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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 provided 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 - Deep Thought

Name _____



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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.

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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 speculators 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.

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?

Topic Sentence – Frederick Douglass

Name:

Forming good topic sentences is crucial to writing successful reports. Below is the topic sentence of a body paragraph within a biography on Frederick Douglass. There are four detail sentences that should come after the topic sentence. First, choose the four from the series of sentences below and then, form the paragraph. Start the paragraph with the topic sentence below. There are three additional sentence from those below that should be included.

Topic Sentence: Frederick Douglass soon became one of the foremost voices in the abolitionist movement.

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.	
Douglass became a popular figure in Great Britain, where his lectures were "standing room only."	
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.	
After the assassination of President Lincoln, Douglass gave an impromptu speech at his memorial service.	
Douglass and others believed the US Constitution was an anti-slavery document, while William Lloyd Garrison believed it was a pro-slavery document.	

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.

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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.



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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.

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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?

- a. From Virginia >> Pennsylvania >> Maryland
- b. From Dover >> Pennsylvania >> Wilmington
- c. From Wilmington >> Pennsylvania >> Dover
- d. From Dover >> Wilmington >> Pennsylvania

4. When did Thomas Garrett devote his life to helping slaves?

- a. In 1870
- b. After he met Harriet Tubman
- c. In 1789
- d. After he helped a slave woman to freedom

5. Which of the following best matches Garrett's quote in the second paragraph?

- a. "Even though I don't have money, I'm willing to help slaves however I can."
- b. "Even though I don't have money, I'm very good at cooking breakfast."
- c. "Please send me any slaves who can help me with cooking breakfast."
- d. "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?

- a. The 15th Amendment probably ended the Civil War
- b. The 15th Amendment probably ended slavery
- c. The 15th Amendment probably ended freedom
- d. 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?

- a. He started the Underground Railroad
- b. 1,500 people came to his funeral
- c. He helped 2,700 people who were slaves become free
- d. He had befriended Harriet Tubman