johnston's forces to meet General P.T. Beauregard. It was in the First Battle of Bull Run that Jackson earned the nickname "Stonewall." "There stands Jackson like a stone wall" were the words of General Bernard Bee as his retreating Alabama forces were reinforced by Jackson. After the Confederate victory at Bull Run, Jackson was promoted to major general. After faulty intelligence resulted in defeat at Kernstown, Jackson won battles at Winchester, Front Royal, Cross Keys, and Port Republic.

Second Bull Run

After helping Lee at Richmond, Jackson and his army detached and headed north to face Union General John Pope's army. Jackson captured Pope's supply base at Manassas Junction and held off Pope's army at the Second Battle of Bull Run before Confederate General James Longstreet launched a decisive attack on Union forces, causing them to retreat.

Untimely Death at Chancellorsville

After Bull Run, Jackson captured Harper's Ferry and rejoined Lee's Army of Northern Virginia at Antietam. Despite heavy casualties and an inconclusive result, Jackson was honored and promoted to commander of the 2nd Corps. After defeating Union forces at Fredericksburg, Jackson and his forces routed Union troops at Chancellorsville—his greatest victory. That night, however, Jackson was mortally wounded on accident by his own troops. Jackson had his left arm amputated but died of pneumonia eight days later on May 10, 1863. Southern sympathizers were devastated. Robert E. Lee said,

“He has lost his left arm, but I have lost my right arm.” Stonewall Jackson is buried in Lexington, Virginia.

1. Infer the meaning of the word “brevet,” used in the first paragraph.

- a) A military honor
- b) A cash prize
- c) A severe injury
- d) A demotion

2. Which quality does Jackson’s nickname “Stonewall” most likely refer to?

- a) His intelligence
- b) His fear
- c) His stony expression
- d) His confidence

3. In which position did Jackson not serve?

- a) Major general
- b) Commander of 2nd Corps
- c) Professor at the military academy
- d) Commander of Union army

4. Put the following events in order:

- I. Jackson is victorious at Port Republic
- II. Jackson is dispatched to Harper’s Ferry
- III. Jackson is wounded by his own troops
- IV. Jackson earns his nickname

- a) I, II, III, IV
- b) II, IV, I, III
- c) IV, I, II, III
- d) II, III, I, IV

5. Which of the following was the cause of Jackson’s death?

- a) An amputation
- b) Pneumonia
- c) Gunshot from a Union soldier
- d) Attack from Southern sympathizer

6. Infer what Lee meant by calling Jackson his “right arm.”

- a) A father figure
- b) An irreplaceable political ally
- c) A trusted battle comrade
- d) A childhood friend

7. Which statement about Jackson is supported by the passage?

- a) He was fatally wounded by friendly fire.
- b) He won many battles for the Confederacy.
- c) Both of the above
- d) None of the above

-----Key-----

1. (a)
2. (d)
3. (d)
4. (b)
5. (b)
6. (c)
7. (c)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN – The Presidential Years (part 1)

Abe Lincoln Emerges

Though Abe had a national reputation, the Republican nomination for president in the election of 1860 seemed elusive. Powerful Republicans William Seward from New York, Salmon P. Chase from Ohio, and Edward Bates from Missouri seemed to be the frontrunners. On February 27, 1860, however, Abe was invited to speak before a crowd of powerful Republicans at Cooper Union (a university) in New York City. Abe's anti-slavery speech, in which he claimed the Founding Fathers and authors of the Declaration of Independence would have prohibited the extension of slavery into new territories, left a lasting impression on the members of the audience and propelled him to legitimacy among the Republican candidates running for presidency. The powerful publisher Horace Greeley called it "One of the most happiest and most convincing political arguments ever made in this City... No man ever made such an impression on his first appeal to a New York audience." After the speech, Abe decided that he would at least make an attempt for the Republican nomination to the presidency. He assembled a team of devoted campaigners who called Lincoln "The Rail Candidate."

The Republican National Convention

On May 9-10 of 1860, Abe and his team traveled to the Republican National Convention in Decatur, Illinois, where his savvy team of supporters worked the convention for endorsements. Seward and Chase, though powerful and well-known politicians, had created enough enemies over the years to prove vulnerable and had alienated parts of the Republican Party. Though Abe believed slavery was evil, his moderate (rather than radical) stance appealed to many, as did his support for the nation's internal improvements and protective tariff. Furthermore, Abe was extremely popular in the western states, and because the convention was in his home state, thousands of his supporters descended upon Decatur. While Seward led on the first and second ballots (though he didn't get enough votes to win), Lincoln won the nomination on the third ballot when the chairman of the Ohio Republican Delegation was convinced to shift his votes to Lincoln. Seward, who thought his nomination was assured, was crushed, and Chase couldn't even manage to draw full support from his home state of Ohio. Now that Abe had secured the Republican nomination for president, he had a chance to win the presidential election.

Abe is Elected the 16th President

In 1860, the future of the United States was much in doubt. The issue of slavery, which had bitterly divided the nation, had also begun to divide political parties, making the presidential election very complicated. The

Democratic Party had been divided into the Northern Democratic Party and Southern Democratic Party. The Northern Democratic Party nominated Stephen Douglas for the presidency, while the Southern Democratic Party nominated John C. Breckenridge. The Constitutional Union Party nominated the former Tennessee Governor John Bell.

On November 6, 1860, Abraham Lincoln was elected president in 33 states. Of the eleven Southern states that would eventually secede, only Virginia allowed Abe's name to be on their ballots. In Virginia, Abe received slightly over one percent of the popular vote. In the four slave states that would become Border States, Abe finished third or fourth. In New England, however, Abe won the popular vote in every county. The 81.8 percent voter turnout for the election of 1860 is the second-highest turnout in presidential election history. Now that Abe had been elected president, he had to appoint the members of his cabinet.

Choosing Advisors

In thinking about his advisors, Abe wanted the brightest and most influential politicians available. For the two most important posts in his cabinet, he chose the two candidates that ran against him for the Republican nomination for president. He appointed William Seward as his secretary of state and Salmon P. Chase as his secretary of treasury. Both men would prove indispensable to the president in his dealings with the Civil War.

1.) In the following sentence, what does "elusive" mean?

Though Abe had a national reputation, the Republican nominee for president in the election of 1860 seemed elusive.

- a.) hard to get
- b.) impossible
- c.) possible
- d.) likely

2.) How would you describe Horace Greeley's response to Lincoln's speech at Cooper Union?

- a.) He thought it was inappropriate.
- b.) He agreed with parts of it.
- c.) He disagreed with it.
- d.) He strongly agreed with it.

3.) Which of the following was probably NOT implied in Lincoln's speech at Cooper Union?

- a.) The new territories should decide for themselves whether or not to allow slavery.
- b.) People of all races and colors should have liberty.
- c.) Slavery should not be allowed in America's new territories.
- d.) The Founding Fathers would have frowned on slavery.

4.) Which of the following probably did NOT help Lincoln at the Republican National Convention?

- a.) Other candidates had made enemies in the Republican Party.
- b.) The Republican National Convention was in his home state of Illinois.
- c.) His moderate stance on slavery.
- d.) He was the "Rail Candidate".

5.) How did William Seward feel after the Republican National Convention?

- a.) He was devastated.
- b.) He felt betrayed.
- c.) He felt happy for Abraham Lincoln.
- d.) He thought "the best man won."

6.) What did winning the Republican nomination mean?

- a.) He would be governor of Illinois.
- b.) He was assured, at least, of becoming vice president.
- c.) He would be the Republican nominee for president.
- d.) He would be president.

7.) Which of the following is NOT true about the political parties in 1860?

- a.) The Democratic Party had become two different parties.
- b.) The issue of slavery had brought them closer together.
- c.) The issue of slavery had produced major divides in the parties.
- d.) The Constitutional Union party nominated John Bell.

8.) Which of the following statements best describes Abe's performance in the presidential election of 1860?

- a.) His support was strongest in the Border States.
- b.) His support was strongest in the New England states.
- c.) Northern states and Southern states showed support for him.
- d.) He finished third or fourth in the Southern states.

9.) Which of the following statements best describes the sentiments of voters in the election of 1860?

- a.) They cared more in the Southern states.
- b.) They didn't seem to care very much.
- c.) They cared very much in the North and the South.
- d.) They cared more in the Northern states.

10.) Why did Abe choose his opponents in the Republican National Convention as his cabinet advisors?

- a.) He was bragging about his victory.
- b.) He wanted the smartest people advising him.
- c.) He was forced to by Congress.
- d.) He feared they would run against him again in the election of 1864.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN – The Middle Years (part 3)

In December of 1839, Abe met Mary Todd, a “handsome” woman from a wealthy, slave-owning family from Lexington, Kentucky. Abe had been involved in two romances prior to Mary; one with Ann Rutledge, who died of typhoid, and another with Mary Owens, which ended abruptly. By 1840, however, Abe and Mary Todd became engaged. Unfortunately, their mutual affections failed to last and by 1841, the engagement was broken, plunging Abe into a deep depression that rendered him unable to attend to his business or his job. Mired in sadness, Lincoln went back to his boyhood home in Kentucky with his friend Joshua Speed, where he apparently recovered sufficiently to return to his life in Springfield. To this day, there is no historical record of why the pair decided to call off their engagement. In 1842, however, Abe and Mary had re-established relations and were married on November 4 of that year. Abe and Mary would have four children, two of which died in childhood. In 1844, Abe and Mary Todd bought their first house on the corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets in Springfield.

Abe as Congressman

Following his marriage, Abe’s interest in politics continued to influence the course he would take in life. Despite entering a law partnership with Judge Stephen Logan, Abe made several unsuccessful attempts to gain the Whig nomination for congressman in the 30th District of Illinois. In 1846, however, Abe was finally nominated and elected in August of that year. Abe served one two-year term in Washington and was the only Whig representative in the Democrat-dominated Illinois delegation. During his time as congressman, Abe spoke out against the Mexican-American War, attributing its cause to president James K. Polk’s desire for “military glory—that attractive rainbow that rises in showers of blood.” Lincoln believed the United States was waging an unprovoked war for the purposes of expanding its boundaries. This stance made him particularly unpopular, and Lincoln lost much of the political support he once enjoyed, and hence, was not reelected to Congress.

Back to Law

After this stint as congressman, Lincoln returned to Springfield with a new vigor to practice law. He “rode the circuit” twice every year for ten weeks, practicing law in county seats throughout the state of Illinois. Many of his cases involved disputes which involved the operations of barges, drawbridges, and railroads. He would argue cases in front of the Illinois Supreme Court some 175 times, and even argued a case in front of the United States Supreme Court. Of the 51 cases in which he was the only lawyer for a particular client, 31 of the cases were decided in his favor. Abe, who called himself “the prairie lawyer,” took other kinds of cases as well, including those involving murder. In 1858, he successfully defended “Duff” Armstrong against charges of

homicide. One of the witnesses testified to seeing the murder committed in the moonlight. Abe proceeded to consult his copy of the Farmer's Almanac, which showed the moon at the time was at a low angle, reducing visibility and making it highly unlikely anyone could witness a crime using moonlight alone. Armstrong was acquitted. At this point, Abe was one of the foremost lawyers in the state of Illinois. Abe, however believed he lacked the logic, reasoning, and mathematical skills needed to be an elite lawyer and dedicated himself to intensive late-night readings until he felt he had improved himself with respect to those subjects. As the issue of slavery continued to strain relations between the North and the South and with the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, which opened up the new territories to the possibility of slavery, Abe returned to politics.

Abe Speaks out Against Slavery

On October 16, 1854, Abe issued his famous "Peoria Speech" in which he condemned the institution of slavery, declaring,

"I hate [slavery] because of the monstrous injustice of slavery itself. I hate it because it deprives our republican example of its just influence in the world..."

Later that year, Abe decided to run for the Illinois Senate seat as a Whig. The Whigs, at the time, were crumbling from the inside out. Differing opinions within the party concerning the Kansas-Nebraska Act threatened to tear the party in two, or to obliterate it all together. Consequently, Lincoln lost the nomination but became instrumental in the formation of a new party—the Republican Party. The Republican Party quickly gained influence and became a national political powerhouse by the time Lincoln would be elected president.

In 1857, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court Roger Taney ruled that blacks had no rights in America as citizens in the famous Dred Scott s. Sandford decision. The decision was a major blow to the abolitionists in the North and further polarized relations between the two parts of the country. Although Lincoln spoke out against the decision, he affirmed the Court's right to issue such a decision. That same year, after his nomination by the Illinois Republican Party for the Senate, Abe delivered the immortal words,

"A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved—I do not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other."

1.) Which of the following best describes Mary Todd Lincoln?

- a.) She came from a poor family that believed in slavery.
- b.) She came from a rich family that believed in slavery.
- c.) She came from a rich family that did not believe in slavery.
- d.) She came from a poor family that did not believe in slavery.

2.) What happened first?

- a.) Abe and Mary bought their first house.
- b.) Abe first became engaged to Mary Todd.
- c.) 1841
- d.) Abe went back to Kentucky with Joshua Speed.

3.) Why did Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd call off their first engagement?

- a.) Mary had second thoughts.
- b.) Abe wasn't sure if he wanted to get married.
- c.) Abe was broke.
- d.) No one knows.

4.) How many children did Abe and Mary Todd have?

- a.) 1
- b.) 2
- c.) 3
- d.) 4

5.) Why did Abraham Lincoln lose political support as congressman?

- a.) He was more interested in his law practice.
- b.) He spoke out against the Mexican-American War.
- c.) He spoke out against slavery.
- d.) He supported President James K. Polk.

6.) How would you describe the success of Abraham Lincoln in arguing cases in front of the Illinois Supreme Court?

- a.) Somewhat successful
- b.) Always successful
- c.) Somewhat unsuccessful
- d.) Not very successful

7.) Why did Abraham Lincoln call himself the "prairie lawyer"?

- a.) He wanted to save the prairies from development.
- b.) He, himself, was from an area of the country that had a lot of prairies.
- c.) He specialized in prairie law.
- d.) No one really knows.

8.) Why did Abraham Lincoln stay up late at night studying mathematics and logic?

- a.) He thought he needed to practice those skills to become a better lawyer.
- b.) It was a hobby of his.
- c.) He wanted to be an astronomer.
- d.) He needed to master those subjects for an important trial.

9.) Why did Abraham Lincoln return to politics?

- a.) He wanted to become president.
- b.) He was sick of practicing law.
- c.) The issue of slavery was threatening the relationship between the North and South.
- d.) He had mastered mathematics and logic.

10.) In the following sentence, what does "instrumental" mean?

Lincoln lost the nomination but became **instrumental** in the formation of a new party—the Republican Party.

- a.) having to do with an instrument
- b.) slide
- c.) helped make happen
- d.) musical

ABRAHAM LINCOLN – The Presidential Years (part 2)

Secession

Following Abe's election, the state of South Carolina seceded from the Union on December 20, 1860. Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Texas, and Georgia would secede in the following weeks. These states formed the Confederate States of America (CSA) and declared themselves an independent nation. Upon entering office, Abe was faced with the most pressing crisis in the history of the young nation.

Abe's road to the White House was not easy either. According to some accounts, he had to ride through Baltimore on a secret train in disguise to evade would-be assassins on his way to inauguration in Washington. After Abe's inauguration, the Confederacy continued to mobilize. It elected Jefferson Davis as president and set up its capital headquarters in Montgomery, Alabama. War was imminent.

War Begins

As war approached, President Lincoln sent provisions to American forts that were now in Confederate territory, including Fort Sumter, near Charleston Harbor, South Carolina. Secessionists in South Carolina considered this an act of war and began bombarding the fort on April 12, 1861. Union forces at Fort Sumter surrendered and thus, the American Civil War began. On April 15, Abe requested the mobilization of 75,000 troops from the states for the purposes of "preserving the Union." In the following days, North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Virginia seceded from the Union, refusing to mobilize against their Southern neighbors. The secession of Virginia, one of the most populous states in the country, was a major prize for the Confederacy. To reward it, the Confederate capital was moved from Montgomery, Alabama, to Richmond, Virginia.

Managing the War

As Union troops descended from Massachusetts to the nation's capital, pro-secession residents of Baltimore, Maryland, attacked Union soldiers and destroyed railroads linking Washington to the North. In response, President Lincoln suspended the writ of habeas corpus in Maryland, allowing the government to arrest suspected perpetrators and keep them in jail indefinitely without a trial or conviction. He also authorized the blockades of Southern ports. During this difficult time, Abe was also suffering depression likely caused by the stresses of the war, the death of his son Willie, and the increasingly erratic behavior of his mourning wife.

Later in 1861, Abe endured an embarrassing and potentially dangerous episode when the British ship *Trent* was intercepted by the Union Navy in the Atlantic Ocean. Two Confederate agents on their way to England and France were seized and brought back to America as prisoners. Although the American public was in full support of the illegal seizure, England considered it an act of war. Eventually, Lincoln was compelled to release the Confederate agents to avert the British threat. Despite the demands of England, however, Abe never issued a formal apology, and hostilities between England and America died.

