

# \*\*\* THE \*\*\* CIVIL WAR



1. What are the dates of the Civil War?
2. List the 11 Confederate states.
3. What state was formed as a direct result of the Civil War?
4. Where was the Confederate capital located?
5. What was the most significant pre-war advantage of the North?
6. What was the most important pre-war advantage of the South?
7. What was the position of President Lincoln concerning slavery?
8. What was President Lincoln's purpose for fighting the war?
9. Briefly explain President Lincoln's strategy regarding the bombardment of Fort Sumter.

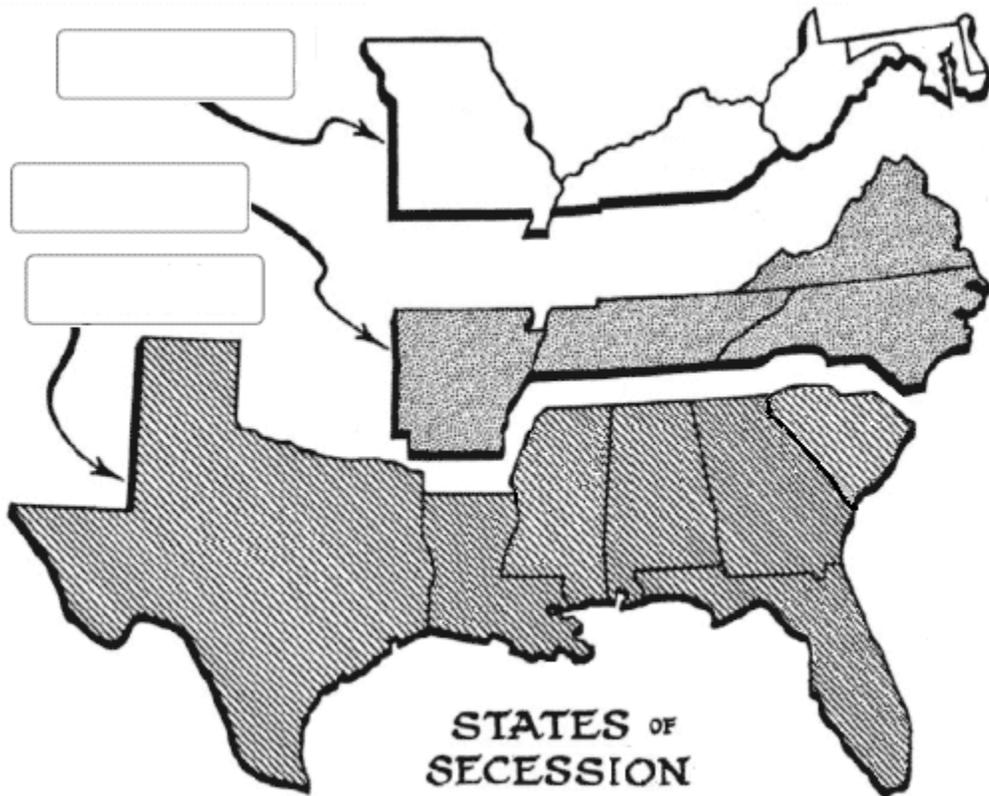
10. What was President Lincoln's greatest frustration during the war?
11. Briefly explain the Emancipation Proclamation.
12. What battle is considered the turning point of the Civil War?
13. What was the very important result of the Vicksburg Campaign?
14. What major battle marks serious penetration of Union soil by Confederate forces?
15. What battle was the first head-to-head confrontation between Grant and Lee?
16. What part did Great Britain play in the war?
17. Who was Mathew Brady?
18. What is the great novel about the Civil War written by Stephen Crane?
19. Why was General Sherman's "march to the sea" so devastating to the South?
20. What general strategy did the North use to defeat the South?
21. How soon after the Civil War was President Lincoln assassinated?

