

Section 7
The Civil War Era

STANDARD IV: The student will understand concepts related to the United States Civil War Era.

OBJECTIVE 1: Identify and evaluate events, causes, and effects of the Civil War Era.

ELIGIBLE CONTENT (THIS IS THE STUFF YOU MUST KNOW!)

- Recognize and analyze the factors leading to sectional division.
 - Compromise of 1850
 - Fugitive Slave Act
 - Kansas-Nebraska Act
 - Formation of Republican Party
 - Dred Scott Decision
 - John Brown Raid
- Identify and relate the election of Lincoln to the division of the nation.
 - Background
 - Issues debated
 - Democratic Party split
 - Secession and the federal response
 - Examples: formation of Confederacy (Note: include Montgomery, Alabama), Ft. Sumter, Northern goals, Southern goals
 - Northern Alabama's perspective on secession (Note: include Winston County, Alabama, and western counties of Virginia) Pockets of resistance to secession
- Identify and analyze the non-military events of the Civil War.
 - Political
 - Example: creation of black military units
 - Economic
 - Examples: Homestead Act, Morrill-Land Grant Act
 - Cultural
 - Examples: draft opposition, Emancipation Proclamation
 - Legal
 - Example: suspension of the Writ of Habeas Corpus

- Examine the military defeat of the Confederacy.
 - Geographic
 - Examples: Battles of Vicksburg and Gettysburg, Sherman's March
 - Political
 - Gettysburg Address
 - Economic
 - Lee's surrender
 - Cost of war

- Identify and compare the successes and failures of the Reconstruction Era and the emergence of the New South.
 - Plans for Reconstruction
 - Lincoln's Plan
 - Congressional Plan
 - Radical Reconstruction
 - Examples: Southern Military Districts, Black Codes, carpetbaggers, scalawags, organized resistance groups
 - Presidency of U.S. Grant
 - End of Reconstruction
 - Examples: election of 1876, Compromise of 1877
 - The New South
 - Politics
 - Industrialization
 - Race relations
 - Example: Jim Crow Laws, Black cultural structures
 - Examples: schools, churches, and family

Terms and Concepts for

Section 7: The Civil War Era

abolitionist	This was a person who favored the abolition (banning) of slavery.
Alamo	a mission in San Antonio, Texas where Texans, in their struggle to gain independence from Mexico, lost a battle in 1836 against a much larger Mexican force.
annex	This means to add on, to add territory onto a nation.
Arsenal	This is a place where guns are stored.
Bleeding Kansas	This is a term used to describe the fighting in 1856 between pro- and anti-slavery groups in Kansas each of which wanted to win popular-sovereignty elections in that territory.
Compromise of 1850	This was a series of laws that granted California statehood as a free state, provided popular sovereignty for the territories of New Mexico and Utah, banned the sale of slaves in the District of Columbia, and enacted a strict fugitive slave law.
Contiguous	This means to touch upon or to border upon. (The U.S. is made up of 48 contiguous states plus two other states, Alaska and Hawaii, which do not touch upon the other 48.)
Dark-Horse Candidate	This is a relatively unknown candidate who seems to have little chance of winning election to public office.
Dred Scott decision (1857)	This is a Supreme Court decision, written by Chief Justice Taney which declared that Congress could not ban slavery in U.S. territories and that the Missouri Compromise was, therefore, unconstitutional.
Electorate	These are those who elect.
Forty-niners	These were people who were part of the "gold rush" to California after gold was discovered there in 1848.
Free Soil Party	This political party opposed the extension of slavery.
Fugitive Slave Act (1850)	This is one of the parts of the Compromise of 1850 which imposed fines or prison terms on those found guilty of helping slaves escape.
Gadsden Purchase (1853)	This is a section of land (now the southern part of Arizona and New Mexico) which was purchased from Mexico for \$10 million in order to provide level land on which a transcontinental railroad route easily could be built.

Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)	This is a law which reorganized much of the old Louisiana Purchase by creating the Kansas and Nebraska Territories and allowing residents of those territories to decide through popular sovereignty whether the land would be open to slavery.
Manifest Destiny	This is a belief held by many during the 1840s that the U.S. was destined to expand to the Pacific Ocean.
Mexican Cession (1848)	This land bought from Mexico (as part of the treaty ending the Mexican War in 1848) which included areas now known as the states of California, Nevada, Utah, and most of Arizona and New Mexico.
Militia	This is an army made up of civilians who serve in times of emergency.
Missouri Compromise (1820)	This is the law which admitted Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state (thus maintaining the even balance between slave and free states) and which prohibited slavery in parts of the Louisiana Purchase north of 36 degrees, 30 minutes latitude.
Monroe Doctrine (1823):	This was a declaration by President Monroe stating that the U.S. opposed further colonization of the American continents and that the U.S. would continue its policy of neutrality toward Europe.
Nationalism	This is a strong feeling of pride and loyalty toward one's nation.
New England Emigrant Aid Company:	This was an organization which helped antislavery activists move to Kansas with the intention of winning a popular sovereignty vote which would block slavery in that territory.
Ostend Manifesto (1854)	This was a memorandum sent by three American diplomats to Spain telling it that the U.S. had the right to seize Cuba unless Spain sold it to the U.S. (The manifesto did not receive President Pierce's support and was repudiated.)
popular sovereignty	This was a system in the mid-1800s of allowing residents of each territory to decide whether or not they wanted to legalize slavery in their area, also called squatters sovereignty.
Radical	This is a person favoring extreme change and willing to use strong, even illegal, methods to bring about that change.
Republican Party	This political party was formed in 1854. A major goal of which was to block the extension of slavery into the territories.
secede	This means to withdraw from or leave an organization.

