Choices That Changed War

Read how people and events shaped the Civil War's end.

SS24.4.14 "Evaluate how key figures contributed to events that shaped the United States' victory in the Civil War. 14a Identify Alabama's economic and military contributions to the Civil War, including weapons manufacturing, soldiers..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle Farragut and Grant, then underline the actions each took that helped the United States win.

From Alabama to Appomattox

1. In 1861, Alabama joined the Confederacy, whose first capital was Montgomery. The United States kept Washington, D.C., as its capital. States such as Kentucky stayed loyal to the United States. Alabama factories made weapons, and Alabama soldiers fought for the Confederacy. Confederate officials also forced enslaved people to build defenses. Some resisted by escaping or slowing their work. Women at home grew food, nursed the wounded, and cared for families.

2. In August 1864, Union admiral David Farragut led ships into Mobile Bay, on Alabama's coast. Confederate forts and ships guarded the bay. Farragut kept his fleet moving under fire and won the Battle of Mobile Bay. This closed a major Confederate port to ships carrying supplies. Farther north, Union general Ulysses S. Grant kept pressure on Confederate armies, wearing down their forces and helping bring about a surrender.

3. Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, in April 1865. Other Confederate armies surrendered afterward. Lincoln's 1863 Emancipation Proclamation declared enslaved people in rebel areas free; Union advances helped make that freedom real. President Lincoln was assassinated days after Lee surrendered. By war's end, damaged railroads and war losses had left Alabama's economy in collapse. People in Alabama and other states celebrate emancipation, including on Juneteenth.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Farragut's choice during the Battle of Mobile Bay help the United States?

2. How did Grant's actions help bring about a Confederate surrender?

3. How did forced labor help Confederate defenses, and how did some enslaved people resist?

4. What two problems left Alabama's economy in collapse by war's end?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three- or four-sentence museum label comparing how Farragut and Grant helped the United States win. Use at least two facts from the passage, and explain which leader's contribution you think mattered more.

ANSWER KEY

Choices That Changed War

GRADE 4 · SS24.4.14

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle Farragut and Grant, then underline the actions each took that helped the United States win. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Farragut's choice during the Battle of Mobile Bay help the United States?	**He kept his fleet moving under fire and won the battle. The victory closed a Confederate port to ships carrying supplies.**
2	How did Grant's actions help bring about a Confederate surrender?	**Grant kept pressure on Confederate armies, wearing down their forces and helping bring about a surrender.**
3	How did forced labor help Confederate defenses, and how did some enslaved people resist?	**Confederate officials forced enslaved people to build defenses. Some resisted by escaping or slowing their work.**
4	What two problems left Alabama's economy in collapse by war's end?	**Damaged railroads and war losses left Alabama's economy in collapse.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Farragut kept his ships moving under fire at Mobile Bay and won a battle that closed a Confederate supply port. Grant kept pressure on Confederate armies and wore down their forces. Both actions made it harder for the Confederacy to keep fighting. I think Grant's contribution mattered more because his pressure helped bring about a surrender.

Accept either leader as the stronger choice in Part 3 if the student compares both contributions and supports the judgment with passage facts.