1. President Abraham Lincoln's purpose for fighting the Civil War was to:
  - a. punish the South for its long history of cruelty toward blacks
  - b. abolish slavery in the United States
  - c. preserve the Union, threatened by secession of numerous southern states
  - d. end economic hardship caused by overproduction of southern cotton
  
2. The turning point in the Civil War was:
  - a. the refusal of the southern states to accept the Emancipation Proclamation
  - b. General Robert E. Lee's defeat at Gettysburg
  - c. the bombardment of Fort Sumter by South Carolina militia
  - d. President Abraham Lincoln's re-election in 1864
  
3. The Civil War took place during:
  - a. 1855-1860
  - b. 1861-1865
  - c. 1864-1868
  - d. 1865-1869
  
4. All of the following were Confederate states except:
  - a. Tennessee
  - b. North Carolina
  - c. Arkansas
  - d. Kentucky
  
5. The president of the Confederacy was:
  - a. Jefferson Davis
  - b. Alexander Stephens
  - c. George Meade
  - d. Andrew Johnson
  
6. All of the following were northern advantages at the outset of the Civil War except:
  - a. would fight a defensive war
  - b. greater populace
  - c. more miles of railway
  - d. controlled the seas
  
7. The Massachusetts 54th was commanded by:
  - a. George Armstrong Custer
  - b. Mathew Brady
  - c. William Tecumseh Sherman
  - d. Robert Gould Shaw

8. The real victory at Fort Sumter was scored by:
  - a. South Carolina militia
  - b. Confederate cavalry forces
  - c. President Abraham Lincoln
  - d. the Massachusetts 54th
  
9. The provisional Confederate capital was located at:
  - a. Savannah, Georgia
  - b. Montgomery, Alabama
  - c. Charleston, South Carolina
  - d. Jackson, Mississippi
  
10. The South was defeated largely because of:
  - a. rebellions against the Confederacy in some of the border states
  - b. superior military leadership and strategy of the North
  - c. lack of weapons and ammunition to continue the war
  - d. simple attrition of southern fighting forces
  
11. The Civil War ended at:
  - a. Andersonville
  - b. Annapolis
  - c. Appomattox
  - d. Antietam
  
12. The broad issue which brought the North and South to war against each other was:
  - a. slavery
  - b. foreign trade
  - c. states' rights
  - d. representation in Congress
  
13. Slavery was officially outlawed in the United States by the:
  - a. Emancipation Proclamation
  - b. Dred Scott case
  - c. Thirteenth Amendment
  - d. Sherman Act
  
14. The commander of the Army of Northern Virginia was:
  - a. Ambrose E. Burnside
  - b. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson
  - c. Robert E. Lee
  - d. George McClellan

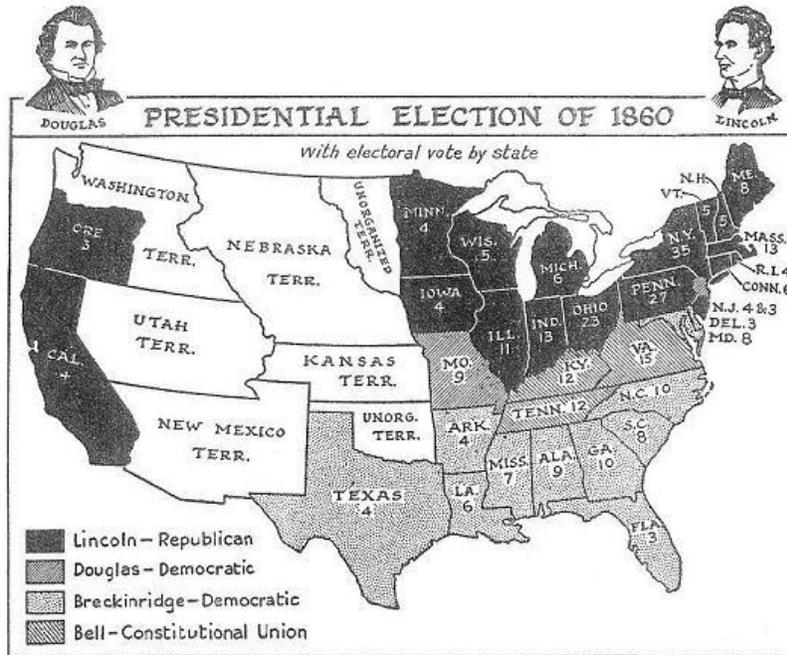
15. Historians know about the Civil War from all of the following first-hand sources except:
- surviving diaries and letters of soldiers
  - photographs
  - newspaper articles
  - school textbooks such as yours
16. Great Britain's part in the Civil War is best described as:
- ally of the North
  - ally of the South
  - neutral
  - undetermined by historians
17. The most significant fighting of the Civil War took place in:
- the western-most states of the Confederacy, such as Arkansas and Texas
  - states to the extreme north, such as Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine
  - some of the northern-most Confederate states, especially Tennessee and Virginia
  - states of the South's cotton region, such as Alabama and Mississippi
18. In the Vietnam War, about 1 of every 400 wounded soldiers died. During the Civil War, roughly one out of every six died. The reason so many more soldiers died of wounds during the Civil War can be explained by all of the following factors except:
- medical knowledge in the mid-1800s was extremely limited
  - battlefield evacuation methods (ambulance corps) were much slower during the Civil War
  - battles were much more intense during the Civil War than in Vietnam
  - in the Civil War, doctors seldom sterilized their instruments and antibiotics were unknown
19. The first head-to-head confrontation between Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee occurred at:
- Shiloh
  - Chancellorsville
  - the Wilderness
  - Gettysburg
20. All of the following fictional newspaper headlines might have actually appeared during the Civil War except:
- "The North Takes Charge"
  - "Confederacy Appears to be Wearing Down"
  - "Sherman Devastates Georgia"
  - "Lincoln Pleased with Union Generalships"