Sectionalism	This means having a sense of loyalty to one's section of the country instead of to the nation as a whole.
Squatters Sovereignty	This is a system in the mid-1800s of allowing residents of each territory to decide whether or not they wanted to legalize slavery in their area, also called popular sovereignty.
"Uncle Tom's Cabin" (1852)	This is a book written by Harriet Beecher Stowe depicting the harsh treatment of slaves in the South.
War Hawks	These were Americans who were eager to declare war on Britain in 1812.
Wilmot Proviso (1848)	This was a proposal (never enacted) which would have banned slavery in any territory the U.S. acquired as a result of the Mexican War.
Abolitionist	This was a person who favored the abolition (banning) of slavery.
Arbitration	This is a settlement of a dispute by a neutral, unbiased person or persons selected by both sides of the dispute.
Blockade	This is a barrier (often made up of warships) set up around a nation to prevent it from trading with other nations.
Blockade-Runner	This is a fast-moving ship designed to sail around or through a naval blockade.
Capitalism	This is an economic system based on private ownership of property and the use of that property to make profits.
Compact Theory of Government	This is a theory that the American states made an agreement (compact) which created the U.S. Constitution and that states, therefore, had the right to withdraw from that compact or declare actions of the national government unconstitutional.
Confederate States of America	This was a nation formed by the eleven states that seceded from the U.S. in late 1860 and 1861. (The U.S. claimed the secession was illegal, and the U.S., as well as other nations, did not officially recognize the C.S.A.'s right to exist.)
Confederation	This is a union of states where, generally, the member states retain their sovereignty and where the unifying government (central government) may suggest national policies but is unable to force those policies upon the member states.
Conscription	This means to force men of a certain age to serve in the armed forces.

Copperhead	This is a Northerner who believed that the South had the right to seceded and opposed military methods to force the South's return to the U.S.
Draft	This is a law requiring men of a certain age to serve in the armed forces.
Emancipate	This means to set free.
Emancipation Proclamation (1863)	This is a declaration by President Lincoln freeing all slaves in the Confederacy.
excise tax	This is a tax on goods made or sold within a country.
Federation	This is a union of smaller political units, such as states, into a single nation wherein the national government exercises major powers, but the states maintain certain powers and rights.
Greenbacks	This is paper money printed during the Civil War which was not backed by specie (gold or silver).
Habeas Corpus, Writ of	This is a court order requiring police to bring before the court a person in custody to determine if that person is being held legally.
Inflation	This is a rise in the price of goods often associated with an increase of money in circulation.
Insurrection	This is a revolt against established authority.
Ironclad	This is a warship of the Civil War period whose wooden hull or frame was covered with thick plates of iron.
Laissez-Faire	This is the idea that government should not interfere with private business.
Malice	This is the desire to harm others.
"Merrimack"	This is the ironclad warship (the first in history) used by the South in an attempt to ram and sink wooden warships of the U.S. Navy that were blockading the South's coast. (It sunk soon after a battle in 1862 with the "Monitor.")
Mine, Underwater	This is a device designed to explode when it makes contact with a ship.
"Monitor"	This was the ironclad warship of the Union which engaged the South's ironclad, the "Merrimack," in 1862 and prevented it from sinking the Union's wooden ships.
Monroe Doctrine (1823)	This was a declaration by President Monroe stating that the U.S. opposed further colonization of the

American continents and that the U.S. would continue its policy of neutrality toward Europe.

Platform, Party

This is the goals of a political party.
puppet government: a government whose officials are controlled by the government of another nation.

Radical Republicans

This is a members of the Republican Party who wanted to punish strictly the southern states and their rebel leaders after the Civil War.

Reconstruction (1865-1877)

This is the period after the Civil War when southern states were forced to change their political systems before their full rights and powers as states were restored.

Republican Party

This is a political party formed in 1854. It's major goal of which was to block the expansion of slavery into the territories.

Secede

This means to withdraw from or leave an organization.

Sectionalism

This is a sense of loyalty to one's section of the country instead of to the nation as a whole.

Siege

This is the surrounding and bombarding of a fortified place by an enemy force with the intent of forcing its surrender.

Strategy

This is a plan of action such as a plan for winning a war.

Tactics

This is the military science of moving and placing armed forces with the intent of winning a battle.

Tariff

This is a tax on imported goods.

Union

This is the name given to that part of the U.S. which did not secede during the Civil War.

Black Codes

These were laws which southern state legislatures passed immediately after the Civil War which deprived blacks of rights such as the right to vote and own a gun.