Abe had other things to worry about as well. Union forces had been routed in the war's first major battle at Manassas, just thirty miles west of Washington. This was a major blow to the morale of the North, which underestimated the resolve and fight of the Confederacy. After the devastation at Manassas, Abe realized the war would not end any time soon. Throughout 1861 and much of 1862, Abe became dissatisfied with the progress of the war and turned his attention to leadership in the major branch of the Union Army, the Army of the Potomac. Early in 1862, Lincoln replaced War Secretary Simon Cameron with Edwin M. Stanton. Stanton would prove an excellent choice. His tireless work effort and superb managerial skills helped organize the massive military efforts of the Union.

1.) Which of the following states did not secede from the Union?

- a.) Florida
- b.) New York
- c.) Alabama
- d.) Mississippi

2.) Why did Abraham Lincoln ride through Baltimore in disguise?

- a.) There was no military support for him in Baltimore.
- b.) There were supposedly assassins waiting for his train in Baltimore.
- c.) He needed to get to Washington quickly.
- d.) He was afraid of large crowds.

3.) What does "imminent" mean in the following paragraph?

After Abe's inauguration, the Confederacy continued to mobilize. It elected Jefferson Davis as president and set up its capital headquarters in Montgomery, Alabama. War was imminent.

- a.) unlikely
- b.) definite
- c.) likely
- d.) possible

4.) When did the Civil War begin?

- a.) When the Southern states seceded
- b.) When Lincoln had to ride through Baltimore in disguise
- c.) At Lincoln's inauguration
- d.) When Fort Sumter was bombarded by the Confederacy

5.) Why did North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Virginia secede?

- a.) They opposed slavery.
- b.) They refused to fight other Southern states.
- c.) There was no way out for those states.
- d.) They were angry about the bombardment of Fort Sumter.

6.) Which of the following was NOT true about Baltimore, Maryland?

- a.) Lincoln had to ride through the city in disguise to evade would-be assassins.
- b.) The city was full of pro-secessionists.
- c.) Baltimore was blockaded by the Union Navy.
- d.) Residents of the city attacked Massachusetts troops on their way to the Union capital, Washington.

7.) Which of the following is a GOOD example of the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus?

- a.) Prisoners in jail get new trials.
- b.) Prisoners who were previously in jail are released.
- c.) Nobody can be arrested.
- d.) People become prisoners without a trial if they are suspected of committing crimes.

8.) Which of the following WAS NOT a reason why President Lincoln was likely suffering from depression?

- a.) His wife was in mourning.
- b.) He was embarrassed by what happened in Baltimore.
- c.) His son died.
- d.) The war was very stressful.

9.) Why was England so angry about the seizure of the Confederate agents aboard the *Trent*?

- a.) President Lincoln refused to apologize to them.
- b.) It started a war between England and France.
- c.) President Lincoln was unpopular in England.
- d.) They thought the Union did not have the right to seize agents traveling to their country on their boat.

10.) What did the Battle of Manassas prove?

- a.) The North would win the war.
- b.) The war would not be short.
- c.) The war would not be long.
- d.) The South would win the war.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN – THE MIDDLE YEARS (Part 1)

In 1830, Abe's father moved the family to Illinois following fears of another milk sickness outbreak. After enduring several plagues and one of the worst winters on record, Abe decided to leave his father's homestead and set off on his own at the age of 22. Abe's experience, intelligence, and ingenuity would serve him well. His first job required him to steer a flatboat from Illinois to New Orleans, Louisiana. After leading the construction of the flatboat with two other boys, Abe gained notoriety from the residents of New Salem when he figured out how to float the stuck flatboat over Rutledge's Dam by drilling a hole in the bottom of the boat. After successfully unloading the goods in New Orleans, Abe took a steamer to St. Louis and walked home the remainder of the way. The owner of the flatboat was so impressed with Abe, he hired him to work as a clerk in his store in New Salem.

In New Salem, Abe made many friends, mastered grammar, and gained a reputation as a master storyteller. In August of 1832, he decided to become a candidate for one of four representatives of Sangamon County in the Illinois legislature, despite being a resident in the county for only nine months. His campaign platform centered on improvements to the navigation of the Sangamon River he would initiate. During this time, however, Lincoln was made captain of a company of men from New Salem to volunteer their service in the Black Hawk War. The company would become the Fourth Illinois Mounted Volunteers. Lincoln himself served for about three months in the frontier of Illinois but was never engaged in any real combat. When he returned to New Salem, it was election time. By this time, however, there were thirteen candidates, and he finished eighth on the ballot (though over 90 percent of the residents of New Salem voted for him). Discouraged, Abe decided to enter a partnership to purchase the store he clerked at on credit. Thinking that New Salem was an up-and-coming town, Lincoln believed the purchase would earn him great profits. Unfortunately, his partner abandoned him, subsequent attempts to sell the store were unsuccessful, and Lincoln was saddled with a debt that would take him seventeen years to pay off.

Abe Enters Politics

On May 7, 1833, Abe was appointed postmaster of New Salem. As the population of New Salem declined over the next few years, it became too small for a post office and Abe was out of a job. That same year, Lincoln was hired to survey new lands acquired by Sangamon County, despite the fact he had no training as a surveyor. According to legend, it took Abe only six weeks to learn the trade, and from that point on he was considered an excellent surveyor. In 1834, Abe would campaign again for representative in the Illinois state legislature. Now that he was well-known in a larger portion of Sangamon County, Abe traveled from village to village giving speeches, attending shooting matches, horse races, and other community events. Again, there were thirteen candidates, but this time Abe won.

1.) Why did Abe's father move them to Illinois?

- a.) There was better farming in Illinois.
- b.) He was afraid milk sickness would strike again.
- c.) Abe's grandparents lived in Illinois.
- d.) There was more opportunity in Illinois.

2.) How did Abe Lincoln gain notoriety among the people of New Salem, Illinois?

- a.) They thought he was very funny.
- b.) He was on his way to New Orleans.
- c.) He figured out how to steer a stuck flatboat over a dam.
- d.) He was steering a flatboat at age 19.

3.) In New Salem, Abe... (select all that apply)

- a.) mastered grammar
- b.) gained a reputation as a master storyteller
- c.) made a lot of friends
- d.) ran for president

4.) Which of the following statements best describes Abe's experience in the election for the Illinois legislature?

- a.) A total failure
- b.) A partial success; he gained most of the votes in Sangamon County, but failed to get enough votes in New Salem.
- c.) A total success
- d.) A partial success; he gained most of the votes in New Salem, but failed to get enough votes in other parts of Sangamon County.

5.) Abe was the captain of a group of men who "volunteered" to serve in the Black Hawk War. What is a volunteer in this context?

- a.) Someone who would pay to go to war.
- b.) Someone who goes to war and does not expect to be paid.
- c.) Someone who goes to war and expects to be paid.
- d.) Someone who goes to war.

6.) Why did Abe decide to purchase a store in New Salem?

- a.) He liked his partners.
- b.) He thought it would earn him a lot of money.
- c.) He thought he needed business experience.
- d.) He was bored.

7.) Why did Abe lose his job as postmaster of New Salem?

- a.) The population of New Salem was too small to justify having a post office.
- b.) New Salem didn't like the way Abe represented them.
- c.) Abe became an Illinois state representative.
- d.) Abe decided to enter politics.

8.) What happened first?

- a.) Abe became postmaster of New Salem.
- b.) Abe became surveyor of Sangamon County.
- c.) Abe wins the election for Illinois representative.
- d.) 1832

9.) Which of the following did Abe NOT do as he campaigned for Illinois state representative?

- a.) Went to shooting matches
- b.) Traveled to different villages
- c.) Went to horse races
- d.) Traveled to different states

10.) Why do you think Abe won the second election?

- a.) Because he had more money.
- b.) There were no other good candidates.
- c.) Because he campaigned throughout the county and met a lot of people.
- d.) It was just good luck.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN – The Middle Years (Part 2)

Illinois Legislature

Abe became an influential force of the Whig Party in the Illinois legislature and was reelected in 1836, 1838, and 1840. During this time, the issue of slavery became more and more contentious in Illinois and many other states. In 1837, Lincoln first spoke publicly to the legislature concerning his views on slavery when it passed a set of resolutions against abolitionist (anti-slavery) groups. Although Illinois was a free state at the time, it had many people who supported slavery, especially in its southern portions. In addressing the legislature, Abe opposed the resolutions and asserted that he believed slavery was an evil institution. Despite his feelings against slavery, Lincoln admitted he did not think the time was right to free all of the slaves.

Abe Earns his Law License

In 1836, Lincoln endeavored to study law. Not surprisingly, by the end of 1836, he was admitted to the Illinois state bar and obtained his license to practice. The next year he moved to Springfield, where he was already popular with the city's residents for his efforts to get the state capital moved there from Vandalia. Despite the fact he had become a lawyer, Abe was still in debt, had no money, and had no place to live. Sometime shortly after arriving in Springfield, Abe took up residence in the upstairs room above a store owned by Joshua Speed. Abe could not afford to pay the price for his own room, so Joshua offered to share his room. Abe, who was carrying all of his possessions in two saddlebags when he inquired about the price for a room, remarked, "Well, Speed, I am moved!" after setting his saddlebags on the floor of the room. Abe and Joshua quickly became inseparable and forged a lifelong friendship.

Joshua Speed

Abe soon became a respected lawyer known for his honesty, wit, oratory, and hard work. In the 1830s, lawyers and lawmakers were expected to travel to circuit courts throughout the state, oftentimes covering great distances. Abe was assigned to what was called the Eighth Judicial Circuit. As a politician and lawyer, Abe would travel to such courts to explain to the people the meanings of the laws created in the legislatures that were being applied to the local cases. Abe endeared himself to the people with the anecdotes and stories he used to explain the difficult concepts to people in terms they could understand. Oftentimes, such educational "sessions" were held in the village tavern or meetinghouse, would include meals, and would last well into the night. It was at these "sessions" where Abe's legend was born and grew; where his stories, speeches, and explanations became legendary. Though poor, Abe was beginning to make a name for himself beyond the confines of New Salem or even Springfield.

1.) Which of the following would be an accurate summary of Abraham Lincoln's views toward slavery?

- a.) He thought the Southern economy needed it.
- b.) He thought all slaves should be freed immediately.
- c.) He thought it was evil, but that the time was wrong to free all of the slaves.
- d.) He thought it served a purpose.

2.) Which of the following was true about Illinois?

- a.) Many people in southern Illinois supported slavery.
- b.) It was considered an eastern state at the time.
- c.) Slavery was legal in Illinois.
- d.) Many people in northern Illinois supported slavery.

3.) Why was Abe popular in Springfield before he moved there?

- a.) He knew Joshua Speed.
- b.) As a legislator, he fought to get the state capital moved there.
- c.) He was an outstanding lawyer.
- d.) He lived in the largest house in town.

4.) Which of the following was NOT true about Abe when he moved to Springfield?

- a.) He took all of his possessions in two bags.
- b.) He was in a lot of debt.
- c.) He bought a small house.
- d.) He had no place to live.

5.) Why did Abe have to travel great distances to practice law?

- a.) Because he practiced in the circuit courts
- b.) He was in a lot of debt.
- c.) Because the people of Springfield did not trust he was a good lawyer
- d.) Because he was against slavery

6.) Which of the following words probably DOES NOT describe Abraham Lincoln?

- a.) witty
- b.) funny
- c.) ferocious
- d.) humble

7.) What happened first?

- a.) Abe moved in with Joshua Speed.
- b.) Abe traveled the circuit courts.
- c.) Abe obtained his law license.
- d.) Abe moved to Springfield.

8.) In the sentence, "Abe endeared himself to the people with the anecdotes and stories he used to explain the difficult concepts to people in terms they could understand."

What does "endeared" mean?

- a.) begged
- b.) obtained goods
- c.) made people like him
- d.) made people feel sorry for him

9.) Where was the "legend" of Abraham Lincoln born?

- a.) In Springfield
- b.) In the courtroom
- c.) In Chicago
- d.) In village taverns and meetinghouses

10.) Why did Abraham Lincoln use stories when discussing the law?

- a.) They helped people relate to what he was saying.
- b.) They helped the people begin to make laws.
- c.) He wasn't a particularly serious man.
- d.) They helped him relax in front of big crowds.

Robert E. Lee Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

Pre-Civil War

Robert E. Lee was born January 19, 1807, in Stratford, Virginia. He graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1829 finishing second in his class. While working as an engineer, Lee married Martha Anna Randolph Custis, the great-granddaughter of Martha Washington by her first husband (not by George Washington). After serving in the Mexican War, Lee served in Baltimore Harbor before becoming superintendent of the military academy. He next served in western Texas before returning to Virginia to settle the estate of his father-in-law. In 1859, Lee was called upon to command a group of marines in the successful capture of radical abolitionist John Brown, who had stormed the federal armory at Harper's Ferry. After the John Brown raid, Lee returned to west Texas.

Virginian First

With growing hostilities between the north and south regarding slavery and states rights, Winfield Scott summoned Lee to Washington in an attempt to secure his services for the Union. But like most southerners in the 1860's, Lee considered himself more a Virginian than an American, and promptly resigned from the army to give his services to the Confederate States of America. Though Lee was given many assignments in the Confederate army including Major General, Brigadier General and General, Lee is best remembered for commanding his famous Army of Northern Virginia.

Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia

Robert E. Lee quickly became a revered figure in the south after defeating Union forces at the Second Battle of Bull Run in 1862. After his victory, Lee moved his army into Maryland, in the hopes of gaining support in the border state, which he believed was being held in the Union against its will. Unfortunately for Lee, the citizens of Maryland gave him a cold reception, as his army met Union forces under George B. McClellan at Antietam Creek in the town of Sharpsburg. In the bloodiest one day battle of the war, Lee's and McClellan's armies fought to a standstill, despite the fact that McClellan had received intelligence concerning the positions and locations of Lee's army. Nevertheless, Lee's army was driven back across the Potomac River to Virginia, rendering the first foray onto northern soil a failure.

Chancellorsville and Gettysburg

Later in 1862, however, Lee's Army of Northern Virginia won a decisive battle at Fredericksburg, then routed Union forces under Joseph Hooker at Chancellorsville in 1863 in what many consider Lee's finest victory. Later that year, Lee made his second invasion of the north, and met Union commander George Meade at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. With over 160,000 total troops engaged at the fields and bluffs of Gettysburg, it still remains the largest battle ever waged on American soil. Through three days of fighting, Confederates and Union forces decimated each other. Although General James Longstreet urged Lee to be less aggressive, and to wait for a Union attack, Lee refused and took the aggressive. In a bloody series of bombardments and charges, including Confederate General George Pickett's deadly charge across Cemetery Ridge, the Confederates were driven back across the

Potomac once again. Not only do historians consider Gettysburg the turning point in the war, but many believe if Lee would have listened to Longstreet, he would have led his army to victory.

Battered, Trapped, and Defeated

Despite the loss at Gettysburg, the war was not over. Lee's army had retreated back to Virginia, where general Union General Ulysses S. Grant made a series of bold, bloody attacks against the Confederates known as "The Overland Campaign". Despite losing tens of thousands of soldiers at Wilderness, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and at other locales, Grant's forces systematically weakened Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. With the morale and health of his army suffering, Lee and his forces held on to the Confederate strongholds of Petersburg and Richmond for ten months, before finally being overwhelmed by Union forces in 1865. Lee, in a last-ditch attempt to link with Joseph Johnston's army, retreated to the town of Appomattox, where he was forced to surrender his army on April 9, 1865.

President of a New College

After the war, a dejected Lee became president of Washington and Lee University. As a beloved general in the south, he died of heart disease on October 12, 1870, at the age of 63 in Lexington, Virginia.

1. Which statement about Lee is not supported by the passage?

- a) He was a descendant of George Washington.
- b) He finished second at the U.S. Military Academy.
- c) He helped with the capture of John Brown.
- d) He was born in Virginia.

2. Which statement best explains why Lee did not serve as a Union general?

- a) He was a staunch supporter of slavery.
- b) He wanted to fight for his home state.
- c) He wanted to become president of the Confederate States of America.
- d) He did not agree with Virginian ideologies.

3. At which battle site(s) was Lee victorious?

- a) Second Battle of Bull Run
- b) Battle of Gettysburg
- c) Battle of Chancellorsville
- d) Two of the above

4. Which inference about Lee is supported by the passage?

- a) His military education did not sufficiently prepare him for battle.
- b) He was more loyal to Texas than to Virginia.
- c) His aggressive battle tactics led to his downfall.
- d) The Civil War was the first war he fought in.