21. Abraham Lincoln is most accurately described as a/an:
- realist
  - extreme racist
  - uncompromising abolitionist
  - devoted black emancipator
22. The great Civil War novel written by Stephen Crane is entitled:
- Gray Lady Down*
  - Killer Angels*
  - Gone With the Wind*
  - The Red Badge of Courage*
23. The total number of Confederate states was:
- about 7
  - 11
  - 13
  - at least 98
24. The correct chronological order of the following battles is:
- Fort Sumter → Bull Run → Antietam → Gettysburg → the Wilderness
  - Bull Run → Gettysburg → the Wilderness → Fort Sumter → Antietam
  - Fort Sumter → Antietam → Bull Run → the Wilderness → Gettysburg
  - Gettysburg → Bull Run → Antietam → Fort Sumter → the Wilderness
25. The most renowned Civil War photographer was:
- George Catlin
  - Mathew Brady
  - Thomas Hart Benton
  - Charles Wirz
26. All of the following are true about Virginia except:
- its residents were sharply divided regarding the act of secession
  - the Civil War started and ended with key battles within its borders
  - much of the Civil War fighting took place on its soil
  - it was the northern-most Confederate state
27. During the Civil War, blacks were:
- used only for manual labor
  - drafted because they were prohibited from enlisting
  - almost always commanded by black officers
  - segregated into their own units



- The state created as a direct result of the Civil War is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The first state to secede from the Union was \_\_\_\_\_.
- The next six states to secede were:
  - ① \_\_\_\_\_      ② \_\_\_\_\_      ③ \_\_\_\_\_
  - ④ \_\_\_\_\_      ⑤ \_\_\_\_\_      ⑥ \_\_\_\_\_
- These original seven Confederate states were soon joined by the four so-called “border states” of:
  - ① \_\_\_\_\_      ② \_\_\_\_\_      ③ \_\_\_\_\_      ④ \_\_\_\_\_
- Four slave states remained in the Union:
  - ① \_\_\_\_\_      ② \_\_\_\_\_      ③ \_\_\_\_\_      ④ \_\_\_\_\_

**Election of 1860.** It appeared in 1860 that Stephen Douglas was probably the last hope of avoiding a rupture between North and South, but at the Democratic convention in Charleston, South Carolina, southern delegates refused to back Douglas, bolted the convention, and no one was nominated. In June another convention held by northern Democrats nominated Douglas, while a southern wing selected John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky. The Republicans skillfully drafted a platform attractive to all classes throughout the North and West, and then, ignoring several frontrunners, nominated Abraham Lincoln. A fourth party, the Constitutional Unionist, chose John Bell of Tennessee. Lincoln received a million fewer votes than his combined opponents but won a clear electoral college victory.



**The Secession Crisis.** South Carolina, followed by all the states of the Lower South, seceded from the Union. Since the election of Lincoln did not present an immediate threat to slavery, why did the South secede? First, because northern economic domination seemed to threaten southern independence; and second, years of sectional strife had undermined the patriotic feelings of southerners. Buchanan proved totally inept in handling the crisis and Lincoln felt that secession was a bluff. The Crittenden Compromise proposed a constitutional amendment recognizing legal slavery south of 36°30', but Lincoln refused to consider any extension of slavery. Before Lincoln's inauguration, the nation wondered what action the new president would take on secession. Lincoln's inaugural address was conciliatory but firm. The South was warned, however, that secession was not merely illegal but impossible.