"bloody shirt, waving the"

This was an expression used to describe the Republican campaign tactic of blaming Democrats for causing the Civil War and supporting a lenient reconstruction plan.

Carpetbaggers

This is the name for Northerners who went to the South after the Civil War to participate in reconstruction governments and other post-war developments.

Civil Liberties

These are personal freedoms such as the freedom of speech and religion.

Civil Rights	These are rights of U.S. citizens such as the right to equal treatment under the law.
Civil Rights Act of 1866:	This was a law designed to guarantee black equality with whites and authorized the use of federal troops for its enforcement.
Due Process of Law	These are the legal steps which must be taken to ensure that a defendant receives a fair trial.
Fifteenth Amendment (1870)	This is a constitutional amendment which prohibited federal or state governments from denying citizens the right to vote on account of race, color, or condition of previous servitude.
Fourteenth Amendment (1868)	This is a constitutional amendment which granted citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the U.S. and forbade states from denying citizens of equal protection of the laws.
Freedmen	These were former slaves who had been set free during or after the Civil War.
Freedmen's Bureau	This was a government organization which helped freed slaves after the Civil War.
Impeach	This means to accuse a President or other high government official of crimes which, if found guilty, would lead to his or her removal from office.
Jim Crow Laws	These are laws passed by southern state governments which segregated blacks from whites in schools, parks, and other public places.
Ku Klux Klan	This was a secret organization formed in the South after the Civil War which terrorized blacks in order to keep them from voting or otherwise exercising their right to equality.
Land-Grant Colleges	These were agricultural and mechanical colleges set up by states with the aid of land grants from the federal government.
"Milligan, Ex parte"	This is a case in which the Supreme Court declared that military rule and military courts could not be imposed on citizens if civilian government and courts are still operating.
Morrill Act (1862)	This was a law granting states which were loyal to the union federal lands which could be used to support founding agricultural and mechanical (engineering) colleges.
Pardon	This means being released or excused from punishment without acquittal.
Radical Republicans	These were members of the Republican Party who wanted

Reconstruction (1865-1877)	to strictly punish the southern states and their rebel leaders for their actions during the Civil War and at the same time protect the rights of freedmen. This was the process of reorganizing and reforming southern state governments after the Civil War and then rejoining them to the Union.
Reconstruction Act of 1867	This was a law which established military rule in the defeated South and required southern states to grant full rights to blacks before they would be fully readmitted to the Union.
Scalawag	This was the name given to a white Southerner who supported Radical reconstruction of the South and joined with blacks and carpetbaggers in reconstruction governments.
Secede	This means to withdraw from or leave an organization.
Segregation	This is the process of separation of one race of people from another in schools, parks, housing, and other facilities.
Sharecropper	This is a tenant farmer who pays his landlord a share of his crops as rent.
Ten Percent Plan	This was President Lincoln's plan of allowing Southerners to reestablish state governments as soon as 10 percent of the voters took an oath of allegiance to the U.S.
Tenant Farmers	These were farmers who rented the land they farmed.
Tenure of Office Act (1867)	This was a law which forbade the President from firing officials who had originally been confirmed by the Senate unless the Senate first consented to the dismissal.
Thirteenth Amendment (1865)	This is a constitutional amendment which abolished slavery in the United States.
Vagrancy	This is the act of wandering from place to place without money or work.
Missouri Compromise	This was the agreement that ended the debate over whether Missouri should be admitted as a slave state or a free state (either one would disrupt the balance of power). To resolve the debate, (a) Missouri was admitted as a slave state and Maine as a free state, and (b) the southern boundary of Missouri, 36°30'N, would become the dividing line for any new states admitted to the Union. All new states north of that line would be free states, while those to the south would be slave states.
Compromise of 1850	In this agreement, Congress would admit California as

a free state, the unorganized territory of the West would be admitted as free territory, but the Utah and New Mexico Territories would be open to slavery by popular sovereignty.

Fugitive Slave Laws

This group of laws mandated that northern states forcibly return slaves to in the South; these laws were very unpopular in the North. Popular sovereignty – as applied to slavery, popular sovereignty meant that the people living in the area would vote on whether or not to allow slavery.

Jefferson Davis

This was a Mississippi Congressman who was a strong supporter of slavery and states' rights; became the first president of the Confederacy although he had opposed secession

Neutrality

This means taking neither one side nor the other Charles Sumner a Republican Senator from Massachusetts who opposed the violence of the proslavery forces in Kansas. After criticizing Senator Andrew Butler from Kansas, Butler's nephew beat Sumner with a cane so severely that he could not appear on the floor of the Senate for three years.

Tariff

This is a tax levied on foreign companies bringing products into the United States to sell them.

John Brown

This person took his fierce abolitionist ideas to the South where he hoped to arm slaves and lead them in a rebellion. One night he led a band of followers to seize an arsenal (a place for making or storing weapons and munitions) at Harper's Ferry, Virginia; he was captured by federal troops, found guilty of treason, and hung.