5. Which event happened first?

- a) Lee surrenders at Appomattox.
- b) Lee is defeated at Gettysburg.
- c) Lee becomes president of a university.
- d) Lee dies of heart disease.

6. Which pairing of battle with outcome is incorrect?

- a) Antietam – bloodiest single day fight of the Civil War
- b) Chancellorsville – Lee’s worst defeat
- c) Overland Campaign – damaged morale of Lee’s army
- d) Fredericksburg – Confederate victory

7. Which statement about Lee is false?

- a) He was born and died in Virginia.
- b) He was received well by the people of Maryland.
- c) He was not able to successfully invade the North.
- d) He did not listen to General Longstreet’s advice.

-----Key-----

1. (a)
2. (b)
3. (d)
4. (c)
5. (b)
6. (b)
7. (b)

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____

Below is a biography on Ulysses S. Grant. On the following page is a chart with ten statements. Indicate whether each statement is fact or fiction.

Ulysses Simpson Grant was born April 26, 1822, in Point Pleasant, Ohio. Against his father's wishes, Grant entered the US Military Academy and finished in the middle of the class. Like most military school graduates at the time, Grant was sent to Mexico and served under General Zachary Taylor during the Mexican War. In other endeavors before the Civil War, Grant was unsuccessful.

"Unconditional Surrender" Grant

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Ulysses S. Grant was working at his father's leather shop in Illinois. He was appointed by the Illinois governor as the commander of a local militia but soon rose to the rank of brigadier general in the Civil War. Grant's aggressive and bold tactics were a major reason why the Union Army was able to defeat the Confederates. His campaigns in the Mississippi River Valley were legendary and crucial to Union victory. In 1862, Grant led his forces to victories at Fort Henry and Fort Donelson in Tennessee. At Fort Donelson, Grant earned the nickname "Unconditional Surrender Grant." Though less successful at Shiloh, Grant's leadership opened the way for Union occupation of the Mississippi River. Grant went on to take the key port city of Vicksburg and then broke Confederate ranks at Chattanooga.

Grant's Overland Campaign and Lee's Surrender

In 1864, President Lincoln named him Commander of the Union army. Grant's "Overland Campaign" at such battles as Wilderness, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg took a heavy toll on Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, despite the heavy casualties inflicted upon his forces. Lee's weakened forces held the Confederate strongholds of Petersburg and Richmond for ten months before being overwhelmed by Grant's forces. On April 9, 1865, Ulysses S. Grant received Lee's surrender and the Civil War was over.

Presidency

In 1869, Grant was elected president of the United States. Unlike his military campaigns, his presidency was less than successful and plagued by corruption. Although he presided over Reconstruction in the South, and was a great advocate of African-Americans, Grant was seen associating with prospectors who tried to corner the market in gold. When he realized their plan, he authorized the Treasury to sell enough gold to ruin the plan, but the damage had already been done to business. After the presidency, Grant joined a financial firm that ultimately went bankrupt and was left virtually destitute. In 1885, he died of throat cancer shortly after writing his personal memoirs. His works ultimately made \$450,000 for his family. Grant is currently honored on the fifty-dollar bill of the United States.

	FACT	FICTION
Ulysses S. Grant was very successful before the Civil War began.		
Grant scored victories at both Fort Donelson and Fort Henry in 1862.		
Grant is honored on the United States \$50 bill.		
Grant became president of the United States in 1863.		
As president, Grant supported African-Americans and was an advocate of Civil Rights.		
Grant is credited with systematically weakening the Union Army in 1864.		
On April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee accepted Grant's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse.		
Grant earned his nickname after his victory at Fort Donelson.		
Grant's father always supported his son's military aspirations.		
Grant's presidency was considered very successful.		
Grant scored victories for the Union Army at Vicksburg and Chattanooga.		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
Ulysses S. Grant was very successful before the Civil War began.		X
Grant scored victories at both Fort Donelson and Fort Henry in 1862.	X	
Grant is honored on the United States \$50 bill.	X	
Grant became president of the United States in 1863.		X
As president, Grant supported African-Americans and was an advocate of Civil Rights.	X	
Grant is credited with systematically weakening the Union Army in 1864.		X
On April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee accepted Grant's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse.		X
Grant earned his nickname after his victory at Fort Donelson.	X	
Grant's father always supported his son's military aspirations.		X
Grant's presidency was considered very successful.		X
Grant scored victories for the Union Army at Vicksburg and Chattanooga.	X	

Harriet Tubman Reading Comprehension – How Did She do it?

Name _____

Harriet Tubman was well known as the “conductor” of the Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad was neither underground nor a railroad; it was a system of trails that led from the slave states of Delaware and Maryland to the free state of Pennsylvania. Harriet Tubman knew the trails well and was said to have guided at least 60-70 slaves to freedom upon the trail. How did she do it?

The borders of Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania, were dangerous places for slaves seeking their freedom. Slave catchers frequented the area, hoping to reap the rewards offered by slave owners for their runaways before or after they crossed the Mason-Dixon Line. Thus, Harriet Tubman, and others who helped slaves escaped to freedom were resourceful and elusive and were quick to learn who to trust and who not to trust.

Tubman, in contrast to popular thought, never relied on the “quilt system” to choose safe houses along the Underground Railroad. Rather, she relied on people she trusted to hide her and guide her in the right directions. She often relied on Quaker families living in Maryland who were willing to break Maryland law to hide her or transport her. To travel, she walked, rode horses or in wagons, sailed on boats, and rode actual trains. She often traveled in disguise or dressed up as a man or elderly person. She traveled on Saturdays as runaway notices in southern newspapers weren’t published until Monday. Tubman even employed acting techniques when necessary. In one particularly harrowing tale, she recognized one of her old masters on a train. The quick-thinking Tubman quickly grabbed a newspaper pretending to read it. Because she was thought to be illiterate, her master thought nothing of it. The newspaper turned out to be an extremely effective prop – even though she held it upside down! In addition, Tubman used songs to communicate danger or safety and had others write letters on her behalf. She even bribed people when necessary.

In the woods, Tubman used various methods to ensure she traveled in the correct direction. She learned to identify the directional flow of rivers and to follow those that flowed north. She often traveled by night and used the north star as a guide. On cloudy nights, she watched for moss that only grew on the north side of the trees. If danger arose, Tubman looked for a quick source of water to hide her scent from the hound dogs that accompanied the slave catchers.

- 1. Why is the word “conductor” in quotes in the first paragraph?**
 - A. To make sure the reader notices that Harriet was conductor of the Underground Railroad
 - B. To make sure that reader notices the word “conductor”
 - C. To make sure the reader knows that Harriet was not a real conductor
 - D. To make sure the reader knows how important her role was

- 2. According to the reader, which of the following could be a misnomer? A misnomer is something that is named inaccurately.**
 - A. The free state of Pennsylvania
 - B. Quilt System
 - C. Mason-Dixon Line
 - D. The Underground Railroad

- 3. Which of the words in the third paragraph means “hard to find?”**
 - A. resourceful
 - B. elusive
 - C. frequented
 - D. seeking

- 4. Why did Harriet Tubman travel on Saturday?**
 - A. Because the north star was clearest on Saturdays
 - B. Because she knew people would not expect slaves to escape on Saturday or Sunday
 - C. Because she knew she would have at least a full day before word of the slaves she was helping escape was published in the newspapers
 - D. Because she knew that slave catchers preferred to operate during the week rather than on weekends

- 5. Which of the following can be inferred about Maryland Quakers?**
 - A. Many were against the practice of slavery
 - B. Many were suspicious of Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad
 - C. Many were considered violent criminals in Maryland
 - D. The passage doesn’t give enough information about Quakers to enable the reader to make an inference

- 6. Which of the following IS NOT answered in the passage?**
 - A. Was Harriet Tubman ever captured?
 - B. How did Harriet Tubman elude the hound dogs that accompanied slave catchers?
 - C. To what state did Harriet Tubman hope to bring runaway slaves?
 - D. How did Harriet Tubman use songs?

- 7. Which of the following would be the best main idea for this passage?**
- A. Harriet Tubman will always be remembered as the Conductor of the Underground Railroad
 - B. Harriet Tubman's life was difficult and full of sadness
 - C. Harriet Tubman's adventures led to the escape of 70 slaves
 - D. Harriet Tubman's resourcefulness and instincts served her well as conductor of the Underground Railroad

HARRIET TUBMAN Reading Comprehension

Harriet Tubman was one of the most famous American women in history. She was born on March 10, 1821, in Dorchester County, Maryland, the daughter of slaves on a Maryland plantation. Her original name was Araminta Ross, and she was nicknamed "Minty." From an early age, she worked as a servant at the plantation house. As a teenager, she suffered a vicious head wound as she tried to protect a fellow slave from a beating. According to legend, the woman who was beating the other slave hurled a two-pound weight, hitting Harriet in the head. Her injury would haunt her for the remainder of her life, resulting in periodic fainting spells.

Tubman spent her early life as a slave. In 1844, she married a free black man named John Tubman, who would prove disloyal. Life as a slave was extremely difficult. They were forced to work in the merciless heat without rest. They were often beaten and forced to live in poor conditions. In the early and mid 1800s, slaves were often sold to Southern plantations where they would never have contact with their families again. Harriet was a particularly strong and powerful woman who could be sold for a hefty sum. Fearing that she was about to be sold, Harriet resolved to run away. Despite the brutal punishment that would be inflicted upon her if she was caught, Harriet took off in the middle of the night sometime in 1849 and headed north to freedom. She gained assistance along the way by abolitionist Quaker families who hung specially designed carpets or lights on the outside of their houses as a sign that runaway slaves were welcome and would receive help. She traveled by night through the dense woodlands of Maryland, guided north by the North Star and the moss that grew on the north side of the trees. She eventually made it to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a free city where she landed a job and saved money. After living in Philadelphia for two years, Harriet decided to return to Maryland, in the hopes of freeing her family members. She succeeded in guiding her sister and mother to freedom along the same path that she had taken. This path became known as the Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad was a network of woodland paths scattered throughout parts of the South that led to freedom in the North. Harriet returned again and guided her father and brother to freedom.

Soon, Harriet became known as the "conductor" on the Underground Railroad and made more daring trips to the South to guide more slaves to their freedom. Harriet devised strategies to trick various parties that tried to capture her. If she was traveling with a baby, she would use herbal drugs to ensure it didn't cry. She made sure that she traveled on Saturdays as "runaway notices" in Southern newspapers could not be printed until Monday. Harriet's daring "forays" continued to elude slave hunters who were offered huge bounties for returning slaves to their owners. By 1856, a \$40,000 bounty was placed on her capture—dead or alive. She became a serious threat to Southern plantation owners who made large investments in their slaves. In one famous story, Harriet was close to being captured at a bus station. To avoid capture, she pulled out a book and pretended to read. Since nearly all slaves were illiterate, the hunters simply ignored her and continued their search.

By 1860, Tubman was said to have completed 19 successful journeys on the Underground Railroad, freeing as many as 300 slaves. She was never captured, nor were any of her "passengers." During the Civil War, she served as a cook, nurse, and spy for the Union Army. After the war, she settled in Troy, New York, where she would die in 1913.

1.) Which of the following was an EFFECT of Harriet's head injury?

- a.) She suffered from fainting spells.
- b.) She became a conductor on the Underground Railroad.
- c.) She married a free black man.
- d.) She was sold to another family.

2.) Which of the following best describes the Underground Railroad?

- a.) A network of trains and railroad tracks that led slaves to freedom in the North
- b.) A network of paths and forest trails that led slaves to freedom in the West
- c.) A network of paths and forest trails that led slaves to freedom in the South
- d.) A network of paths and forest trails that led slaves to freedom in the North.

3.) Which of the following did Harriet NOT take into consideration in her quest for freedom?

- a.) The position of the North Star
- b.) The disappointment of her owners when they learned she had runaway
- c.) Specially designed carpets on the outsides of houses friendly to runaway slaves
- d.) The tendency of moss to grow on the north side of trees

4.) Which of the following questions is answered in the last paragraph?

- a.) Was Harriet Tubman able to read or write?
- b.) How did Harriet Tubman contribute to the Union Army in the Civil War?
- c.) How did Harriet Tubman avoid capture on the Underground Railroad?
- d.) What happened to Harriet's husband?

5.) Who helped Harriet in her escape to freedom?

- a.) the people of Maryland
- b.) her husband
- c.) Quaker families
- d.) the police

6.) Harriet Tubman suffered a head injury while...

- a.) Falling.
- b.) lifting heavy weights.
- c.) working in the fields.
- d.) protecting a fellow slave.

7.) Harriet Tubman helped as many as _____ slaves to their freedom.

- a.) 300
- b.) 40,000
- c.) 40
- d.) 100

8.) Why did Harriet Tubman travel on Saturdays?

- a.) Because runaway notices would be printed on Sundays
- b.) Because she was too tired during the work week
- c.) To get a head start on the runaway notices that would appear in Monday newspapers
- d.) Because slave hunters never worked on Saturdays

9.) Why did Harriet Tubman ultimately run away from her owners?

- a.) She was very strong
- b.) To reunite with her husband
- c.) She was afraid she would be sold
- d.) To find better pay in the North

10.) What does the word "illiterate" mean in the following sentence?

Since nearly all slaves were illiterate, the hunters simply ignored her and continued their search.

- a.) captured
- b.) unable to read or write
- c.) slow
- d.) quiet

Mary Surratt - Deep Thought

Name _____

On July 7, 1865, Mary Surratt became the first woman in American history to be executed. Along with co-conspirators in the Lincoln assassination: Lewis Powell, David Herold, and George Atzerodt, Surratt was hung from the gallows at the Washington Arsenal. John Wilkes Booth, the mastermind behind the plot to murder Lincoln, Secretary of State William H. Seward, and Vice-president Andrew Johnson, had been hunted down and killed on April 26th. Surratt's guilt or knowledge in the plot has long been the subject of intense debate. Did she deserve to die?

What do we know?

We know that Mary Surratt owned a boardinghouse in Washington, D.C., and that she was acquainted with John Wilkes Booth. In addition, in the days before the assassination, Booth gave her a package that contained binoculars and another that contained guns. Surratt delivered these packages to her Maryland boarding house and instructed Lloyd to prepare the "shooting irons" to be picked up. We also know that Surratt's son, Confederate spy John Surratt Jr., agreed to participate in an earlier plot that Booth devised to kidnap President Lincoln and bring him to Richmond. Mary probably knew her son was a spy, but to what extent she knew of either the plan to kidnap President Lincoln, or assassinate him, remains unclear. Additionally, we know that Lewis Powell, David Herold, and George Atzerodt, all stayed at or visited Surratt's boardinghouse in the days and weeks before the assassination. Finally, we know that Surratt lied to investigators about knowing Lewis Powell, who showed up at her boardinghouse following the assassination while she was being interrogated by investigators. She also told the investigators that her son had been in Canada for two weeks, as he was a focal point of the investigation. Despite her efforts to lie to protect John, he would fail to repay the favor and instead fled to Canada in an attempt to avoid capture. For this, he was labeled a coward for the rest of his life. He would eventually be captured, but avoided jail time.

Circumstantial evidence began to mount against Mary, although no "smoking gun" would ever emerge. She was arrested and her trial began on May 9th. Surratt, Herold, Powell, Atzerodt, Dr. Samuel Mudd, and four others, were tried together in a military court. Surratt was charged with aiding, abetting, concealing, counseling, and harboring the co-defendants. The testimony of John Lloyd, who revealed that Mary told him to have "shooting irons" ready at the boarding house for Booth was particularly damaging to Mary. The testimony of boarder Louis Weichman, who claimed to have overheard her son having conversations with Booth, Powell, and Atzerodt, many times in the four and a half months before the assassination was also very damaging. Weichman revealed the connections between the Surratt family and the Confederate spy network of Maryland.

The Verdict

Despite the unreliable witnesses that testified against Mary, she was found guilty on all but two charges and sentenced to death. Five of the nine judges in the case petitioned President Andrew Johnson for Mary's sentence to be commuted to life in prison because of her age and because she was a woman, but Johnson either never saw the petition or refused to sign it. Lewis Powell, who was also sentenced to death, swore that she was completely innocent before his death, although George Atzerodt implicated her further before his death.

1. The author uses the term "smoking gun" in the second paragraph. Based on the context of how it is used in this passage, describe a "smoking gun" in a fictional cheating scandal in a classroom.

2. Pretend you are part of the fictional "Free Mary Surratt" society. What are two main points you could argue for why Mary should be freed?

3. Pretend you are one of the judges who refused to sign the petition requesting commutation of Mary's sentence. Why do you think she is guilty?