**Fort Sumter: The First Shot.** By the time Lincoln was inaugurated in March 1861 the Confederacy had already seized most United States property in the Deep South, and Lincoln had no intention of forcibly reclaiming it. However, Fort Sumter, in the harbor at Charleston, and Fort Pickens in Florida were still in federal hands. Lincoln decided to keep the forts and resupply them. The Confederates responded by attacking Fort Sumter on April 21, 1861, forcing its surrender. Lincoln immediately issued a call for 75,000 volunteers, and this action prompted Virginia, North Carolina, Arkansas, and Tennessee to secede. At that point, Lincoln clearly indicated that the war would be fought to preserve the Union, not to abolish slavery.

**The Blue and the Gray.** The United States possessed tremendous advantage over the Confederacy in population, industry, transportation, and overall economic capacity to wage war. The Confederates discounted these advantages by believing that the North would not sustain a long war, that "king cotton" was too vital to national and international economics, and that superior military leadership would prevail.

**The Test of Battle: Bull Run.** The first major encounter of the war occurred at the Battle of Bull Run (July 1861), where the Confederate forces, led by P. B. T. Beauregard, routed the Union army under Irwin McDowell. Bull Run had the dual effect of bolstering southern morale and convincing many northerners of the magnitude of the oncoming struggle. Lincoln designed a bold new strategy that included a blockade of southern ports, gaining control of the Mississippi, and an invasion of Virginia. General George B. McClellan, an excellent administrator and organizer, was given command of Union forces.

Lincoln extended presidential powers further than any of his predecessors as he kept a close check on every aspect of the war. The South faced far greater problems than the North; it had to create a new government during wartime within the limitations of its states' rights philosophy. In general, the Confederacy copied the governmental and constitutional forms of the Union. President Jefferson Davis, a West Point graduate and a successful planter, was not a good administrator. In financing the war the Union used income taxes, direct taxes on states, new excise taxes, war bonds, borrowing (\$2.2 million), and the issuance of \$431 million in paper "greenbacks."

**Politics As Usual.** The Republican party, divided into moderate and radical wings, dominated Congress. Under the leadership of Charles Sumner and Thaddeus Stevens, the Radicals became increasingly influential and demanded that the war be fought with abolition as the main objective. The "Copperheads," a peace group dominated by Democrats, stood at the opposite end of the political spectrum. The administration's most notorious foe was Clement Vallandigham of Ohio.

**Behind Confederate Lines.** The South revised its strategy after Bull Run by relying primarily on a strong defense to wear down Union morale. The Confederacy experienced serious financial problems which it attempted to solve through income taxes, a tax-in-kind, borrowing (\$712 million), cotton mortgages, and paper currency. Southern expectations that England would defend "king cotton" were not realized, as England found other cotton suppliers. The United States, however, came close to war with England over the arrest of two Confederate envoys on the *Trent* and the building of the *Alabama* and the *Florida* in English shipyards.

**War in the West: Shiloh.** After Bull Run, no important battles were fought until early in 1862. Ulysses S. Grant led Union forces in capturing Forts Henry and Donelson in Tennessee and then marched on Corinth, Mississippi. A Confederate army of 40,000 led by General A. S. Johnston attacked Grant's forces at Shiloh (April 1862). The Union army prevailed, but the staggering casualties shook the confidence of both belligerents.

**McClellan, the Reluctant Warrior.** In the spring of 1862, McClellan launched an attack against Richmond from the southeast. But because of his theories and his temperament, McClellan was unsuited to his position. During this campaign, he failed to use his forces in full strength and overestimated the strength of the Confederacy. By May 14, McClellan had advanced to within 25 miles of Richmond, but he lost the initiative in the Battle of Seven Pines. General Robert E. Lee became commander of the Army of Northern Virginia and used brilliant tactics to check McClellan's forces.

**Lee Counterattacks: Antietam.** Lincoln responded to the failure of the Peninsula campaign by reducing McClellan's authority and placing him under General Halleck's supervision. Halleck recalled McClellan's army from Virginia, which allowed Lee to take the offensive. Confederate forces drove General John Pope from the field at the Second Bull Run (August 1862). McClellan, again in command of the Union forces, stopped Lee at the Battle of Antietam (Sept. 1862), but failed to crush the Confederates. Lincoln again relieved McClellan of command.