Stephen Douglas

This persona ran against and debated Abraham Lincoln for a Senate seat in Illinois. In a series of public debates, their verbal skills and the importance of the issues argued brought attention to this local election, and to the little-known Lincoln.

Kansas-Nebraska Act

This law allowed the previously free and unorganized territories of Kansas and Nebraska to choose whether or not to permit slavery. This act inflamed the smoldering slavery question by, in effect, repealing the Missouri Compromise.

Bleeding Kansas

Kansas became known as "Bleeding Kansas" as armed clashes between pro-slavery forces and abolitionist settlers became commonplace.

West Virginia

The western counties of this state were often in conflict with the rest of the state regarding the issues of the 1800's. When Virginia seceded, the counties in western Virginia protested and formed a

	separate government loyal to the Union. In 1863, this group of counties became known as West Virginia.
Montgomery, Alabama	This city was the capitol of the Confederate States of America.
Confederate States of America	This was the name of the new union formed from the seven states that seceded from the Union; the delegates formed a new constitution with a stronger emphasis on states' rights.
Secede	This means to leave the Union.
Winston County, Alabama	The people in this region were the poorest and least tied to the slave dominated economy of southern Alabama. They drafted a resolution to the governor stating their neutrality; however, Confederates in the area interpreted this to mean that they were siding with the North. Many fled into the mountains as soldiers began confiscating their property.
Dred Scott Decision	This Supreme Court case involved a lawsuit filed by a slave who's master had moved to a free state. The slave claimed that he should be declared free. The slave lost the case. The ruling established that slave owners had the right to bring slaves into free territories and states; further, the federal government would protect that right, including bringing runaway slaves back to their masters.
Anaconda Plan	This was a plan to compel the Southern states to rejoin the Union; its aim was to (a) invade the South, (b) destroy the South's ability to wage war, and (c) lower morale of the South so the South would no longer fight.
Northwest Territory	This area was made up of what is now Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Washington, and part of Minnesota, it was far from the eastern markets that brought its grain and cattle. It relied on internal improvements to transport its goods, so it supported the Northeast's demands for high tariffs.
Fort Sumter	The attack at this location by Confederate soldiers began the Civil War.
President Buchanan	This president blamed the abolitionists and the North's unrelenting agitation against the South for the critical condition of the nation. He chose a course of inaction because (a) violence toward the South would precipitate war, (b) other compromise efforts needed time to develop, (c) Republicans could resolve the situation as they wished, and (d) he had inadequate military forces to defend federal property. He did not recognize the Confederacy as a new nation.
Martial law	This term means military rule.

Radicals	These were the Republicans who called for strict readmission standards and vigorous restructuring of the South.
Emancipation Proclamation	This act freed the slaves in the Confederate states while maintaining slavery in the border states loyal to the Union.
John Wilkes Booth	This person was a Confederate sympathizer who killed Abraham Lincoln by shooting him in the back of the head during a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C.
Sherman's March to the Sea	For this infamous march, Sherman hand-picked 60,000 soldiers to destroy everything in a 60 mile-wide path from Chattanooga, Tennessee, to Atlanta, to Savannah, Georgia. Sherman's March and the burning of Atlanta broke the spirit of the Confederates creating bitterness and tension between the North and the South that exist to some degree even today.
Sharecroppers	These were people who would farm a piece of land for the landowner and pay him for the seed, land, and materials with a portion of the crop.
Black Codes	These were a series of codes passed by state governments in the South that while securing basic rights for blacks, they in effect, made blacks second-class citizens. For example, blacks could not own weapons, meet together after sundown, or marry whites.
Recession	This is an economic downturn characterized by higher unemployment
Robert E. Lee	This man was a brilliant Southern general who planned an invasion of the North, but his battle strategies fell into the hands of a northern soldier. As a result, Lee met a larger force of Union soldiers than he had anticipated. The battle at Antietam Creek, Maryland is considered the bloodiest one-day battle in the history of the United States.
Impeach	This means to removal from office.
Compromise of 1877	This political agreement ended Reconstruction. There was some debate over who won that presidential election: Samuel Tilden (Democrat) or Rutherford B. Hayes (Republican). In order to keep the peace, the Democrats said they would let Hayes win if Republicans would end Reconstruction.
Ulysses S. Grant	This man was a Union general who ignored advice to retreat from the Vicksburg area and began a bold siege of General Pemberton's Confederate forces at Vicksburg for almost two months. On the fourth of July, his forces conquered the city. Consequently, the

Mississippi River came under the control of the Union.

Reconstruction Act

This was an important piece of legislation. Its main features were (a) with the exception of Tennessee, which had ratified the 14th Amendment, all former Confederate states would be administered as five military districts, (b) Southern states would not be readmitted until they ratified the 14th Amendment, (c) black citizens must be granted the right to vote, and (d) former Confederate officials could not hold public office.

Homestead Act

This piece of legislation stated that anyone who would agree to cultivate 160 acres of land for five years would receive title to that land from the federal government. This Act greatly accelerated the settlement of the West until the 1930s.

