

## 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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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Answers:

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