4. Why is John Surratt considered a coward? Can you think of any other characters from history, literature, or the movies, who showed cowardice? Explain. Answers

Possible Answers

1. A “smoking gun” is direct evidence that links a perpetrator to a crime. If a student was caught cheating at school, a “smoking gun” would be something like a paper with answers on it, a copy of the test in a student’s possession with answers, answers written on a student’s hand, or unauthorized use of technology during the test.
2. The major point here is that there is no direct evidence that Mary knew about the assassination plot.
3. While Mary may or may not have known about the assassination plot, there was a lot of circumstantial evidence that tied her to it. She had contact with all of the conspirators and had provide shelter to them. Her son was heavily involved in a previous attempt to kidnap Lincoln. Furthermore, she lied to investigators about her knowledge of Louis Powell and the whereabouts of her son.
4. John Surratt is a coward because he left his mother to hang from the gallows to save his own life. Examples of cowardice are common in literature and movies. The “lion” considered himself a coward in the *Wizard of Oz*. In the *Lion King*, the antagonist Scar frequently exhibits cowardice. There are many others.

Laura Keene

Name _____



Laura Keene was one of the most famous actors and stage managers of her time. She performed all over the world: in London, New York, California, and Australia. She achieved great financial success by starting her own theater in New York City. On October 15, 1858, *My American Cousin* debuted in Keene's theater. Keene had purchased the rights to the play, which was originally written by British playwright Tom Taylor. The story was a comedy about an American who must visit his English relatives to claim his inheritance. *My American Cousin* proved very popular – it was only scheduled to play for two weeks but instead, ran for 150 straight days.

Laura Keene, however, is best known for the events that occurred at Ford's Theater on the night of April 14, 1865, during the showing of *My American Cousin* in Washington, D.C. At 10:13 P.M., John Wilkes Booth shot President Lincoln, who had come to watch the play with his wife in celebration of the Union victory over the Confederate States of America in the American Civil War. Amidst the chaotic scene, Keene made her way through a labyrinth of passageways to the presidential box. She carried a pitcher of water, which served as her ticket inside. Sensing history was being made, Keene begged Dr. Charles Leale, who was attending to Lincoln, if she could see the dying president. Amazingly, Leale agreed. Keene proceeded to create a scene only an actor could imagine. Carefully, she cradled the president's head in her lap for several minutes. Keene's theatrics served no medical purpose whatsoever and ultimately served as a bizarre side note to one of the most tragic episodes in American history to that point. Keene cherished the colorful floral dress she wore that night, because the cuff bore bloodstains from the dying president. Over time, the dress was lost, but the cuff still exists today – complete with Lincoln's blood. It was donated to the National Museum of American History.

1. Who was Tom Taylor?

- A. The author of *My American Cousin*
- B. An actor in *My American Cousin*
- C. Laura Keene's husband
- D. A doctor who was attending to Abraham Lincoln

2. Which of the following was not true?

- A. Laura Keene was well-known before the Lincoln episode
- B. Dr. Charles Leale surprisingly allowed Ms. Keene to enter Lincoln's box and cradle the dying president
- C. Lincoln was shot at Ford's Theater by John Wilkes Booth
- D. *My American Cousin* was the story of a British man visiting his American relatives

3. What does "debuted" mean in the following sentences?

My American Cousin debuted in Keene's theater. Keene had purchased the rights to the play, which was originally written by British playwright Tom Taylor.

- A. Made its first showing
- B. Ended
- C. Performed
- D. Listened

4. What purpose did Keene's presence in Lincoln's box serve?

- A. She brought water to the President
- B. She served no purpose
- C. She brought comfort to the President
- D. She brought hope to the President

5. What question is NOT answered?

- A. Why was Lincoln watching *My American Cousin*?
- B. Who watched *My American Cousin* alongside of Lincoln?
- C. Why did Dr. Leale allow Laura Keene to stage the scene with Lincoln?
- D. Does any part of the dress that Keene wore that night still exist?

6. Which of the following best describes the scene described in the second paragraph?

- A. Keene's actions made her one of the most famous people in American history
- B. Keene's actions served as a strange episode in a national tragedy
- C. Keene's actions served to comfort the nation during a horrible event
- D. Keene's actions proved she was one of the best actors of her time

7. What could be a title for the passage?

A. The History of Ford's Theater

B. Laura Keene's Dress

C. Laura Keene – Making History with a Dying President

D. Assassination – How Lincoln's Death Changed America

Harriet Beecher Stowe was an American author and abolitionist, most famous for authoring *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in 1852.

Harriet was born on June 14, 1811, in Litchfield, Connecticut. She had four siblings, including her brother, the famous abolitionist preacher Henry Ward Beecher. After enrolling in a seminary run by her sister, Harriet moved to Cincinnati, Ohio to be with her father who was the president of Lane Theological Seminary. In 1836, she married Calvin Ellis Stowe, a professor at the seminary and outspoken abolitionist. Together, they had seven children and housed several runaway slaves as part of the Underground Railroad. They eventually moved to Brunswick, Maine, where Calvin became a professor at Bowdoin College.

After the passage of the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act, Harriet published her first installment of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in an antislavery journal known as *The Era*. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was an antislavery novel, fully published in 1852, that illustrated the horrors of slavery in the Southern United States. The book was meant to convince Northern readers of the urgency in ending slavery. The story was so powerful, and so polarizing, that it had a significant effect on sectional relations in the United States, and is often considered one of the causes of the deterioration in relations between the North and South. Slavery advocates were outraged by the novel, many of whom claimed it to be utterly false. The book was wildly popular in England, where over 1.5 million copies eventually circulated.

Harriet Beecher Stowe quickly became a household name and *Uncle Tom's Cabin* became the best selling novel, and second best-selling book in the 19th Century – it was only outsold by the Bible. Stowe's book helped fuel the abolitionist cause and Abraham Lincoln is sometimes quoted as saying "So you're the little lady that started this great war!" upon their meeting at the start of the Civil War.

After *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, Harriet wrote many other books. For 23 years prior to her death, she lived next door to the famous author Mark Twain in Hartford, Connecticut. Today, the house is preserved as the Harriet Beecher Stowe House. There is also a Harriet Beecher Stowe House in Brunswick, Maine, where her famous novel was written. She died on July 1, 1896.

1. Which of the following best describes the environment in which Harriet grew up in?

- A. She grew up in an anti-slavery, religious environment
- B. She grew up in a pro-slavery, religious environment
- C. She grew up in an anti-slavery environment without religion

D. She grew up in wartime environment without religion

2. Which of the following does not support Harriet's stance as an abolitionist?

- A. She married Calvin Ellis Stowe
- B. Her brother was Henry Ward Beecher
- C. She housed runaway slaves on the Underground Railroad
- D. Her book sold 1.5 million copies in England

3. What best describes the southern reaction to *Uncle Tom's Cabin*?

- A. It became a bestseller in the South
- B. Southerners agreed with it
- C. Southerners claimed the book was not realistic
- D. It made southerners understand why many northerners were against slavery

4. In the third paragraph, the word "polarizing" is used to describe *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Which of the following best describes its meaning?

- A. Cold or Hot
- B. Produces strong and opposite reactions
- C. Natural or unnatural
- D. Difficult or easy

5. *Uncle Tom's Cabin*...

- A. was the best selling book of the 19th Century.
- B. had little effect on the onset of the Civil War.
- C. was the only book written by Stowe.
- D. helped fuel the abolitionist cause.

6. To which of the following questions would "Connecticut" be the answer?

- A. Where was *Uncle Tom's Cabin* written?
- B. In what state was Stowe's neighbor Mark Twain?
- C. In what state did Harriet's husband become a professor?
- D. In what state did Harriet grow up?

7. Why was *Uncle Tom's Cabin* important to the Abolitionist cause?

- A. Because Abraham Lincoln believed Stowe's book was an important cause of the Civil War
- B. Because it showed the horrors of slavery to those who might not have known
- C. Because it pulled the North and South farther apart and brought the nation closer to the Civil War
- D. Because the book sold over 1.5 million copies in England



Laura Keene was one of the most famous actors and stage managers of her time. She performed all over the world: in London, New York, California, and Australia. She achieved great financial success by starting her own theater in New York City. On October 15, 1858, *My American Cousin* debuted in Keene's theater. Keene had purchased the rights to the play, which was originally written by British playwright Tom Taylor. The story was a comedy about an American who must visit his English relatives to claim his inheritance. *My American Cousin* proved very popular – it was only scheduled to play for two weeks but instead, ran for 150 straight days.

Laura Keene, however, is best known for the events that occurred at Ford Theater's on the night of April 14, 1865, during the showing of *My American Cousin* in Washington, D.C. At 10:13 P.M., John Wilkes Booth shot President Lincoln, who had come to watch the play with his wife in celebration of the Union victory over the Confederate States of America in the American Civil War. Amidst the chaotic scene, Keene made her way through a labyrinth of passageways to the presidential box. She carried a pitcher of water, which served as her ticket inside. Sensing history was being made, Keene begged Dr. Charles Leale, who was attending to Lincoln, if she could see the dying president. Amazingly, Leale agreed. Keene proceeded to create a scene only an actor could imagine. Carefully, she cradled the president's head in her lap for several minutes. Keene's theatrics served no medical purpose whatsoever and ultimately served as a bizarre side note to one of the most tragic episodes in American history to that point. Keene cherished the colorful floral dress she wore that night, because the cuff bore bloodstains from the dying president. Over time, the dress was lost, but the cuff still exists today – complete with Lincoln's blood. It was donated to the National Museum of American History.

1. Why was Laura Keene admitted into the presidential box following the assassination?

2. Why do you feel that Keene felt a need to visit Lincoln after he was shot?

3. How did Keene's theatrical instincts take over?

This passage contains the following words. What do you think each word means? Write your definition and then use a dictionary or the internet to find the actual definition.

Word	Your Definition	Actual Definition
labyrinth		
chaotic		
cherished		

Answers

1. She carried a pitcher of water with her.
2. Keene sensed that history was being made and realized she could play a part in it.
3. When Keene had entered the presidential box, she dramatized the scene by placing the dying president's head in her lap. It served no medical purpose whatsoever but she knew her actions would be remembered, in some way, for all of history.

Vocabulary:

Labyrinth – maze

Chaotic – confusing, wild, and disorganized

Cherished – loved and treasured

Jefferson Davis Reading Comprehension

Jefferson Davis was born in Christian County, Kentucky, on June 3, 1808. He was the youngest of ten children. In 1818, Davis attended Jefferson College in Mississippi before transferring to Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky. In 1824, Davis entered the United States Military Academy and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1828.

The next fifteen years of Davis's life were rather uneventful. In 1844, however, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1845, Davis married Varina Howell. After fighting bravely in the Mexican-American War, in particular, at the Siege of Monterrey, Davis was appointed acting senator of Mississippi when Senator Jesse Spright died suddenly in 1847. Soon after, the Senate made Davis chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs. Davis, however, resigned his seat in the Senate and ran for governor of Mississippi in 1851. He was defeated by Henry Stuart Foote by 999 votes.

Left without political office, Jefferson Davis campaigned strongly for Franklin Pierce's bid for the presidency. Davis and Pierce shared a strong view that the federal government should not interfere with the states' rights. Pierce was elected as America's 14th president and made Jefferson Davis his secretary of war. Although Pierce served only one term as president, Davis successfully reentered the Senate in 1857.

As talk of secession ruminated throughout the Southern states concerning the issues of states rights and slavery, Davis urged preservation of the Union. Nevertheless, with the election of Abraham Lincoln as president (a slavery opponent), South Carolina officially seceded from the Union. Though he was fundamentally against secession, Jefferson Davis then announced the secession of Mississippi from the Union and resigned from the Senate.

Four days after announcing secession, Davis was commissioned as major general of Mississippi troops in the Confederate Army. On February 9, 1861, Davis was made provisional president of the Confederacy. Davis and his family then took up residence at the White House of the Confederacy at Richmond, Virginia, in May of 1861. Davis was elected to a six-year term and promptly put General Robert E. Lee in command of the Confederate Army.

After initial success in the Civil War, it soon became clear that the Confederacy was at a major disadvantage. In July of 1863, after the Confederate defeat at the Battle of Gettysburg, Davis refused Lee's offer to surrender to Union forces. Most scholars believe that Davis's leadership was poor during the Civil War. He was responsible for the idea that all lands in the Southern territory should be defended with equal strength and firepower. This theory played directly into the hands of the Union Army, which was able to coordinate efforts to strike lethal blows at crucial Southern locations. Davis is also blamed for allowing Confederate generals to invade hostile Northern territory while essential ports along the Confederate portion of the Mississippi River were falling into Union hands. Davis was also seemingly poor at handling his generals and judging their competence.

As the Confederacy fell, Davis escaped to Danville, Virginia. While trying to flee to Meridian, Mississippi, Davis was captured and imprisoned along the Virginia coast. He was indicted for treason in 1866 but was released from jail after bail was posted by prominent politicians. In 1870, Davis became president of the Carolina Life Insurance Company. After writing several books about the Confederacy, Davis died in New Orleans, Louisiana, at the age of 81 in 1889.

1.) What was the nature of the relationship between Jefferson Davis and Franklin Pierce?

- a.) They supported the same views
- b.) They supported different views
- c.) They both were presidents of the Confederacy
- d.) They were both presidents of the United States

2.) What does the following sentence imply?

"Most scholars believe that Davis' leadership was poor during the Civil War."

- 1.) All thought he was a poor leader
- 2.) Some thought he was a poor leader and some thought he was a good leader
- 3.) A few scholars may believe he was not a poor leader
- 4.) His leadership was acceptable during the Civil War

3.) Jefferson Davis was never...

- a.) president of the Confederacy
- b.) major General of Mississippi troops
- c.) governor of Mississippi
- d.) a senator

4.) What word could replace "promptly" in the following sentence?

Davis was elected to a six-year term, and promptly put General Robert E. Lee in command of the Confederate Army

- a.) slowly
- b.) angrily
- c.) carefully
- d.) quickly

5.) Which of the following WAS NOT a reason why Jefferson Davis was considered a poor leader?

- a.) He was poor at judging the competence of his generals
- b.) He was poor at handling his generals
- c.) He authorized an invasion of the north while southern ports were into Union hands
- d.) He put Robert E. Lee in command of the Confederate army.

6.) What question is answered in the second paragraph?

- a.) Who made Jefferson Davis Secretary of War?
- b.) When did Jefferson Davis run for governor?
- c.) Did Jefferson Davis support secession?
- d.) When was Jefferson Davis appointed as a second lieutenant?

7.) What does the passage tell about Jefferson Davis' release from jail?

- a.) The passage doesn't tell anything about it
- b.) The passage doesn't tell the specific names of those who bailed Jefferson Davis from jail
- c.) The passage tells the specific names of those who bailed Jefferson Davis from jail
- d.) The Carolina Life Insurance Company bailed Jefferson Davis from jail

8.) Jefferson Davis...

- a.) did not believe in secession
- b.) did not believe in states rights
- c.) did not believe in slavery
- d.) believed in secession

9.) What happened first?

- a.) Mississippi seceded from the Union
- b.) Davis was commissioned as Major General of Mississippi troops
- c.) July of 1863
- d.) Davis re-entered the Senate

10.) Which of the following fields was Jefferson Davis NEVER involved in?

- a.) Insurance
- b.) Military
- c.) Medicine
- d.) Government

Ulysses S. Grant Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

Ulysses S. Grant Biography

Ulysses Simpson Grant was born April 26, 1822, in Point Pleasant, Ohio. Against his father's wishes, Grant entered the US Military Academy and finished in the middle of the class. Like most military school graduates at the time, Grant was sent to Mexico and served under General Zachary Taylor during the Mexican War. In other endeavors before the Civil War, Grant was unsuccessful.

"Unconditional Surrender" Grant

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Ulysses S. Grant was working at his father's leather shop in Illinois. He was appointed by the Illinois governor as the commander of a local militia but soon rose to the rank of brigadier general in the Civil War. Grant's aggressive and bold tactics were a major reason why the Union Army was able to defeat the Confederates. His campaigns in the Mississippi River Valley were legendary and crucial to Union victory. In 1862, Grant led his forces to victories at Fort Henry and Fort Donelson in Tennessee. At Fort Donelson, Grant earned the nickname "Unconditional Surrender Grant." Though less successful at Shiloh, Grant's leadership opened the way for Union occupation of the Mississippi River. Grant went on to take the key port city of Vicksburg and then broke Confederate ranks at Chattanooga.

Grant's Overland Campaign and Lee's Surrender

In 1864, President Lincoln named him general in chief of the Union army. Grant's "Overland Campaign" at such battles as Wilderness, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg took a heavy toll on Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, despite the heavy casualties inflicted upon his forces. Lee's weakened forces held the Confederate strongholds of Petersburg and Richmond for ten months before being overwhelmed by Grant's forces. On April 9, 1865, Ulysses S. Grant received Lee's surrender and the Civil War was over.