Freedman's Bureau

This bureau was intended to aid both blacks and whites, but it served mostly blacks. The bureau provided clothing and surplus army food, five million dollars and agents to organize schools for black children and adults, medical care for over one million people, and agents to find work for freedmen and prevent exploitation. Some Southerners saw the Bureau as a Republican effort to help blacks at the expense of whites.

Gettysburg Address

This was a speech given by Abraham Lincoln which affirmed his belief in democracy and his desire to see the warring nation reunited in peace.

Scalawags

This was a term given to southerners who supported Reconstruction.

Carpetbaggers

This was a term given to people who came from the North to do business in the South.

Morrill Land Grant Act

This piece of legislation allotted each state thousands of acres of land based on the number of senators and representatives. Each state was required to use this land to fund at least one public university. The money generated from this Act formed the foundation for the public university system that exists today in the United States.

African Methodist

This was a new all-black church to which free blacks in the Northern Episcopal Church had the choice of going to escape discrimination. Because slave traders often sold family members to different owners, church became the most important social and cultural outlet available to them.

Jim Crow Laws

These laws, which remained in effect until the 1950's, required blacks and whites to use separate facilities in restaurants, hospitals, railroads, schools, and street cars. They also imposed literacy tests and

poll taxes which prevented blacks from voting, despite the 15th Amendment.

Rutherford B. Hayes

(see the Compromise of 1877)

Drafted

This means to be forced to serve in the military; also called conscription

Habeas Corpus

This law guaranteed that a person could not be imprisoned without appearing in court. President Lincoln suspended this right during the Civil War.

Timeline for

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November 6, 1860 - Abraham Lincoln, who had declared "Government cannot endure permanently half slave, half free..." is elected president, the first Republican, receiving 180 of 303 possible electoral votes and 40 percent of the popular vote.

Dec 20, 1860 - South Carolina secedes from the Union. Followed within two months by Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas.

Auction and Negro sales, Atlanta, Georgia.

1861

Feb 9, 1861 - The Confederate States of America is formed with Jefferson Davis, a West Point graduate and former U.S. Army officer, as president.

March 4, 1861 - Abraham Lincoln is sworn in as 16th President of the United States of America.

Fort Sumter Attacked

April 12, 1861 - At 4:30 a.m. Confederates under Gen. Pierre Beauregard open fire with 50 cannons upon Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina. The Civil War begins.

Fort Sumter after its capture, showing damage from the Rebel bombardment of over 3000 shells and now flying the Rebel "Stars and Bars" - April 14, 1861.

April 15, 1861 - President Lincoln issues a Proclamation calling for 75,000 militiamen, and summoning a special session of Congress for July 4.

Robert E. Lee, son of a Revolutionary War hero, and a 25 year distinguished veteran of the United States Army and former Superintendent of West Point, is offered command of the Union Army. Lee declines.

April 17, 1861 - Virginia secedes from the Union, followed within five weeks by Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina, thus forming an eleven state Confederacy with a population of 9 million, including nearly 4 million slaves. The Union will soon have 21 states and a population of over 20 million.

Map of Allegiances of the States - 1861.

April 19, 1861 - President Lincoln issues a Proclamation of Blockade against Southern ports. For the duration of the war the blockade limits the ability of the rural South to stay well supplied in its war against the industrialized North.

April 20, 1861 - Robert E. Lee resigns his commission in the United States Army. "I cannot raise my hand against my birthplace, my home, my children." Lee then goes to Richmond, Virginia, is offered command of the military and naval forces of Virginia, and accepts.

July 4, 1861 - Lincoln, in a speech to Congress, states the war is..."a People's contest...a struggle for maintaining in the world, that form, and substance of government, whose leading object is, to elevate the condition of men..." The Congress authorizes a call for 500,000 men.

First Bull Run

July 21, 1861 - The Union Army under Gen. Irvin McDowell suffers a defeat at Bull Run 25 miles southwest of Washington. Confederate Gen. Thomas J. Jackson earns the nickname "Stonewall," as his

brigade resists Union attacks. Union troops fall back to Washington. President Lincoln realizes the war will be long. "It's damned bad," he comments.

Ruins of the Stone Bridge over which Northern forces retreated until it was blown up by a Rebel shell adding to the panic of the retreat, with the Federals returning to Washington as "a rain-soaked mob."

July 27, 1861 - President Lincoln appoints George B. McClellan as Commander of the Department of the Potomac, replacing McDowell.

McClellan tells his wife, "I find myself in a new and strange position here: President, cabinet, Gen. Scott, and all deferring to me. By some strange operation of magic I seem to have become the power of the land."

Sept 11, 1861 - President Lincoln revokes Gen. John C. Frémont's unauthorized military proclamation of emancipation in Missouri. Later, the president relieves Gen. Frémont of his command and replaces him with Gen. David Hunter.

Nov 1, 1861 - President Lincoln appoints McClellan as general-in-chief of all Union forces after the resignation of the aged Winfield Scott. Lincoln tells McClellan, "...the supreme command of the Army will entail a vast labor upon you." McClellan responds, "I can do it all."

