

The Civil War

Grade 5 • SOCIAL-STUDIES • Students identify major causes, key battles, important developments, and outcomes of the American Civil War. • Standards: D2.His.1.3-5, D2.His.14.3-5

Answer each question about the causes, important events, and outcomes of the American Civil War. Write your answers in complete sentences when possible.

1. What was the central cause of the American Civil War?
2. What does the word 'secession' mean in relation to the Civil War?
3. Which side in the Civil War wanted to preserve slavery: the Union or the Confederacy?
4. What was the name of the first major battle of the Civil War, fought in Virginia in July 1861?
5. What important document did President Lincoln issue in 1863 that declared enslaved people in Confederate states to be free?
6. The Battle of Gettysburg in 1863 was a turning point in the Civil War. In which state was the Battle of Gettysburg fought?
7. Explain one way that disagreements between Northern and Southern states about slavery before the war led to sectional conflict.
8. Where did Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrender to Union General Ulysses S. Grant in April 1865, effectively ending the Civil War?
9. Which Constitutional amendment, passed after the Civil War, permanently abolished slavery throughout the entire United States?
10. Describe two important outcomes of the Civil War for the United States.

Answer Key — The Civil War

For the teacher / parent. Do not distribute with the worksheet.

1. Slavery (*The conflict over slavery and its expansion was the central cause of the Civil War.*)
2. When Southern states left the United States to form their own country (*Secession refers to states withdrawing from the Union.*)
3. The Confederacy (*The Confederate states fought to preserve slavery and their way of life based on it.*)
4. The Battle of Bull Run (also called First Manassas) (*This battle showed both sides that the war would be long and difficult.*)
5. The Emancipation Proclamation (*This changed the war's purpose to include ending slavery.*)
6. Pennsylvania (*Gettysburg is in Pennsylvania, where the Union army stopped the Confederate invasion of the North.*)
7. Northern and Southern states argued about whether slavery should be allowed in new western territories, which created tension between the regions. (*Accept answers describing economic differences, political power struggles, or debates about expanding slavery.*)
8. Appomattox Court House in Virginia (*This surrender marked the end of major fighting in the Civil War.*)
9. The 13th Amendment (*Ratified in 1865, this amendment made slavery illegal everywhere in the nation.*)
10. Slavery was abolished throughout the country, and the Union was preserved as one nation. (*Accept answers mentioning abolition of slavery, preservation of the Union, federal government power strengthened, or beginning of Reconstruction.*)