Presidency

In 1869, Grant was elected president of the United States. Unlike his military campaigns, his presidency was less than successful and plagued by corruption. Although he presided over Reconstruction in the South, and was a great advocate of African-Americans, Grant was seen associating with prospectors who tried to corner the market in gold. When he realized their plan, he authorized the Treasury to sell enough gold to ruin the plan, but the damage had already been done to business. After the presidency, Grant joined a financial firm that ultimately went bankrupt and was left virtually destitute. In 1885, he died of throat cancer shortly after writing his personal memoirs. His works ultimately made \$450,000 for his family. Grant is currently honored on the fifty-dollar bill of the United States.

1. Which statement about Grant is supported by the passage?

- a) He finished at the top of his class in military school.
- b) His military pursuits prior to the Civil War were largely successful.
- c) He was born in Connecticut.
- d) He fought in the Mexican War.

2. Which best describes Grant's battle strategies when leading?

- a) Meek
- b) Daring
- c) Spontaneous
- d) Ruthless

3. Which statement is false?

- a) Grant became President of the United States three years after the end of the Civil War.
- b) His personal memoirs raised over 500,000 dollars for his family.
- c) He led his forces to victory at Fort Donelson at age 40.
- d) He was less than 60 years old when he died.

4. Infer why Grant was nicknamed "Unconditional Surrender Grant."

- a) His battle strategies produced decisive victories
- b) His tactics often caused the Union army to retreat
- c) He was extremely valuable to Taylor during the Mexican War
- d) He was equally successful and victorious in every battle he led

5. Prospectors during Grant's presidency tried to "corner the market" in gold. Infer what this means.

- a) Establish a monopoly
- b) Buy up all the silver
- c) Overthrow Grant's presidency
- d) Steal from jewelry shops

6. Which statement best describes Grant's presidency?

- a) Less renowned than his military campaigns
- b) Riddled with corruption
- c) Both of the above
- d) None of the above

7. Which event happened last?

- a) Grant receives Lee's surrender.
- b) Grant fights in the Mexican War.
- c) Grant's financial firm goes bankrupt.
- d) Grant leads the Union to victory at Fort Henry.

-----Key-----

1. (d)
2. (b)
3. (c)
4. (a)
5. (a)
6. (c)
7. (c)

Sequencing the Life of Ulysses S. Grant

Name: _____

Below is a biography on Ulysses S. Grant. On the following page is a chart to sequence the events of his life.

Ulysses Simpson Grant was born April 26, 1822, in Point Pleasant, Ohio. Against his father's wishes, Grant entered the US Military Academy and finished in the middle of the class. Like most military school graduates at the time, Grant was sent to Mexico and served under General Zachary Taylor during the Mexican War. In other endeavors before the Civil War, Grant was unsuccessful.

"Unconditional Surrender" Grant

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Ulysses S. Grant was working at his father's leather shop in Illinois. He was appointed by the Illinois governor as the commander of a local militia but soon rose to the rank of brigadier general in the Civil War. Grant's aggressive and bold tactics were a major reason why the Union Army was able to defeat the Confederates. His campaigns in the Mississippi River Valley were legendary and crucial to Union victory. In 1862, Grant led his forces to victories at Fort Henry and Fort Donelson in Tennessee. At Fort Donelson, Grant earned the nickname "Unconditional Surrender Grant." Though less successful at Shiloh, Grant's leadership opened the way for Union occupation of the Mississippi River. Grant went on to take the key port city of Vicksburg and then broke Confederate ranks at Chattanooga.

Grant's Overland Campaign and Lee's Surrender

In 1864, President Lincoln named him Commander of the Union army. Grant's "Overland Campaign" at such battles as Wilderness, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg took a heavy toll on Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, despite the heavy casualties inflicted upon his forces. Lee's weakened forces held the Confederate strongholds of Petersburg and Richmond for ten months before being overwhelmed by Grant's forces. On April 9, 1865, Ulysses S. Grant received Lee's surrender and the Civil War was over.

Presidency

In 1869, Grant was elected president of the United States. Unlike his military campaigns, his presidency was less than successful and plagued by corruption. Although he presided over Reconstruction in the South, Grant was seen associating with prospectors who tried to corner the market in gold. When he realized their plan, he authorized the Treasury to sell enough gold to ruin the plan, but the damage had already been done to business. After the presidency, Grant joined a financial firm that ultimately went bankrupt. Despite the controversies, Grant served as a great advocate for African-Americans and Civil Rights. In 1885, he died of throat cancer shortly after

writing his personal memoirs. His works ultimately made \$450,000 for his family. Grant is currently honored on the fifty-dollar bill of the United States.

Event	From Earliest to Latest
Grant was elected president of the United States.	
1885	
Robert E. Lee surrendered, ending the Civil War.	
Grant fought in the Mexican-American War.	1
Grant worked at his father's leather shop.	
The Civil War started	
Grant earns the nickname "Unconditional Surrender Grant."	
Grant is named Commander of the Union Army.	

Answers:

Event	From Earliest to Latest
Grant was elected president of the United States.	7
1885	8
Robert E. Lee surrendered, ending the Civil War.	6
Grant fought in the Mexican-American War.	1
Grant worked at his father's leather shop.	2
Grant is named Commander of the Union Army.	5
Grant earns the nickname "Unconditional Surrender Grant."	4
The Civil War started	3

**Virtual History Teacher
Frederick Douglass Test**

Name: _____

Instructions: You are playing the role of a history teacher who is grading the test below. See the questions and your “student’s” answers. Grade the quality of the answers on a scale of 1-4, “1” being a poor answer and “4” being a great answer. For each answer you grade, use your knowledge of Frederick Douglass, or, reference the mrnussbaum.com online biography, to add the missing pieces.

Question 1: What were the major hardships in Frederick’s life that he overcame?	Score:
Student Answer: He was once a slave.	
Your Response:	

Question 2: What things did Frederick do to promote the rights of slaves?	Score:
Student Answer: He fought for the rights of slaves	
Your Response:	

Question 3: What are three adjectives you’d use to describe Frederick Douglass? Explain why you chose each.	Score:
Student Answer: Good, Strong, Brave – He was all of these things.	
Your Response:	

Answers:

Question 1: What were the major hardships in Frederick's life that he overcame?	Score:
Student Answer: He was once a slave.	
Your Response: Not only was Frederick born into slavery, but he never knew his father and was separated from his mother from an early age. He was enslaved until he 12. Frederick was not "officially" a free man for many more years.	

Question 2: What things did Frederick do to promote the rights of slaves?	Score:
Student Answer: He fought for the rights of slaves	
Your Response: Frederick dedicated his life to the abolitionist movement. He became an anti-slavery speaker at an early age. He toured Europe speaking about the horrors of slavery and published the anti-slavery newspaper, <i>the North Star</i> . Following the Emancipation Proclamation, Douglas continued to fight for slaves.	

Question 3: What are three adjectives you'd use to describe Frederick Douglass? Explain why you chose each.	Score:
Student Answer: Good, Strong, Brave – He was all of these things.	
Your Response: Although answers will vary here, Frederick was determined to end slavery, he was outspoken about the horrors of the slavery, and he was influential in the abolitionist movement.	

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____

Below is a biography on Frederick Douglass. On the following page is a chart with ten statements. Indicate whether each statement is fact or fiction.

Early Years

Frederick Douglass was one of the most famous abolitionists in American history. He was born near Hillsboro, Maryland, in February of 1818. He was born into slavery and was separated from his mother when he was a baby. Douglass never knew his father and was moved to different residences throughout Maryland during his childhood.

Eyes Open

At the age of 12, Frederick began receiving reading lessons from the wife of his “master,” even though it was illegal to teach slaves to read. Frederick proved to be a quick study and was soon reading newspapers, magazines, and books. Through his reading of political journals, Frederick realized the horrors of slavery. Indeed, many slaveholders endeavored to keep slaves illiterate so that they would not question their position and desire a better life.

Freedom

Douglass was soon sent away to another slave owner named Mr. Freeman. Mr. Freeman allowed Frederick to teach other slaves to read. Frederick taught over 40 slaves how to read passages from the New Testament. Other slave owners, however, became angry and destroyed the “congregation” in which Frederick taught. Four years later, in 1837, Frederick married a free black woman named Anne Murray. They would have five children. He gained his own freedom by escaping from captivity by dressing as a sailor and boarding a train at Havre de Grace, Maryland, near Baltimore. By the time he reached New York City he was a free man (though not officially a free man). The trip took less than a day.

Douglass Becomes a Prominent Abolitionist Voice

Douglass continued to Massachusetts and soon joined the abolitionist cause. Inspired by the famous abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, Douglass became an anti-slavery speaker and writer. At only 23 years of age, Douglass became a leading speaker for the cause and joined several movements including the American Anti-Slavery Society. He also supported the feminist cause and participated in the Seneca Falls Convention, a women’s rights convention in 1848.

Courtesy of the People of Great Britain

In 1845, Douglass authored *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, an autobiography. The book was a critical success and became an instant best seller. The book was translated into three languages, and Douglass was invited to tour Ireland and Great Britain. Douglass spent two years in Europe lecturing on the horrors of slavery. Douglass became a popular figure in Great Britain, where his lectures were “standing room only.” The people of Great Britain, roused by Douglass’s speeches, raised money on his behalf to pay his “owner,” Hugh Auld, for his official freedom. Auld was paid 700 pounds by the people of Great Britain and Douglass was officially a free man in America.

The North Star

When he returned to America, Douglass published *The North Star* and four other abolitionist newspapers under the motto "Right is of no Sex - Truth is of no Color - God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren." He advocated equal education for black children, who received virtually no funding for education. As his reputation grew, Douglass became an advisor to Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. Douglass led a growing movement that caused a split in the Abolitionist movement. Douglass and others believed the US Constitution was an anti-slavery document, while William Lloyd Garrison believed it was a pro-slavery document. In addition, Garrison believed that *The North Star* was competing for readers with his own newspaper, the *National Anti-Slavery Standard*.

Douglass Honors Lincoln

By the time of the start of the Civil War, Douglass was one of the nation’s most prominent black men. Later, *The North Star* was merged with other newspapers and was called the *Frederick Douglass Paper*. Douglass believed the primary cause of the Civil War was to liberate the slaves. After Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, Douglass continued in the fight for the rights of the freed slaves. After the assassination of President Lincoln, Douglass gave an impromptu speech at his memorial service. While Douglass’s speech mentioned Lincoln’s shortcomings in the fight against slavery, he gave Lincoln much credit for the liberation of the slaves, “Can any colored man, or any white man friendly to the freedom of all men, ever forget the night which followed the first day of January 1863, when the world was to see if Abraham Lincoln would prove to be as good as his word?” The speech was followed by a rousing standing ovation. It is said that Mary Lincoln was so moved by the speech that she gave Douglass Lincoln’s favorite walking stick.

After the Civil War

After the war, Douglass was made president of the Freedmen’s Bureau Savings Bank and several other diplomatic positions. During reconstruction, Douglass frequently gave speaking tours, particularly at colleges and universities in New England. In 1877, he purchased his final home, which he named Cedar Hill, in the Anacostia section of Washington, DC. Today, the estate is known as the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site. Frederick’s wife, Anne Murray, died in 1881, but he remarried Helen Pitts, a white abolitionist, in 1884. Despite the controversy that their marriage created (she was white and twenty years younger than he), the pair toured Europe in 1886 and 1887. In 1895, Douglass died of a heart attack at his home in Washington.

	FACT	FICTION
Frederick published an important newspaper called the National Anti-Slavery Standard		
Frederick Douglass learned to read and write while a slave		
Many slaveholders wanted to keep slaves illiterate so they could not question their place in society		
Frederick and William Lloyd Garrison shared the same thoughts about the nature of the Constitution		
Frederick Douglass had little respect or patience for Abraham Lincoln		
Frederick Douglass never strongly supported women's rights		
Frederick Douglass's freedom was paid for by people in England		
As a slave, Frederick taught other slaves to read		
Frederick's second marriage was to a former slaveholder		
After the Civil War, Frederick became president of the Freedmen's Bureau		
Frederick believed that the Constitution was an anti-slavery document		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
Frederick published an important newspaper called the National Anti-Slavery Standard		X
Frederick Douglass learned to read and write while a slave	X	
Many slaveholders wanted to keep slaves illiterate so they could not question their place in society	X	
Frederick and William Lloyd Garrison shared the same thoughts about the nature of the Constitution		X
Frederick Douglass had little respect or patience for Abraham Lincoln		X
Frederick Douglass never strongly supported women's rights		X
Frederick Douglass's freedom was paid for by people in England	X	
As a slave, Frederick taught other slaves to read	X	
Frederick's second marriage was to a former slaveholder		X
After the Civil War, Frederick became president of the Freedmen's Bureau	X	
Frederick believed that the Constitution was an anti-slavery document	X	

Frederick Douglass Printable Reading Comprehension

Name _____

Frederick Douglass was born near Hillsboro, Maryland, in February of 1818. He was born into slavery and was separated from his mother when he was a baby. At the age of 12, Frederick began receiving reading lessons from the wife of his “master,” even though it was illegal to teach slaves to read.

Douglass was soon sent away to another slave owner named Mr. Freeman. Mr. Freeman allowed Frederick to teach other slaves to read. Frederick taught over 40 slaves how to read passages from the New Testament. Other slave owners, however, became angry and destroyed the “congregation” in which Frederick taught. Four years later, in 1837, Frederick married a free black woman named Anne Murray. They would have five children. He gained his own freedom by escaping from captivity by dressing as a sailor and boarding a train at Havre de Grace, Maryland, near Baltimore. By the time he reached New York City he was a free man (though not officially a free man). Douglass continued to Massachusetts and soon joined the abolitionist cause. Inspired by the famous abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, Douglass became a prominent anti-slavery speaker and writer.

In 1845, Douglass authored *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, an autobiography. The book was a critical success and became an instant best seller. The book was translated into three languages, and Douglass was invited to tour Ireland and Great Britain. Douglass spent two years in Europe lecturing on the horrors of slavery. Douglass became a popular figure in Great Britain, where his lectures were “standing room only.” The people of Great Britain, roused by Douglass’s speeches, raised money on his behalf to pay his “owner,” Hugh Auld, for his official freedom. Auld was paid 700 pounds by the people of Great Britain and Douglass was officially a free man in America.

When he returned to America, Douglass published *The North Star* and four other abolitionist newspapers under the motto “Right is of no Sex — Truth is of no Color — God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren.” He advocated equal education for black children, who received virtually no funding for education. As his reputation grew, Douglass became an advisor to Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. Douglass led a growing movement that caused a split in the Abolitionist movement. Douglass and others believed the US Constitution was an anti-slavery document, while William Lloyd Garrison believed it was a pro-slavery document. In addition, Garrison believed that *The North Star* was competing for readers with his own newspaper, the *National Anti-Slavery Standard*.

By the time of the start of the Civil War, Douglass was one of the nation’s most prominent black men. Later, *The North Star* was merged with other newspapers and was called the *Frederick Douglass Paper*. Douglass believed the primary cause of the Civil War was to liberate the slaves. After Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, Douglass continued in the fight for the rights of the freed slaves.

Following the war, Douglass was made president of the Freedmen's Bureau Savings Bank. Frederick's wife, Anne Murray, died in 1881, but he remarried Helen Pitts, a white abolitionist, in 1884. In 1895, Douglass died of a heart attack at his home in Washington.

- 1. Why was Mr. Freeman significant in Frederick's life?**
 - A. Mr. Freeman gave Frederick his freedom
 - B. Mr. Freeman introduced Frederick to Anne Murray
 - C. Mr. Freeman sent him to England
 - D. Mr. Freeman allowed Frederick to teach other slaves to read

- 2. Which of the following best describes the relationship between Frederick and William Lloyd Garrison?**
 - A. They were great supporters of each other throughout their lives
 - B. Although they fought for the same cause, they had major differences
 - C. Although they fought for different causes, they had much that brought them together
 - D. Throughout his life, Frederick was unimpressed with Garrison

- 3. How did Frederick officially become a free man?**
 - A. He escaped to New York
 - B. He wrote an important, best-selling book
 - C. He joined the abolitionist cause with William Lloyd Garrison
 - D. Some of his supporters in England paid for his freedom

- 4. Which was NOT true about Frederick Douglass?**
 - A. He believed the U.S. Constitution was pro-slavery
 - B. He was advisor to two presidents
 - C. He published the anti-slavery newspaper *The North Star*
 - D. His ideas were partly responsible for a split in the Abolitionist movement

- 5. Which of the following could be answered with "ending slavery?"**
 - A. What did Frederick Douglass lecture about in England?
 - B. What did Frederick Douglass try to accomplish after the Civil War?
 - C. What did Frederick Douglass believe was the purpose of the Civil War?
 - D. What was Frederick's most personal accomplishment?