Nov 8, 1861 - The beginning of an international diplomatic crisis for President Lincoln as two Confederate officials sailing toward England are seized by the U.S. Navy. England, the leading world power, demands their release, threatening war. Lincoln eventually gives in and orders their release in December. "One war at a time," Lincoln remarks.

1862

Jan 31, 1862 - President Lincoln issues General War Order No. 1 calling for all United States naval and land forces to begin a general advance by Feb 22, George Washington's birthday.

Feb 6, 1862 - Victory for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant in Tennessee, capturing Fort Henry, and ten days later Fort Donelson. Grant earns the nickname "Unconditional Surrender" Grant.

Feb 20, 1862 - President Lincoln is struck with grief as his beloved eleven-year-old son, Willie, dies from fever, probably caused by polluted drinking water in the White House.

March 8/9, 1862 - The Confederate Ironclad 'Merrimac' sinks two wooden Union ships then battles the Union Ironclad 'Monitor' to a draw. Naval warfare is thus changed forever, making wooden ships obsolete. Engraving of the Battle

The Monitor at dock, showing damage from the battle.

In March - The Peninsular Campaign begins as McClellan's Army of the Potomac advances from Washington down the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay to the peninsular south of the Confederate Capital of Richmond, Virginia then begins an advance toward Richmond.

President Lincoln temporarily relieves McClellan as general-in-chief and takes direct command of the Union Armies.

Shiloh

April 6/7, 1862 - Confederate surprise attack on Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's unprepared troops at Shiloh on the Tennessee River results in a bitter struggle with 13,000 Union killed and wounded and 10,000 Confederates, more men than in all previous American wars combined. The president is then pressured to relieve Grant but resists. "I can't spare

this man; he fights," Lincoln says.

- April 24, 1862 - 17 Union ships under the command of Flag Officer David Farragut move up the Mississippi River then take New Orleans, the South's greatest seaport. Later in the war, sailing through a Rebel mine field Farragut utters the famous phrase "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!"
- May 31, 1862 - The Battle of Seven Pines as Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's Army attacks McClellan's troops in front of Richmond and nearly defeats them. But Johnston is badly wounded.
- June 1, 1862 - Gen. Robert E. Lee assumes command, replacing the wounded Johnston. Lee then renames his force the Army of Northern Virginia. McClellan is not impressed, saying Lee is "likely to be timid and irresolute in action."
- June 25-July 1 - The Seven Days Battles as Lee attacks McClellan near Richmond, resulting in very heavy losses for both armies. McClellan then begins a withdrawal back toward Washington.
- Young Georgia Private Edwin Jennison, killed in the Seven Days Battles at Malvern Hill - the face of a lost generation.
- July 11, 1862 - After four months as his own general-in-chief, President Lincoln hands over the task to Gen. Henry W. (Old Brains) Halleck.
- Second Battle of Bull Run
- Aug 29/30, 1862 - 75,000 Federals under Gen. John Pope are defeated by 55,000 Confederates under Gen. Stonewall Jackson and Gen. James Longstreet at the second battle of Bull Run in northern Virginia. Once again the Union Army retreats to Washington. The president then relieves Pope.
- Sept 4-9, 1862 - Lee invades the North with 50,000 Confederates and heads for Harpers Ferry, located 50 miles northwest of Washington.
- The Union Army, 90,000 strong, under the command of McClellan, pursues Lee.
- Antietam
- Sept 17, 1862 - The bloodiest day in U.S. military history as Gen. Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Armies are stopped at Antietam in Maryland by McClellan and numerically superior Union forces. By nightfall 26,000 men are dead, wounded, or missing. Lee then withdraws to Virginia.
- Confederate dead by the fence bordering Farmer Miller's 40 acre Cornfield at Antietam where the intense rifle and artillery fire cut every corn stalk to the ground "as closely as could have been done with a knife."
- Sept 22, 1862 - Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation freeing slaves issued by President Lincoln.
- President Lincoln visits Gen. George McClellan at Antietam, Maryland - October, 1862
- Nov 7, 1862 - The president replaces McClellan with Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside as the new Commander of the Army of the Potomac. Lincoln had grown impatient with McClellan's slowness to follow up on the success at Antietam, even telling him, "If you don't want to use the army, I should like to borrow it for a while."
- Fredericksburg
- Dec 13, 1862 - Army of the Potomac under Gen. Burnside suffers a costly defeat at Fredericksburg in Virginia with a loss of 12,653 men after 14 frontal assaults on well entrenched Rebels on Marye's Heights. "We might as well have tried to take hell," a Union soldier remarks. Confederate losses are 5,309.
- "It is well that war is so terrible - we should grow too fond of it," states Lee during the fighting.

1863

- Jan 1, 1863 - President Lincoln issues the final Emancipation Proclamation freeing all slaves in territories held by Confederates and emphasizes the enlisting of black soldiers in the Union Army. The war to preserve the Union now becomes a revolutionary struggle for the abolition of slavery.
- Jan 25, 1863 - The president appoints Gen. Joseph (Fighting Joe) Hooker as Commander of the Army of the Potomac, replacing Burnside.
- Jan 29, 1863 - Gen. Grant is placed in command of the Army of the West, with orders to capture Vicksburg.
- March 3, 1863 - The U.S. Congress enacts a draft, affecting male citizens aged 20 to 45, but also exempts those who pay \$300 or provide a substitute. "The blood of a poor man is as precious as that of the wealthy," poor Northerners complain.

