

CIVIL WAR STUDY GUIDE

USI9.a

How did cultural, economical, and constitutional issues create bitter divisions between the North and the South?

Cultural, economic, and constitutional differences between the North and the South eventually resulted in the Civil War.

Issues that divided the nation

Slavery

- While there were several differences between the North and the South, the issues related to slavery increasingly divided the nation and led to the Civil War.

Cultural

- The North was mainly an urban society in which people held jobs.
- The South was primarily an agricultural society in which people lived in small villages and on farms and plantations.
- Because of their cultural differences, people of the North and South found it difficult to agree on social and political issues.

Economic

- The North was a manufacturing region, and its people favored tariffs that protected factory owners and workers from foreign competition.
- Southerners opposed tariffs that would cause prices of manufactured goods to increase. Planters were also concerned that England might stop buying cotton from the South if tariffs were added.

Constitutional

- A major conflict was states' rights versus strong central government.

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How did the issues of states' rights and slavery increase sectional tension between the North and South?

The South feared that the North would take control of Congress, and Southerners began to proclaim states' rights as a means of self-protection.

The North believed that the nation was a union and could not be divided. While the Civil War did not begin as a war to abolish slavery, issues surrounding slavery deeply divided the nation.

Issues that divided the nation

- An important issue separating the country related to the power of the Federal government. Southerners believed that they had the power to declare any national law illegal. Northerners believed that the national government's power was supreme over that of the states.
- Southerners felt that the abolition of slavery would destroy their region's economy. Northerners believed that slavery should be abolished for moral reasons.

Compromises attempting to resolve differences

- Missouri Compromise (1820): Missouri was a slave state; Maine, a free state.
- Compromise of 1850: California was a free state. Southwest territories would decide about slavery.
- Kansas-Nebraska Act: People decided the slavery issue ("popular sovereignty").

Southern secession

Following Lincoln's election, the southern states seceded from the Union. Confederate forces attacked Fort Sumter, in South Carolina, marking the beginning of the Civil War.

Lincoln and many Northerners believed that the United States was one nation that could not be separated or divided. Most Southerners believed that states had freely created and joined the union and could freely leave it.

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Which states seceded from the Union?

Southern states that were dependent upon labor-intensive cash crops seceded from the Union.

States that seceded from the Union

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Florida
- Georgia
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia

Which four slave states stayed in the Union?

Northernmost slave states (border states) stayed in the Union.

States remaining in the Union

- Border states (slave states)*
 - Delaware
 - Kentucky
 - Maryland
 - Missouri

Where were the other states that remained in the Union located?

States remaining in the Union

- Free States*
 - California
 - Connecticut
 - Illinois
 - Indiana
 - Iowa
 - Kansas
 - Maine
 - Massachusetts
 - Michigan
 - Minnesota
 - New Hampshire
 - New Jersey
 - New York
 - Ohio
 - Oregon
 - Pennsylvania
 - Rhode Island
 - Vermont
 - West Virginia
 - (Western counties of Virginia that refused to secede from the Union)
 - Wisconsin

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Who are considered leaders of the Civil War?

Lincoln and Lee were men who represented views of the nature of the United States that were very different, leading to an unavoidable conflict.

Roles of Civil War leaders

- **Abraham Lincoln**
 - Was President of the United States
 - Opposed the spread of slavery
 - Issued the Emancipation Proclamation
 - Determined to preserve the Union—by force if necessary
 - Believed the United States was one nation, not a collection of independent states
 - Wrote the *Gettysburg Address* that said the Civil War was to preserve a government “of the people, by the people, and for the people.”

- **Jefferson Davis**
 - Was president of the Confederate States of America

- **Ulysses S. Grant**
 - Was general of the Union army that defeated Lee

- **Robert E. Lee**
 - Was leader of the Army of Northern Virginia
 - Was offered command of the Union forces at the beginning of the war but chose not to fight against Virginia
 - Opposed secession, but did not believe the union should be held together by force
 - Urged Southerners to accept defeat at the end of the war and reunite as Americans when some wanted to fight on

- **Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson**
 - Was a skilled Confederate general from Virginia

- **Frederick Douglass**

Was a former slave who escaped to the North and became an abolitionist

How did Lincoln's view of the nature of the Union differ from Lee's?

- **Abraham Lincoln**
 - Determined to preserve the Union—by force if necessary
(see above)

- **Robert E. Lee**
 - Opposed secession, but did not believe the union should be held together by force
(see above)

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Where did critical events of the Civil War take place?

Where were the major battles fought?

Major battles and events

- The firing on **Fort Sumter, S.C.**, began the war.
- The first **Battle of Manassas (Bull Run)** was the first major battle.
- The signing of the **Emancipation Proclamation** made "freeing the slaves" the new focus of the war. Many freed slaves joined the Union army.
- The **Battle of Vicksburg** divided the South; the North controlled the Mississippi River.
- The **Battle of Gettysburg** was the turning point of the war; the North repelled Lee's invasion.
- Lee's surrender to Grant at **Appomattox Court House** in 1865 ended the war.

What are the ways location and topography influenced important developments in the war, including major battles?

Location and topography were critical elements influencing important developments in the Civil War, including major battles.

Influence of location and topography on critical developments in the war

- The Union blockade of southern ports (e.g., Savannah, Charleston, New Orleans)
- Control of the Mississippi River (e.g., Vicksburg)
- Battle locations influenced by the struggle to capture capital cities (e.g., Richmond; Washington, D.C.)
- Control of the high ground (e.g., Gettysburg)

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What hardships were experienced during the Civil War?

How did the Civil War change the lives of soldiers, women, and slaves?

General effects of the war

- Families and friends were often pitted against one another.
- Southern troops became increasingly younger and more poorly equipped and clothed.
- Much of the South was devastated at the end of the war (e.g., burning of Atlanta and Richmond).
- Disease was a major killer.
- Clara Barton, a Civil War nurse, created the American Red Cross.
- Combat was brutal and often man-to-man.
- Women were left to run businesses in the North and farms and plantations in the South.
- The collapse of the Confederacy made Confederate money worthless.

Effects of the war on African Americans

- African Americans fought in both the Confederate and Union armies.
- The Confederacy often used slaves as naval crewmembers and soldiers.
- The Union moved to enlist African American sailors early in the war.
- African American soldiers were paid less than white soldiers.
- African American soldiers were discriminated against and served in segregated units under the command of white officers.
- Robert Smalls, a sailor and later a Union naval captain, was highly honored for his feats of bravery and heroism. He became a Congressman after the Civil War.