**The Emancipation Proclamation.** Lincoln had unsuccessfully advocated slave emancipation by state laws with owners being compensated by the federal government. But on September 22, 1862, he issued the Emancipation Proclamation. Under its terms, all slaves in areas still in rebellion on January 1, 1863, would be freed. The response to the Proclamation was mixed, as northerners were confronted with their own racial prejudices.

**Negrophobia and the Draft Riots.** After the passage of the Conscription Act of 1863, draft riots erupted, the most serious in New York City. Workers did not want to risk their lives to free slaves who would then compete with them for jobs. Most white northerners did not surrender their comforting belief in black inferiority, but a shift did occur in white thinking about using black men as soldiers. In 1863 the government established a Bureau of Colored Troops to supervise their enlistment, and by the end of the war, one soldier in eight in the Union army was black.

**Antietam to Gettysburg.** Lincoln's difficulties in finding an able general were demonstrated as Lee continued to use superior strategy in defeating Union armies at Fredericksburg (December 1862) and Chancellorsville (May 1863). These defeats seriously reduced northern morale and Lee seized the opportunity to invade the North again. By July 1863, Lee's forces were in southern Pennsylvania where he engaged a Union army under the command of General George S. Meade. After three days of intense fighting (July 1-3) at Gettysburg, Lee had lost a major battle for the first time.

**Lincoln Finds His General: Vicksburg.** While the Gettysburg campaign had been taking place, General Grant had completed a series of daring maneuvers which ended in the siege of Vicksburg, the key to the control of the Mississippi River. On July 4, 1863, General John Pemberton surrendered an army of 30,000 Confederates and Vicksburg fell to the Union. Lincoln recognized Grant's achievement and made him commander of all federal troops west of the Appalachians. Grant promptly moved against Confederate forces in Tennessee and won a decisive victory at Chattanooga. Grant was promoted to lieutenant general in 1864 and given supreme command of the armies of the United States.

**Economic Effects, North and South.** By the end of 1863, the Confederacy was on the road to defeat as northern military pressure eroded its manpower and the naval blockade reduced its economic strength. Inflation undermined the economy and efforts to increase manufacturing were only moderately successful. In the North the economy boomed after 1861 as Congress passed a series of economic measures such as the Homestead Act (1862), which gave 160 acres to any settler who would farm the land for five years; the Morrill Land Grant Act (1862), which established a plan for agricultural colleges; protective tariffs; the Pacific Railway Act (1862), authorizing a transcontinental railroad; and the National Banking Act (1863), which provided uniform currency. The overall effects of the war on the economy were mixed: inflation and shortages were common, speculation and materialistic concerns increased, but the war undoubtedly helped prepare the way for modern industrial society.

**Grant in the Wilderness.** Grant's strategy for ending the war called for him to attack Lee and capture Richmond, while General William T. Sherman would move against Atlanta. Grant attempted a series of flanking maneuvers against Lee's army at the battle of the Wilderness (May 1864) and Cold Harbor (June 1864), resulting in tremendous losses to each side, but Lee was not defeated.

**Sherman in Georgia.** In spite of having Lee in a defensive position, Union losses led to widespread pessimism in the North. Lincoln had been renominated on a National Union ticket, but he was under attack not only from the Democrats who nominated George McClellan, but also from the Radical Republicans within his own party. The political atmosphere changed, however, as General Sherman captured Atlanta (September 1864) and began his march to the sea, and in November Lincoln was easily reelected. In the early months of 1865, Grant's vise on the Confederacy grew tighter as he pushed Lee's army back to Richmond while Sherman pressed north through the Carolinas. Lee recognized the futility of further combat and surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865.

**Costs and Prospects.** The war cost the nation 600,000 lives and tens of billions of dollars. Southern agriculture was slow in recovering and the psychological effect of war left an eroding hatred among millions. On the other hand, slavery was ended and the issue of secession was dead. It remained to be seen if the nation could heal its wounds and take advantage of the human and natural resources that were still available for social and economic progress. On April 14 Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth; part of a complicated plot by die-hard prosoutherners. With Lincoln perished the South's best hope for mild peace.