Chancellorsville

- May 1-4, 1863 - The Union Army under Gen. Hooker is decisively defeated by Lee's much smaller forces at the Battle of Chancellorsville in Virginia as a result of Lee's brilliant and daring tactics. Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson is mortally wounded by his own soldiers. Hooker retreats. Union losses are 17,000 killed, wounded and missing out of 130,000. The Confederates, 13,000 out of 60,000.
- "I just lost confidence in Joe Hooker," said Hooker later about his own lack of nerve during the battle.
- Confederate soldiers at the Sunken Road, killed during the fighting around Chancellorsville.
- May 10, 1863 - The South suffers a huge blow as Stonewall Jackson dies from his wounds, his last words, "Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees."

"I have lost my right arm," Lee laments.

- June 3, 1863 - Gen. Lee with 75,000 Confederates launches his second invasion of the North, heading into Pennsylvania in a campaign that will soon lead to Gettysburg.
- June 28, 1863 - President Lincoln appoints Gen. George G. Meade as commander of the Army of the Potomac, replacing Hooker. Meade is the 5th man to command the Army in less than a year.

Gettysburg

- July 1-3, 1863 - The tide of war turns against the South as the Confederates are defeated at the Battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania.
- Read about the Battle of Gettysburg - Battlefield Photos
Union soldiers on the Battlefield at Gettysburg.
- July 4, 1863 - Vicksburg, the last Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River, surrenders to Gen. Grant and the Army of the West after a six week siege. With the Union now in control of the Mississippi, the Confederacy is effectively split in two, cut off from its western allies.
- July 13-16, 1863 - Antidraft riots in New York City include arson and the murder of blacks by poor immigrant whites. At least 120 persons, including children, are killed and \$2 million in damage caused, until Union soldiers returning from Gettysburg restore order.
- July 18, 1863 - 'Negro troops' of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment under Col. Robert G. Shaw assault fortified Rebels at Fort Wagner, South Carolina. Col. Shaw and half of the 600 men in the regiment are killed.
- Aug 10, 1863 - The president meets with abolitionist Frederick Douglass who pushes for

full equality for Union 'Negro troops.'

Aug 21, 1863 - At Lawrence, Kansas, pro-Confederate William C. Quantrill and 450 proslavery followers raid the town and butcher 182 boys and men.

Chickamauga

Sept 19/20, 1863 - A decisive Confederate victory by Gen. Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee at Chickamauga leaves Gen. William S. Rosecrans' Union Army of the Cumberland trapped in Chattanooga, Tennessee under Confederate siege.

Oct 16, 1863 - The president appoints Gen. Grant to command all operations in the western theater.

Nov 19, 1863 - President Lincoln delivers a two minute Gettysburg Address at a ceremony dedicating the Battlefield as a National Cemetery.

Page one of Gettysburg Address in Lincoln's handwriting

Page two of Gettysburg Address in Lincoln's handwriting

Lincoln among the crowd at Gettysburg - Nov 19, 1863

Chattanooga

Nov 23-25, 1863 - The Rebel siege of Chattanooga ends as Union forces under Grant defeat the siege army of Gen. Braxton Bragg. During the battle, one of the most dramatic moments of the war occurs. Yelling "Chickamauga! Chickamauga!" Union troops avenge their previous defeat at Chickamauga by storming up the face of Missionary Ridge without orders and sweep the Rebels from what had been though to be an impregnable position. "My God, come and see 'em run!" a Union soldier cries.

1864

March 9, 1864 - President Lincoln appoints Gen. Grant to command all of the armies of the United States. Gen. William T. Sherman succeeds Grant as commander in the west.

May 4, 1864 - The beginning of a massive, coordinated campaign involving all the Union Armies. In Virginia, Grant with an Army of 120,000 begins advancing toward Richmond to engage Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, now numbering 64,000, beginning a war of attrition that will include major battles at the Wilderness (May 5-6), Spotsylvania (May 8-12), and Cold Harbor (June 1-3).

In the west, Sherman, with 100,000 men begins an advance toward Atlanta to engage Joseph E. Johnston's 60,000 strong Army of Tennessee.

A council of war with Gen. Grant leaning over the shoulder of Gen. Meade looking at a map, planning the Cold Harbor assault.

Cold Harbor

June 3, 1864 - A costly mistake by Grant results in 7,000 Union casualties in twenty minutes during an offensive against fortified Rebels at Cold Harbor in Virginia.

Many of the Union soldiers in the failed assault had predicted the outcome, including a dead soldier from Massachusetts whose last entry in his diary was, "June 3, 1864, Cold Harbor, Virginia. I was killed."

June 15, 1864 - Union forces miss an opportunity to capture Petersburg and cut off the Confederate rail lines. As a result, a nine month siege of Petersburg begins with Grant's forces surrounding Lee.