- 6. Which of the following is the best translation of Frederick's motto?**

Right is of no Sex — Truth is of no Color — God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren

- A. All people, regardless of color are related under God
- B. All people, regardless of whether or not they were slaves, are related under God
- C. All people, regardless of their color, or, whether they are men or women, are

related under God

D. All people, regardless of color, or, whether they are men or women must believe in God

Choose Your Own Path Through History – The Story of Dr. Samuel Mudd

Name _____

Dr. Mudd was an American physician and farmer who lived near Bryantown, Maryland, during the American Civil War. Like many people who lived near Bryantown, Mudd was a slave owner who supported the Confederate States of America. In 1864, the state of Maryland abolished slavery, making the future of Mudd's tobacco plantation uncertain. That same year, Mudd was introduced to the actor John Wilkes Booth. Booth claimed he was interested in buying land in the region, but was really touring the area to map an escape route for his planned kidnapping of Abraham Lincoln. To what extent Mudd and Booth discussed the kidnapping plot is unclear. Historians do know that Booth stayed overnight at Mudd's farm and purchased a horse from him. Ultimately, the kidnapping plan failed to come into fruition. Booth and Mudd met again in Washington in late December of 1864 but the details of the meeting remain unknown as well.

On April 14, 1865, John Wilkes Booth shot President Lincoln at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. While managing a desperate escape from the theater, Booth broke his leg. Despite his injury, he was able to escape Washington that night and rode toward southern Maryland. One of his accomplices, David Herold, met Booth in the wilderness in an attempt to guide him to safety. When it became clear that Booth would be unable to continue without medical attention, Herold guided him to the house of Dr. Mudd. At 4:00 in the morning, they knocked on Mudd's door. Mudd recognized Booth but was likely unaware that he had just assassinated the president. Mudd diagnosed the broken fibula, fashioned a splint, and arranged for a pair of crutches to be delivered. Booth and Herold were extended hospitality and spent the remainder of the morning and much of the next day at Mudd's farm.

The next morning, Mudd rode into Bryantown, where he quickly learned news of Lincoln's assassination and the identity of the assassin. Unbelievably, Mudd found himself at the crossroads of American history. He had two choices. He could tell the authorities in Bryantown that Lincoln's assassin was incapacitated at his farm less than five miles away, and thus, become one of America's great heroes. Or, he could say nothing and protect the assassin. Mudd's decision would have a major impact on his life and on the course of American history!

Mudd chose to protect Booth. Although there are conflicting accounts of what followed, Mudd probably calmly returned to his farm and demanded that both Booth and Herold leave immediately. It is thought that Mudd waited at least 24 hours to tell the authorities anything about his visitors. When he was finally questioned by the authorities, he may have also led them in the wrong direction in their quest to capture Booth. Mudd's explanations drew the suspicion of detectives, who continued to question him over the course of the next few days. Mudd initially claimed to never have met Booth before, but eventually it was revealed he had in fact met him several times.

On April 26, 1865, Dr. Samuel Mudd was arrested and charged with conspiracy to murder Abraham Lincoln. In this context, conspiracy means he was involved with the planning and execution of the murder and escape. On June 29, 1865, Mudd was sentenced to life in prison. He escaped the death penalty by a single vote.

In 1869, Mudd was pardoned by President Andrew Johnson for helping to stop an epidemic of yellow fever in prison. He was released from jail and returned to his farm near Bryantown. He died at the age of 49 from pneumonia. Mudd's conviction remains a source of controversy today.

1. **What was discussed during the second meeting between John Wilkes Booth and Dr. Samuel Mudd?**
 - A. The assassination of Lincoln
 - B. The escape route that Booth would follow
 - C. The ending of slavery
 - D. The topics of their discussions are unknown

2. **Which of the following IS NOT true?**
 - A. Booth broke his leg following the assassination of Lincoln.
 - B. Dr. Mudd helped Booth by making a splint and arranging for crutches
 - C. Dr. Mudd discussed the assassination of Lincoln with Booth
 - D. Booth and David Herold spent the remainder of the morning at Dr. Mudd's home.

3. **How was Mudd at the "crossroads" of history?**
 - A. Because John Wilkes Booth had escaped Washington
 - B. Because Dr. Mudd had helped John Wilkes Booth escape
 - C. Because Mudd's decision on whether or not to protect John Wilkes Booth would have a major impact on American history
 - D. Because Mudd's decision on whether or not to alert the authorities to the whereabouts of John Wilkes Booth would delay his capture.

4. **Why did Mudd wait 24 hours to tell authorities about his visitors?**
 - A. Because he was so surprised about Lincoln's assassination
 - B. Probably to give Booth and Herold as much time as possible to elude captors
 - C. Because Mudd claimed to have never met Booth
 - D. To ensure he did not get in trouble

5. **What is suggested in the following sentence?**

Although there are conflicting accounts of what followed, Mudd probably calmly returned to his farm and demanded that both Booth and Herold leave immediately.

- A. Historians aren't totally sure what Dr. Mudd did when he returned to his house
- B. Historians are sure that Booth and Herold were at Mudd's farmhouse.
- C. Historians are sure that Dr. Mudd demanded that Booth and Herold leave his farmhouse
- D. Historians aren't sure if Dr. Mudd was involved in the plot.

6. **What does the word "incapacitated" mean in the following sentence?**

He could tell the authorities in Bryantown that Lincoln's assassin was incapacitated at his farm less than five miles away, and thus, become one of America's great heroes.

- A. Quiet
- B. Unable to move well
- C. Hidden
- D. Uncertain

7. **Which of the following IS NOT answered in the fourth paragraph?**

- A. How long did Dr. Mudd wait before telling the authorities about his visitors?
- B. Why did authorities question Dr. Mudd over the course of several days?
- C. Why did Dr. Mudd decide to protect Booth and Herold?
- D. How many times did Dr. Mudd meet with John Wilkes Booth?

Answers

Sentence	Does it belong in the paragraph with the above topic sentence?
Douglass never knew his father and was moved to different residences throughout Maryland during his childhood.	NO
Douglass became a popular figure in Great Britain, where his lectures were "standing room only."	NO
When he returned to America, Douglass published the North Star and four other abolitionist newspapers under the motto "Right is of no Sex - Truth is of no Color - God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren."	YES
As his reputation grew, Douglass became an advisor to Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson and led a growing movement that caused a split in the Abolitionist movement.	YES
After the assassination of President Lincoln, Douglass gave an impromptu speech at his memorial service.	NO
Douglass and others believed the US Constitution was an anti-slavery document, while William Lloyd Garrison and some abolitionists believed it was a pro-slavery document.	YES

Frederick Douglass soon became one of the foremost voices in the abolitionist movement. When he returned to America, Douglass published the North Star and four other abolitionist newspapers under the motto "Right is of no Sex - Truth is of no Color - God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren." As his reputation grew, Douglass became an advisor to Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson and led a growing movement that caused a split in the Abolitionist movement. Douglass and others believed the U.S. Constitution was an anti-slavery document, while William Lloyd Garrison and some abolitionists believed it was a pro-slavery document.

Frederick Douglass and Text Elements – What Heading Goes at the Beginning of Each Paragraph? Name _____

Below are the headings. Insert them above the correct paragraphs.

Douglass Becomes a Prominent Abolitionist Voice	The North Star
Courtesy of the People of Great Britain	Freedom
Douglass Honors Lincoln	Eyes Open
Early Years	After the Civil War

Frederick Douglass was one of the most famous abolitionists in American history. He was born near Hillsboro, Maryland, in February of 1818. He was born into slavery and was separated from his mother when he was a baby. Douglass never knew his father and was moved to different residences throughout Maryland during his childhood.

At the age of 12, Frederick began receiving reading lessons from the wife of his “master,” even though it was illegal to teach slaves to read. Frederick proved to be a quick study and was soon reading newspapers, magazines, and books. Through his reading of political journals, Frederick realized the horrors of slavery. Indeed, many slaveholders endeavored to keep slaves illiterate so that they would not question their position and desire a better life.

Douglass was soon sent away to another slave owner named Mr. Freeman. Mr. Freeman allowed Frederick to teach other slaves to read. Frederick taught over 40 slaves how to read passages from the New Testament. Other slave owners, however, became angry and destroyed the “congregation” in which Frederick taught. Four years later, in 1837, Frederick married a free black woman named Anne Murray. They would have five children. He gained his own freedom by escaping from captivity by dressing as a sailor and boarding a train at Havre de Grace, Maryland, near Baltimore. By the time he reached New York City he was a free man (though not officially a free man). The trip took less than a day.


Douglass continued to Massachusetts and soon joined the abolitionist cause. Inspired by the famous abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, Douglass became an anti-slavery speaker and writer. At only 23 years of age, Douglass became a leading speaker for the cause and joined several movements including the American Anti-Slavery Society. He also supported the feminist cause and participated in the Seneca Falls Convention, a women's rights convention in 1848.

In 1845, Douglass authored *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, an autobiography. The book was a critical success and became an instant best seller. The book was translated into three languages, and Douglass was invited to tour Ireland and Great Britain. Douglass spent two years in Europe lecturing on the horrors of slavery. Douglass became a popular figure in Great Britain, where his lectures were "standing room only." The people of Great Britain, roused by Douglass's speeches, raised money on his behalf to pay his "owner," Hugh Auld, for his official freedom. Auld was paid 700 pounds by the people of Great Britain and Douglass was officially a free man in America.

When he returned to America, Douglass published *The North Star* and four other abolitionist newspapers under the motto "Right is of no Sex - Truth is of no Color - God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren." He advocated equal education for black children, who received virtually no funding for education. As his reputation grew, Douglass became an advisor to Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. Douglass led a growing movement that caused a split in the Abolitionist movement. Douglass and others believed the US Constitution was an anti-slavery document, while William Lloyd Garrison believed it was a pro-slavery document. In addition, Garrison believed that *The North Star* was competing for readers with his own newspaper, the *National Anti-Slavery Standard*.

By the time of the start of the Civil War, Douglass was one of the nation's most prominent black men. Later, *The North Star* was merged with other newspapers and was called the *Frederick Douglass Paper*. Douglass believed the primary cause of the Civil War was to liberate the slaves. After Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, Douglass continued in the fight for the rights of the freed slaves. After the assassination of President Lincoln, Douglass gave an impromptu speech at his memorial service. While Douglass's speech mentioned Lincoln's shortcomings in the fight against slavery, he gave Lincoln much credit for the liberation of the slaves, "Can any colored man, or any white man friendly

to the freedom of all men, ever forget the night which followed the first day of January 1863, when the world was to see if Abraham Lincoln would prove to be as good as his word?" The speech was followed by a rousing standing ovation. It is said that Mary Lincoln was so moved by the speech that she gave Douglass Lincoln's favorite walking stick.



After the war, Douglass was made president of the Freedmen's Bureau Savings Bank and several other diplomatic positions. During reconstruction, Douglass frequently gave speaking tours, particularly at colleges and universities in New England. In 1877, he purchased his final home, which he named Cedar Hill, in the Anacostia section of Washington, DC. Today, the estate is known as the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site. Frederick's wife, Anne Murray, died in 1881, but he remarried Helen Pitts, a white abolitionist, in 1884. Despite the controversy that their marriage created (she was white and twenty years younger than he), the pair toured Europe in 1886 and 1887. In 1895, Douglass died of a heart attack at his home in Washington.

Answers:

Early Years

Eyes Open

Freedom

Douglass Becomes a Prominent Abolitionist Voice

Courtesy of the People of Great Britain

The North Star

Douglass Honors Lincoln

After the Civil War

Deep Thoughts Questions – Dr. Samuel Mudd

Name _____

Dr. Mudd was an American physician and farmer who lived near Bryantown, Maryland, during the American Civil War. Like many people who lived near Bryantown, Mudd was a slave owner who supported the Confederate States of America. In 1864, the state of Maryland abolished slavery, making the future of Mudd's tobacco plantation uncertain. That same year, Mudd was introduced to the actor John Wilkes Booth. Booth claimed he was interested in buying land in the region, but was really touring the area to map an escape route for his planned kidnapping of Abraham Lincoln. To what extent Mudd and Booth discussed the kidnapping plot is unclear. Historians do know that Booth stayed overnight at Mudd's farm and purchased a horse from him. Ultimately, the kidnapping plan failed to come into fruition. Booth and Mudd met again in Washington in late December of 1864 but the details of the meeting remain unknown as well.

On April 14, 1865, John Wilkes Booth shot President Lincoln at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. While managing a desperate escape from the theater, Booth broke his leg. Despite his injury, he was able to escape Washington that night and rode toward southern Maryland. One of his accomplices, David Herold, met Booth in the wilderness in an attempt to guide him to safety. When it became clear that Booth would be unable to continue without medical attention, Herold guided him to the house of Dr. Mudd. At 4:00 in the morning, they knocked on Mudd's door. Mudd recognized Booth but was likely unaware that he had just assassinated the president. Mudd diagnosed the broken fibula, fashioned a splint, and arranged for a pair of crutches to be delivered. Booth and Herold were extended hospitality and spent the remainder of the morning and much of the next day at Mudd's farm.

The next morning, Mudd rode into Bryantown, where he quickly learned news of Lincoln's assassination and the identity of the assassin. Unbelievably, Mudd found himself at crossroads of American history. He had two choices. He could tell the authorities in Bryantown that Lincoln's assassin was incapacitated at his farm less than five miles away, and thus, become one of America's great heroes. Or, he could say nothing and protect the assassin. Mudd's decision would have a major impact on his life and on the course of American history!

Mudd chose to protect Booth. Although there are conflicting accounts of what followed, Mudd probably calmly returned to his farm and demanded that both Booth and Herold leave immediately. It is thought that Mudd waited at least 24 hours to tell the authorities anything about his visitors. When he was finally questioned by the authorities, he may have also led them in the wrong direction in their quest to capture Booth. Mudd's explanations drew the suspicion of detectives, who continued to question him over the course of the next few days. Mudd initially claimed to never have met Booth before, but eventually it was revealed he had in fact met him several times.

On April 26, 1865, Dr. Samuel Mudd was arrested and charged with conspiracy to murder Abraham Lincoln. In this context, conspiracy means he was involved with the planning and execution of the murder and escape. On June 29, 1865, Mudd was sentenced to life in prison. He escaped the death penalty by a single vote.

In 1869, Mudd was pardoned by President Andrew Johnson for helping to stop an epidemic of yellow fever in prison. He was released from jail and returned to his farm near Bryantown. He died at the age of 49 from pneumonia. Mudd's conviction remain a source of controversy today.

Questions

1. Describe Mudd's relationship with John Wilkes Booth.
2. Describe the decision that Dr. Mudd was forced to make. How did his decision impact his own life and American history?

3. How did detectives unravel Mudd's story?

This passage contains the following words. What do you think each word means? Write your definition and then use a dictionary or the internet to find the actual definition.

Word	Your Definition	Actual Definition
incapacitated		
conspiracy		
crossroads		

Answers

1. The relationship between Mudd and Booth is unclear, although they certainly knew each other and may have done business together or discussed the kidnapping plot together.
2. Mudd was confronted with two scenarios: protect Booth from the authorities, or, turn him into the authorities. Choosing the first scenario would have made him a hero in the North (and ultimately in United States history), but Mudd was a slave owner and was thus against the North. Mudd chose to protect Booth which ultimately resulted in his arrest and near execution. It also resulted in additional time for Booth to execute and plan his escape.
3. Detectives unraveled Mudd's story because Mudd lied to them about knowing Booth. When authorities learned that Mudd lied, he was arrested.

Vocabulary

Incapacitated – without strength; unable to move well or at all.

Conspiracy – a secret plan to commit a crime or misdeed.

Crossroads – a point in which an important decision must be made.

Known as Cleopatra of the Secession, Belle Boyd was a hotel operator and Confederate spy. She was born in Martinsburg, Virginia (now West Virginia) in May of 1843 or 1844. She was considered a very well educated woman for her time and graduated from the Mt. Washington Female College in Baltimore, MD in 1861. Her career as a spy began that same year when Union soldiers in Front Royal allegedly tore down the Confederate flag that flew over her mother's boarding house and replaced it with a Union flag. When the Union soldier insulted, or perhaps, pushed her mother, Boyd shot him dead. She was acquitted of any wrong doing.

Later that year, Boyd became a courier for Generals Beauregard and Jackson. She obtained information by charming Union soldiers and officers passing through the area and relayed the information to Confederate Generals. The information was supposedly relayed via Boyd's servant, Eliza Hopewell, in a hollowed-out watch case to escape detection. Once, Boyd learned valuable information about Union troop positions and formations, after the boarding house was seized by Union forces. She rode 15 miles through the wilderness and battle lines to relay the information personally to General Jackson. On the way, a bullet tore through her skirt. To show his appreciation, Jackson made the 17 year-old girl a Captain and Honorary Aide-de-Camp.

During the Civil War, Belle Boyd was arrested six times and imprisoned twice. After the war, she published a famous book about her life and became an actress. She died in Wisconsin in 1900 of an apparent heart attack. Today, the Belle Boyd House and Museum is located in Martinsburg, West Virginia and her birthday is celebrated there every third weekend of May.