The 13-inch Union mortar "Dictator" mounted on a railroad flatcar at Petersburg. Its 200-pound shells had a range of over 2 miles.

July 20, 1864 - At Atlanta, Sherman's forces battle the Rebels now under the command of Gen. John B. Hood, who replaced Johnston.

Aug 29, 1864 - Democrats nominate George B. McClellan for president to run against Republican incumbent Abraham Lincoln.

Sept 2, 1864 - Atlanta is captured by Sherman's Army. "Atlanta is ours, and fairly won," Sherman telegraphs Lincoln. The victory greatly helps President Lincoln's bid for re-election.

Oct 19, 1864 - A decisive Union victory by Cavalry Gen. Philip H. Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley over Jubal Early's troops.

Nov 8, 1864 - Abraham Lincoln is re-elected president, defeating Democrat George B. McClellan. Lincoln carries all but three states with 55 percent of the popular vote and 212 of 233 electoral votes. "I earnestly believe that the consequences of this day's work will be to the lasting advantage, if not the very salvation, of the country," Lincoln tells supporters.

March to the Sea

Nov 15, 1864 - After destroying Atlanta's warehouses and railroad facilities, Sherman, with 62,000 men begins a March to the Sea. President Lincoln on advice from Grant approved the idea. "I can make Georgia howl!" Sherman boasts.

Dec 15/16, 1864 - Hood's Rebel Army of 23,000 is crushed at Nashville by 55,000 Federals including Negro troops under Gen. George H. Thomas. The Confederate Army of Tennessee ceases as an effective fighting force.

Dec 21, 1864 - Sherman reaches Savannah in Georgia leaving behind a 300 mile long path of destruction 60 miles wide all the way from Atlanta. Sherman then telegraphs Lincoln, offering him Savannah as a Christmas present.

1865

Jan 31, 1865 - The U.S. Congress approves the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, to abolish slavery. The amendment is then submitted to the states for ratification.

Feb 3, 1865 - A peace conference occurs as President Lincoln meets with Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens at Hampton Roads in Virginia, but the meeting ends in failure - the war will continue.

Only Lee's Army at Petersburg and Johnston's forces in North Carolina remain to fight for the South against Northern forces now numbering 280,000 men.

March 4, 1865 - Inauguration ceremonies for President Lincoln in Washington. "With malice toward none; with charity for all...let us strive on to finish the work we are in...to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations," Lincoln says.

March 25, 1865 - The last offensive for Lee's Army of Northern Virginia begins with an attack on the center of Grant's forces at Petersburg. Four hours later the attack is broken.

At Petersburg, Virginia, well supplied Union soldiers shown before Grant's spring offensive.

April 2, 1865 - Grant's forces begin a general advance and break through Lee's lines at Petersburg. Confederate Gen. Ambrose P. Hill is killed. Lee evacuates Petersburg. The Confederate Capital, Richmond, is evacuated. Fires and looting break out. The next day, Union troops enter and raise the Stars and Stripes.

April 4, 1865 - President Lincoln tours Richmond where he enters the Confederate White House. With "a serious, dreamy expression," he sits at the desk of Jefferson Davis for a few moments.

Lee Surrenders

- April 9, 1865 - Gen. Robert E. Lee surrenders his Confederate Army to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at the village of Appomattox Court House in Virginia. Grant allows Rebel officers to keep their sidearms and permits soldiers to keep horses and mules.
- "After four years of arduous service marked by unsurpassed courage and fortitude the Army of Northern Virginia has been compelled to yield to overwhelming numbers and resources," Lee tells his troops.
- General Lee surrendered in the parlor of this house.
Lee posed for this photo by Mathew Brady shortly after the surrender.
- April 10, 1865 - Celebrations break out in Washington.
Final portrait of a war weary president - April 10, 1865
Lincoln Shot
- April 14, 1865 - The Stars and Stripes is ceremoniously raised over Fort Sumter. That night, Lincoln and his wife Mary see the play "Our American Cousin" at Ford's Theater. At 10:13 p.m., during the third act of the play, John Wilkes Booth shoots the president in the head. Doctors attend to the president in the theater then move him to a house across the street. He never regains consciousness.
- April 15, 1865 - President Abraham Lincoln dies at 7:22 in the morning. Vice President Andrew Johnson assumes the presidency.
- April 18, 1865 - Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston surrenders to Sherman near Durham in North Carolina.
- Funeral Procession on Pennsylvania Ave. - April 19, 1865
- April 26, 1865 - John Wilkes Booth is shot and killed in a tobacco barn in Virginia.
- May 4, 1865 - Abraham Lincoln is laid to rest in Oak Ridge Cemetery, outside Springfield, Illinois.
- In May - Remaining Confederate forces surrender. The Nation is reunited as the Civil War ends. Over 620,000 Americans died in the war, with disease killing twice as many as those lost in battle. 50,000 survivors return home as amputees.
- A victory parade is held in Washington along Pennsylvania Ave. to help boost the Nation's morale - May 23/24, 1865.
- Dec 6, 1865 - The Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, passed by Congress on January 31, 1865, is finally ratified. Slavery is abolished.