1.) When did Belle Boyd's career as a spy begin?

- A. In 1843
- B. In 1860
- C. When Union soldiers tore down the Confederate flag flying over her mother's boarding house
- D. When she rode 15 miles through the wilderness to deliver a message to Stonewall Jackson.

2.) Which question is answered in the first paragraph?

- A. Did Belle Boyd ever kill anyone?
- B. Did Belle Boyd own any slaves?
- C. Who was Eliza Hopewell?
- D. Did Belle Boyd ever get shot?

3.) Belle Boyd....

- A. gained information by charming Confederate soldiers
- B. was not found guilty of murder
- C. used a hollowed out watch case to pass information to Union Generals
- D. used her servant to help relay information to Confederate generals.

4.) Which of the following best describes Belle Boyd?

- A. interesting
- B. deceitful
- C. shy
- D. merciful

5.) Read the following sentence, what is a "courier?"

Later that year, Boyd became a courier for Generals Beauregard and Jackson.

- A.) cannon
- B.) slave
- C.) messenger
- D.) soldier

6.) How did Belle Boyd obtain information?

- A. by charming Union officers in the area
- B. by forcing her servant to spy on Union officers
- C. While in jail
- D. By riding around to Union positions of her horse.

7.) Which of the following is NOT true about Belle Boyd?

- A. She went to jail several times
- B. Her birthday is celebrated in West Virginia today
- C. She was seriously injured by a bullet
- D. She met Stonewall Jackson

8.) Which of the following would make an appropriate title for this passage?

- A. The Role of Servants in the Civil War
- B. Women who died during the Civil War
- C. The Story of a Confederate Spy
- D. The Civil of War

9.) Which event happened last?

- A. The Civil war ended
- B. Belle Boyd was made an honorary Aide-de-Camp
- C. Belle Boyd killed the Union soldier
- D. Belle Boyd wrote a book

10.) According to the passage, Belle Boyd

-
- A. owned a boarding house
 - B. had a servant
 - C. owned a museum
 - D. owned a plantation

Thomas Garrett, Delaware, and the Underground Railroad
Name _____

For many years, slavery was a part of the history of the United States. In the early 1800s, though, the country began to split into two over whether slavery should be allowed or not. Some of those who believed slaves should be free tried to help them escape. Safe houses became known as the Underground Railroad. Guides called "conductors" took the slaves to places where "station masters" kept them hidden until it was safe to travel north to freedom. Many slaves fleeing from Virginia and Maryland escaped through Delaware.

The Underground Railroad began in Dover, Delaware, and ran through Wilmington into Pennsylvania. Many slaves escaped along this path. Thomas Garrett became a famous abolitionist, a person who was against slavery. He was born in 1789 in Pennsylvania to a Quaker family. When he was a young man, he rescued a free black woman who worked in his family home but had been kidnapped and forced into slavery. After freeing her, he devoted his life to the freedom of all. In 1822, Garrett and his wife moved to Wilmington, where he ran an iron and blacksmith business. In his home in Wilmington, he aided many runaway slaves by giving them food, clothing, and a place to stay. In 1848, Garrett was found guilty of aiding slaves, who were considered someone's property. He lost almost everything as punishment. Even then Garrett said, "Friend, I haven't a dollar in the world, but if thee knows a fugitive who needs a breakfast, send him to me." In 1850, he became friends with Harriet Tubman. Garrett helped her bring her family north to freedom.

On March 30, 1870, when the 15th Amendment became law, blacks in Wilmington carried Garrett through the streets, praising him. He had helped more than 2,700 slaves become free. When he died, 1,500 people came to his funeral.

1. Which of the following describes the early 1800s?

- a. Everyone believed slavery should exist
- b. No one believed slavery should exist
- c. There was disagreement over whether slavery should exist
- d. It was impossible for slaves to escape slavery in the South

2. Which of the following would be unlikely?

- a. A slave who was forced to work in Virginia
- b. An abolitionist who owned slaves
- c. A slave who was forced to work in Maryland
- d. A "station master" who tried to help slaves escape

- 3. Which best describes the path a slave might have taken to freedom?**
- From Virginia >> Pennsylvania >> Maryland
 - From Dover >> Pennsylvania >> Wilmington
 - From Wilmington >> Pennsylvania >> Dover
 - From Dover >> Wilmington >> Pennsylvania
- 4. When did Thomas Garrett devote his life to helping slaves?**
- In 1870
 - After he met Harriet Tubman
 - In 1789
 - After he helped a slave woman to freedom
- 5. Which of the following best matches Garrett's quote in the second paragraph?**
- "Even though I don't have money, I'm willing to help slaves however I can."
 - "Even though I don't have money, I'm very good at cooking breakfast."
 - "Please send me any slaves who can help me with cooking breakfast."
 - "I am happy to cook breakfast for any slaves that have a few dollars."
- 6. Based on the passage, what does the 15th Amendment of the United States Constitution probably refer to as mentioned in the last paragraph?**
- The 15th Amendment probably ended the Civil War
 - The 15th Amendment probably ended slavery
 - The 15th Amendment probably ended freedom
 - The 15th Amendment meant people like Thomas Garrett would no longer be poor
- 7. Which of the following best describes Garrett's impact on the world?**
- He started the Underground Railroad
 - 1,500 people came to his funeral
 - He helped 2,700 people who were slaves become free
 - He had befriended Harriet Tubman



Causes of the Civil War Reading Comprehension Bundle

Integrated Reading and CRITICAL THOUGHT Activities

For Grades 5-8

8 INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES
Perfect for Interactive Notebooks
Perfect for Morning Work or Assessments

MR. NUSSBAUM
LEARNING + FUN

Terms of Use

Slavery RC	C, C, B, D, B, D, A
Missouri Compromise RC	A, C, D, C, B, A, D
Manifest Destiny RC	A, C, C, A, D, B, B
Kansas-Nebraska Act RC	D, B, A, A, C, D, B
Lincoln-Douglass Debates RC	B, B, ABD, D, A, C, A

This bundle is the property of Nussbaum Education Network, LLC. You may use the exercises within this bundle with your students or children. These exercises may be used in the classroom or distributed for homework. You may not re-publish this bundle or activities within these bundles, post them online, re-sell them, or use them in standardized tests. Any other uses not mentioned here are prohibited without consent from the Nussbaum Education Network, LLC .

For licensing inquires regarding this bundle, or any other works from Nussbaum Education Network, LLC, please e-mail us at:

mrnussbaumcom@gmail.com, or, visit our website at <https://mrnussbaum.com>

Manifest Destiny Reading Comprehension

Name _____

Following the War of 1812, American entered a period of history known as the Era of Good Feeling. During this time, America articulated its first foreign policy through the Monroe Doctrine and a growing sense of nationalism gripped the population. Americans started believing that they were morally and culturally superior to their Native, Mexican, and British neighbors and that it was God's will and the people's duty to spread American virtues from "sea to shining sea."

In 1845, newspaper editor John O' Sullivan first coined the term "Manifest Destiny," to describe the mindset of American expansion. The idea of Manifest Destiny was reflected in the 19th century by the mass migration of Americans from the eastern United States to the west through the great emigrant trails such as the Oregon, California, Santa Fe, and Mormon Trails. It was used to justify the corrupt treaties and wars that resulted in the removal of Native Americans from their ancestral land. It was also used to justify the Mexican-American War, resulting in the annexation of 1.2 million square miles of land in the American West.

Manifest Destiny also accelerated the onset of the Civil War as it touched off intense sectional dramas between southern states hoping to expand slavery into new territories and northern states hoping to prevent the spread of slavery.

1. As part of the Era of Good Feeling...

- a. Americans began feeling a growing pride in their nation
- b. Native Americans expanded territory into Mexico
- c. Americans fought in the War of 1812
- d. Americans believed themselves equal to British for the first time

2. What was the effect of Manifest Destiny on the Civil War?

- a. It had no influence on the onset of the Civil War
- b. It helped postpone the onset of the Civil War
- c. It accelerated the onset of the Civil War by forcing the issue of slavery
- d. It caused people to migrate to the eastern United States

3. Which of the following did NOT happen as a result of Manifest Destiny?

- a. Western expansion
- b. Increased nationalism
- c. Preservation of Native American culture
- d. The annexation of 1.2 million square miles

4. What does “migration” mean in the following sentence?

The idea of Manifest Destiny was reflected in the 19th century by the mass migration of Americans from the eastern United States to the west through the great emigrant trails such as the Oregon, California, Santa Fe, and Mormon Trails.

- a. People moving from one area to another
- b. People losing their homes
- c. People preparing for war
- d. People leaving the country

5. What question is NOT answered in the second paragraph?

- a. Who coined the term Manifest Destiny?
- b. How did people get to western parts of the United States?
- c. How were parts of the southwest and Mexico annexed to the United States?
- d. When did the Civil War begin?

6. Which of the following questions could be answered by “America’s first articulation of foreign policy”?

- a. What is Manifest Destiny?
- b. What is the Monroe Doctrine?
- c. What is the Era of Good Feeling?
- d. Why did Americans feel superior to the **Native, Mexican, and British neighbors?**

7. Which of the following best describes Manifest Destiny?

- a. American foreign policy must not be influenced by other nations
- b. American ideals must be spread across North America
- c. Americans will begin to settle in the western United States
- d. The American spirit will help resolve the Civil War

Kansas-Nebraska Act

In 1854, Congress passed the Kansas-Nebraska Act, which organized the remaining territory acquired in the Louisiana Purchase so that such territories could be admitted to the Union as states.

Probably the most important result of the Kansas-Nebraska Act was its language concerning the contentious issue of slavery. Proposed by Stephen A. Douglas, and signed by president Franklin Pierce, the bill divided the region into two territories. Territory north of the 40th parallel was called Nebraska Territory, and territory south of the 40th parallel was called Kansas Territory. The most controversial aspect of the Kansas-Nebraska Act was that each territory would decide for itself whether or not to permit slavery. This stipulation repealed the Missouri Compromise of 1820 which stated that slavery was prohibited north of 36° 30'.

As there was more support for slavery in Kansas, both pro-slavery and anti-slavery advocates organized teams of people to settle in the state. Not surprisingly, the area became a battleground for both sides, and the resulting violence caused the territory to be referred to as “Bleeding Kansas,” and was one of the first major causes of the Civil War. Eventually, on January 29, 1861, after much controversy, Kansas was admitted to the Union as a free state – just months before the first shots of the Civil War were fired.

1. What was the purpose of the Kansas-Nebraska Act?

- A. To repeal the Missouri Compromise
- B. To make sure all territories could vote on the issue of slavery
- C. To admit Kansas and Nebraska to the Union as free states
- D. To organize territories so they could become states

2. What was controversial about the Kansas-Nebraska Act?

- A. Slavery would be allowed in both Kansas and Nebraska Territories
- B. Territories would decide whether or not to allow slavery within their borders
- C. Neither Kansas or Nebraska could become states if they allowed slavery
- D. Slavery would be prohibited in certain parts of the territories

3. What is a stipulation as used in the following sentence?

This stipulation repealed the Missouri Compromise of 1820 which stated that slavery was prohibited north of 36° 30'.

- A. A condition or requirement
- B. A change
- C. An illegal act
- D. A promise

4. Which of the following is true?

- A. There was more support for slavery in Kansas
- B. There was equal support for slavery in both Kansas and Nebraska
- C. There was more support for slavery in Nebraska
- D. There was little support for slavery in Kansas or Nebraska

5. Why did Kansas become known as “Bleeding Kansas?”

- A. Because of the increased slave trade that occurred before it became a state
- B. Because slavery supporters were always violent
- C. Because slavery supporters and slavery opponents both moved to the state
- D. Because it was a major cause of the Civil War

6. Eventually...

- A. Kansas became a slave state after the start of the Civil War.
- B. Kansas became a slave state before the start of the Civil War.
- C. Kansas became a free state after the start of the Civil War.
- D. Kansas became a free state before the start of the Civil War.

7. What was the effect of the Kansas-Nebraska Act?

- A. It brought the nation together
- B. It brought the nation closer to war
- C. Slavery became legal in Kansas
- D. Slavery would eventually become illegal in America

The Election of 1860 Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

By 1860, the United States was in the midst of serious political turmoil. The issue of slavery threatened to rip the nation apart. The 1860 presidential election was THE critical issue. The Democratic Party had been split into two factions, the Northern Democrats and the Southern Democrats. The Northern Democrats nominated Stephen A. Douglas from Illinois for president, and the Southern Democrats nominated John C. Breckinridge from Kentucky. Douglas would become the first presidential candidate to "campaign," by embarking on a national speaking tour. The newly formed anti-slavery Republican Party nominated Abraham Lincoln, a Representative from Illinois, legendary for his oratory. Lincoln won the nomination over three more well-known candidates, William Seward, Salmon P. Chase and Edward Bates (all of whom would become members of his cabinet). The Constitutional Union Party nominated John Bell from Tennessee.

On November 6, 1860, Abraham Lincoln was officially elected as president, despite the fact that he wasn't even listed on the ballot in nine southern states. Because the bulk of the voting population lived in the Northern states, those states had higher electoral values. Lincoln won the three states with the highest electoral values, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. He won 17 states in all. John C. Breckinridge won every southern state except Virginia and Tennessee. Those states were won by John Bell. The election of 1860 turned out to be the second highest on record in terms of voter turnout. The results of the election brought the country to Civil War. South Carolina, whose voters believed that a Republican president would restrict slavery in the new territories, and then attempt to prohibit it completely, supported secession. They believed slavery was an American "institution," and that their agricultural economy would collapse without it. On December 20, 1860, South Carolina issued a Declaration of Secession from the United States. Ten other states would follow its lead within a few months. The new President had a mighty task of preserving a fractured Union. War was the only way.

1. Which statement about the 1860 presidential candidates is false?

- a) Lincoln represented the Republican party.
- b) John C. Breckinridge represented the Northern Democrats.
- c) Stephen Douglas did not represent the Republican Party.
- d) John Bell represented the Constitutional Union Party.

2. Which is the best synonym for “oratory,” used to describe Lincoln in the first paragraph?

- a) Public speaking
- b) Law-making
- c) Leading
- d) Traveling

3. How did Lincoln win the election despite not being listed on the ballot in some Southern states?

- a) He was a write-in candidate in the southern states.
- b) Breckinridge conceded the election to Lincoln.
- c) He won many Northern states with large populations.
- d) He won every other Southern state except Virginia and Tennessee.

4. Which statement about the Election of 1860 is true?

- a) It had a low turnout.
- b) It had an unsurprising victor.
- c) It had historic consequences.
- d) It ruined Lincoln’s political career.

5. Why did South Carolina secede from the Union?

- a) They were afraid that Lincoln would abolish slavery as president.
- b) They felt their agricultural economy could do better on its own.
- c) They were angry that their candidate, Douglas, lost the election.
- d) They wanted a president who opposed slavery.

6. South Carolina believed that slavery was an American “institution.” Infer what this means.

- a) A replaceable aspect of the economy
- b) A well-designed education system
- c) A social construct created by the government
- d) A staple of American society

7. Which statement about Abraham Lincoln is supported by the passage?

- a) He was part of an anti-slavery political party.
- b) He was unopposed when competing for the Republican nomination.
- c) Both of the above
- d) None of the above

-----Key-----

1. (b)
2. (a)
3. (c)
4. (c)
5. (a)
6. (d)
7. (a)

John Brown Rebellion Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

Read the passage and answer the questions.

A Hatred of Slavery

John Brown was born on May 9th, 1800, in Torrington, Connecticut. At age 5 he moved to Ohio and acquired a hatred for the institution of slavery from his father. When he was 12, he stayed with a Michigan family who continuously beat their slaves. The image would haunt Brown for the rest of his life. Brown soon became a staunch abolitionist (an advocate for the banning of slavery) and even started a school to help educate young black people in 1834.

A Murderous Act of Vengeance

In 1855, John Brown followed five of his sons to "Bleeding Kansas", where a number of abolitionists had recently been murdered. Brown and his sons subsequently murdered five slavery advocates at Pottawatomie, Kansas on May 24, 1856. Brown and his sons immediately became fugitives and withstood a mob of attacking Missourians at Osawatomie. Brown's actions, together with his stand at Osawatomie, made him a legendary figure and a nationally recognized opponent of slavery.

Planning for an Insurrection

When Brown returned east, he formulated a plan to free slaves by force. He had financial support from many wealthy abolitionists in the northeast. Brown's plan included a refuge for runaway slaves in the mountains of Virginia. On October 16, 1859, John Brown, his sons, and a small number of loyal supporters, launched an attack against the federal arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Virginia. He believed word of the arsenal's capture would inspire slaves throughout Virginia to rebel against their owners. The group easily took the town and the arsenal. Brown, however, failed to launch any further offensives and took a defensive position within the arsenal. Brown's group was quickly surrounded by the local militia, and then, a day later, by U.S. marines led by Robert E. Lee. The ensuing battles resulted in the death of two of his sons, his own injuries, and an unconditional surrender.

A Martyr

As a result of his actions, Brown was charged with murder and treason. He was hanged at Charleston, Virginia on December 2, 1859. Nevertheless, his rebellion was one of the primary causes of the Civil War. Many southern sympathizers believed Brown's rebellion was a conspiracy against slavery advocates of the south staged by the U.S. Government. Others feared Brown's rebellion would indeed cause a slave insurrection. For many years after his death, Brown was considered a martyr and hero to the abolitionist cause.

1. Infer the meaning of the prefix ab- as used in the word “abolitionist.”

- a) Off, away from
- b) Towards
- c) With
- d) Across

2. Why did Brown grow up with a hatred of slavery?

- a) His childhood growing up in Connecticut
- b) A visit to a violent family in Ohio
- c) Influence from a parent
- d) Personal experience as a slaveowner

3. Which event happened first?

- a) John Brown and his sons go to Bleeding Kansas
- b) Brown attacks Harper’s Ferry
- c) Brown starts a school to educate young Black individuals
- d) Two of Brown’s sons die

4. Why did Brown’s raid at Harper’s Ferry fail?

- a) Brown failed to capture the arsenal.
- b) Brown and his followers failed to act after raiding the arsenal.
- c) One of Brown’s sons told Robert E. Lee of the impending attack.
- d) U.S. Marines were waiting at the arsenal when Brown and his sons arrived.

5. Which statement about John Brown’s rebellion is true?

- a) It had no impact on the state of the union leading up to the Civil War.
- b) It resulted in the continued decline of relations between North and South.
- c) It motivated slaves to begin uprising against their owners.
- d) It was condemned by abolitionists.

6. Which best describes John Brown?

- a) A hot-headed diplomat
- b) A violent freedom fighter
- c) A reckless Southern sympathizer
- d) A peace-seeking abolitionist

7. A student wants to learn more about John Brown’s plans to raid Harper’s Ferry. Which source would be the best for this purpose?

- a) A map of Union and Confederate states in the Civil War
- b) Letters from John Brown to his wife leading up to the raid
- c) A blueprint of the arsenal at Harper’s Ferry
- d) The curriculum used at John Brown’s school

-----Key-----

1. (a)
2. (c)
3. (c)
4. (b)
5. (b)
6. (b)
7. (b)

Southern Perspective

The issue of slavery became more and more contentious between northern states and southern states in the middle part of the 19th century, especially as the United States expanded westward and began to take in new territories and states. Slavery was important to the southern economy because of the large labor force required to pick and process cotton – the southern cash crop. The southern states scored a victory with the passing of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. Introduced by Stephen A. Douglas, the bill called for the residents of the particular territory to choose for itself whether to allow slavery (otherwise known as *popular sovereignty*). Northern politicians such as Abraham Lincoln and abolitionists (those opposed to slavery) fought vigorously against the bill. With the election of President Lincoln in 1860, southern officials began to fear that Lincoln would repeal the bill and that the northern majority would threaten their way of life – and their economic interests. Southern states began to fear that Lincoln would emancipate slaves. The 1859 raid on the federal arsenal by John Brown, a radical abolitionist, perpetuated fears and led many to believe in a northern conspiracy. Shortly after Lincoln’s election, South Carolina officially seceded from the Union. Ten states would follow soon after and form the Confederate States of America.

Northern Perspective

Although the North was divided on their views of slavery, political officials in power such as Abraham Lincoln fought against the Kansas-Nebraska Act. Although many viewed slavery as immoral, which was one reason for its proposed abolishment, officials in the north were also worried that the extension of slavery into western states would give the southern states disproportional influence in such areas. When Abraham Lincoln was elected president, eleven states promptly seceded (broke away) from the Union. Lincoln deemed this unacceptable and declared war for the purposes of preserving the Union.

1. What caused the issue of slavery to become a big problem?

- A. Cotton
- B. The secession of the eleven Confederate states
- C. Westward expansion and the adoption of new states
- D. Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln

2. What was popular sovereignty?

- A. The right for the southern states to allow slavery
- B. The right of the president to abolish slavery
- C. The right of a state to decide on the issue of slavery
- D. The right of the southern states to secede from America

- 3. Why did southerners begin to believe that slavery was threatened?**
- A. Because popular sovereignty was allowed following the Kansas-Nebraska Act
 - B. Because Abraham Lincoln was elected president in 1860
 - C. Because abolitionists fought against passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act
 - D. Because slavery was important to the southern economy
- 4. Northern politicians feared...**
- A. that Abraham Lincoln would declare war on the southern states.
 - B. that Abraham Lincoln would eventually allow slavery in America.
 - C. that slavery was immoral.
 - D. the extension of slavery into new territories would give the southern states too much influence.
- 5. Which of the following best describes northern attitudes toward slavery?**
- A. The north was united in their desire to end slavery
 - B. The north was divided on the issue of slavery
 - C. The north did not believe in slavery, but believed it should be allowed in the south
 - D. Politicians in the north believed in the Kansas-Nebraska Act
- 6. What was the effect of the Election of 1860?**
- A. The John Brown rebellion
 - B. It changed people's views on slavery in the north
 - C. The passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act
 - D. The secession of eleven states
- 7. Why was the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act a victory for the southern states?**
- A. Because it made of the possibility that new states and territories would allow slavery
 - B. Because it guaranteed that slavery would be allowed in new states and territories
 - C. Because it pulled the nation closer to the Civil War
 - D. Because it led to southerners believing in a northern conspiracy



The Origins of Cotton in America

The production of cotton is an industry deeply rooted in the fabric of America's history, particularly in the south. In 1556, the first settlers grew cotton in southern Florida and used it to make homespun clothing. In order to grow properly, cotton requires a warm climate, so the American south is the ideal place for it to be harvested. In the 1730s, England began using American cotton as part of its clothing industry. The cotton from the American south was shipped overseas so the English could spin it into clothing and textiles.

Invention of the Cotton Gin

Cotton is not an easy crop to grow, however; it has to be picked and all of its seeds have to be removed. Until the late 1700s, this task required hours of manual labor. However, in 1793, Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin: a machine that sped up the process of separating cotton from its seeds by a factor of ten. Whitney's invention made it significantly easier to mass-produce cotton and make money from it, causing the American cotton industry to grow from an annual revenue of 150,000 to 8 million dollars. And with the money, the greed of cotton planters grew. Planters needed more workers in their fields to harvest more cotton and make even more money. Those workers came in the form of slaves forcibly taken from Africa and made to work for no pay in the southern heat. Slave labor increased in cotton fields in the 1800s, powering the cotton industry and the selling of textiles. In the 1830s and 1840s, one slogan captured the growth of the American economy: "cotton is king."

Cause of the Civil War

The harsh treatment of slaves in cotton fields led to unrest. Many northern abolitionists felt that slave labor was inhumane and should end. Southern plantation owners were big supporters of slavery, since without it, cotton production would collapse. Cotton was the biggest crop in the south; if there weren't enough hands in the field to produce it, the southern economy would hit rock bottom. Because of this, tensions continued to increase between northern and southern America, making the cotton crop one of the major causes of the American Civil War from 1861-1865. After the war, northern victory, and freeing of slaves, the cotton industry took a major hit. In 1892, cotton bud-eating beetles known as boll weevils came into the south from Mexico, destroying cotton crops. By the time measures were put in place to stop the weevils in the 1950s, the industry had already lost over 22 billion dollars. Today, the cotton clothing industry is still strong in the United States: a grim reminder of the time when both cotton, and slave labor, were king.

1. Which of the following is the best interpretation of the saying “cotton is king”?

- a) Cotton was the only crop exported by the United States at the time.
- b) The American Civil War was fought only over control of the cotton crop.
- c) The cotton industry helped transition the colonies to a monarchy.
- d) The cotton industry heavily influenced the economics and politics at the time.

2. Which of the following is the best explanation as to why cotton was not grown in the north?

- a) It did not sell well in the north.
- b) The clothing industry was more popular in the south.
- c) The climate was better for cotton growth in the south.
- d) The south refused to allow the north to sell cotton.

3. Which of the following statements about the cotton gin is false?

- a) The invention of the cotton gin increased the need for slave labor in the south.
- b) The cotton gin increased the speed at which cotton could be produced.
- c) The invention of the cotton gin slowed clothing and textile production.
- d) The cotton gin made southern farmers significantly more money.

4. Which of the following factors did not have an impact on cotton production?

- a) The cotton gin
- b) Boll weevils
- c) The Civil War
- d) All of the Above

5. Put the following events in chronological order.

- I. Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin.
- II. The American Civil War
- III. Boll weevils destroy cotton crops
- IV. England starts to use American cotton

- a) I, II, III, IV
- b) IV, I, II, III
- c) I, II, IV, III
- d) IV, II, I, III

6. Infer why cotton production decreased after the Civil War, based on evidence from the passage

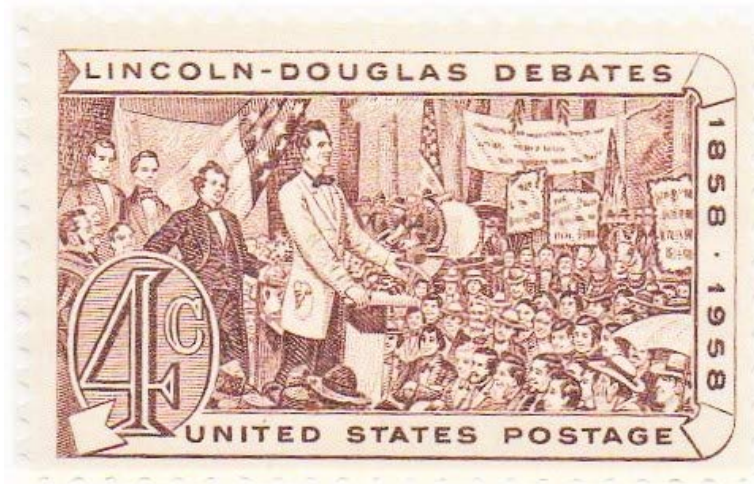
- a) The loss of slave labor in the south to work the fields
- b) Americans moved on from cotton textiles to silk
- c) The death of almost all cotton plantation owners in the fighting
- d) The boom in the southern economy due to the southern victory

7. Which statement about cotton in the southern colonies is false?

- a) Cotton was first grown in America in the state of Florida.
- b) Cotton was primarily used to make clothing
- c) Cotton was grown in the south to be used for clothing production in the north.
- d) Cotton production has decreased steadily over time.

The Lincoln-Douglas Debates

Name _____



In 1858, Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas engaged in a series of seven debates in the congressional districts of Illinois over the issue of slavery. Both were vying for the Illinois Senate seat to be elected by the state legislature. Lincoln was an anti-slavery Republican and Douglas, nicknamed the "Little Giant" for his small stature but powerful voice, was the pro-slavery Democrat. Although Douglas would ultimately win the Senate, the debates helped propel Lincoln to national prominence.

The major theme of the debate was the extension of slavery into new territories. In 1854, the passing of the Kansas-Nebraska Act (authored by Douglas) allowed for popular sovereignty in the new territories. Popular sovereignty meant that residents of a state or territory could vote whether to allow slavery.

Throughout the seven debates, Douglas claimed that Lincoln was a "dangerous radical" for his stance against popular sovereignty. He frequently referenced Lincoln's famous Republican nomination speech in which he claimed "a government cannot permanently endure half slave, half free," in accusing him of threatening the stability of the nation.

Lincoln attacked the "monstrous injustice" of slavery and referenced the murderous events in Kansas as evidence that popular sovereignty was harmful to the nation. He claimed that "the crisis would be reached and passed when slavery was put in the course of ultimate extinction." Despite his stance against slavery, the debates revealed that Lincoln did not necessarily consider Blacks his equal. He denied he was an abolitionist in saying "And in as much as they cannot so live, while they do remain together there must be the position of superior and inferior, and I as much as any other man am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the white race."

Despite winning the popular vote for the senate seat by more than 30,000 votes, it was Douglas who prevailed because he won the electoral vote. During the debates, however, Lincoln's tough questioning of Douglas caused a split in Democratic Party resulting in Lincoln's victory over Douglas in the Presidential Election of 1860.

1. In 1858, Lincoln and Douglas...

- A. were hoping to become the next president.
- B. were hoping to become senator.
- C. were hoping to end slavery.
- D. were against popular sovereignty.

2. Despite his setback against Douglas, Lincoln...

- A. became senator of Illinois.
- B. rose to national prominence.
- C. won the Lincoln-Douglas debates.
- D. became president in 1858.

3. Circle all of the following that ARE NOT true.

- A. Lincoln believed slavery should end and claimed that he was abolitionist
- B. Lincoln believed that slavery should end and all races were equal
- C. Douglas believed in popular sovereignty and that Lincoln was a radical
- D. Douglas and Lincoln agreed on popular sovereignty

4. Which of the following best defines Lincoln's quote as used below?

... "a government cannot permanently endure half slave, half free."

- A. The government will succeed if both sides agree to be half slave, half free
- B. Good governments do not last forever
- C. A government will fail if it continues to allow slavery
- D. A government will fail if there are two sides that are not united

5. What does the author seem surprised about?

- A. That Lincoln did not consider Blacks to be equal to whites
- B. That Stephen A. Douglas won the electoral vote for the senate
- C. That Stephen A. Douglas was called "the Little Giant"
- D. That Lincoln considered slavery to be an injustice

6. For which of the following questions would "residents of the state vote on whether or not to allow slavery."

- A. What was the major theme of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates?
- B. Why did Douglas refer to Lincoln as a dangerous radical?
- C. What is popular sovereignty?
- D. What was Lincoln's stance on popular sovereignty?

7. What was an effect of the Lincoln Douglas debate?

- A. The split in the Democratic Party
- B. Lincoln won the popular vote by more than 30,000 votes
- C. The stability of the nation was threatened
- D. Lincoln would eventually become Senator

In 1819, as Missouri began drafting a state constitution in preparation for statehood, New York congressman James Tallmadge introduced two antislavery amendments to the bill which allowed for the creation of Missouri as a state. Despite the fact that Tallmadge's bills were not passed, the issue involving slavery threatened to explode.

The issue of slavery had remained controversial in America since 1787. In 1819, half of America's twenty-two states were free states (northern), and half were slave states (southern). Because the free states had larger populations, they controlled the House of Representatives. Free and slave states shared equal representation in the Senate. The admission of Missouri as a free state or slave state would upset the balance. Antislavery members of Congress argued that slavery should be prohibited in new states, while pro-slavery members of Congress argued that the state should have the right to determine if slavery was legal or illegal within its borders.

A compromise was made when Maine applied for statehood in 1820. According to the deal thought of by Henry Clay, if the southern states agreed to the admission of Maine as a free state, Missouri would be admitted as a slave state. In addition, all lands acquired in the Louisiana Purchase north of 36° 30' N latitude would be free. Both the free and the slave states agreed to Clay's compromise, which lasted 30 years before being repealed following another period of American expansion.

- 1. What was the primary issue that made the Missouri Compromise necessary?**
 - A. slavery
 - B. statehood
 - C. Maine
 - D. Henry Clay

- 2. The admission of Missouri as a free state had the potential to...**
 - A. cause slavery.
 - B. destroy the House of Representatives.
 - C. upset the balance in Congress.
 - D. give the northern states too much power.

3. Slavery supporters argued that...

- A. slavery should be illegal.
- B. slavery should be allowed in all states.
- C. that slavery should only be illegal in the new states.
- D. that citizens of new states should vote on slavery.

4. What happened when Maine was admitted to the Union?

- A. Slavery was permitted in Maine
- B. Slavery was permitted throughout the country
- C. Slavery was permitted in Missouri
- D. Slavery was not permitted in Missouri

5. Why is the Louisiana Purchase important in this discussion?

- A. As a result of the Missouri Compromise, slavery became illegal in all lands acquired in the Louisiana Purchase
- B. As a result of the Missouri Compromise, slavery became illegal in some of the lands acquired in the Louisiana Purchase
- C. As a result of the Missouri Compromise, slavery was permitted in all lands acquired in the Louisiana Purchase
- D. As a result of the Missouri Compromise, slavery was permitted throughout America

6. What does the passage suggest about the Missouri Compromise?

- A. The same problems that caused the Missouri Compromise would appear again in the near future
- B. The problems addressed in the Missouri Compromise were permanently solved
- C. Eventually, Missouri would become a free state
- D. There were some states that did not agree to Clay's compromise.

7. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage above?

- A. The life of Henry Clay
- B. The House of Representatives and its Stance on Slavery
- C. Maine – the Story of a Free State
- D. How the Issue of Slavery Shaped America's Map