Many Ways to Serve

Trace how people and groups shaped the Civil War.

6-12.US1.41 "Explain the contributions of key historical figures and groups during the Civil War period, including, but not limited to: • Clara Barton • Belle Boyd • Harriet Beecher Stowe • Ely S..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline what each person or group did. Circle words that show which side they supported, then number two contributions that were not made on a battlefield.

A War Shaped by Many Hands

1 In a wartime hospital, supplies could matter as much as a speech or a battle plan. Clara Barton carried food, bandages, and other supplies to Union soldiers and cared for wounded men near battlefields. Before the fighting began, Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* had shown many readers the cruelty of slavery and strengthened antislavery feeling. Belle Boyd worked for the Confederacy instead. She gathered information about Union troops and passed it to Confederate commanders. These three women did not lead armies, but each affected how people understood, supported, or fought the war.

2 Military service opened another path to influence. The 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, made up of Black enlisted men and led by white officers, fought for the Union. Its costly 1863 attack on Fort Wagner challenged claims that Black soldiers would not fight bravely. Immigrants also served in both armies: German and Irish soldiers fought for the Union and for the Confederacy, so shared birthplace did not guarantee shared loyalty. Irish-born Thomas Francis Meagher led the Union's Irish Brigade. Another Irish-born officer, Patrick Cleburne, became a Confederate general. Late in the war, Cleburne proposed freeing enslaved men who joined Confederate forces, but Confederate leaders rejected his plan.

3 The war also divided Native nations and put their leaders on opposing sides. Ely S. Parker, a Seneca officer in the Union army, served on General Ulysses S. Grant's staff. At Appomattox in 1865, Parker wrote out the terms under which Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered. Stand Watie, a Cherokee leader and Confederate general, commanded Native troops for the Confederacy and surrendered after most Confederate forces had stopped fighting. Other Cherokees supported the Union. Parker and Watie show why a group's contribution cannot be described as one single choice: people from Native nations made different wartime decisions.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Clara Barton and Harriet Beecher Stowe contribute in different ways?

2. How did Belle Boyd's actions and Patrick Cleburne's proposal each aim to help the Confederacy?

3. How did the 54th Massachusetts's attack and Thomas Francis Meagher's leadership contribute to the Union war effort?

4. How do Ely S. Parker and Stand Watie show that Native people did not all support the same side?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a five- or six-sentence museum label about one person who did not lead troops, one military leader, and one group of soldiers from the passage. Explain each contribution, then show how their different roles shaped the war.

ANSWER KEY

Many Ways to Serve

GRADES 6-12 · 6-12.US1.41

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline what each person or group did. Circle words that show which side they supported, then number two contributions that were not made on a battlefield. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Clara Barton and Harriet Beecher Stowe contribute in different ways?	**Barton supplied and cared for wounded Union soldiers. Stowe's novel exposed slavery's cruelty and strengthened antislavery feeling.**
2	How did Belle Boyd's actions and Patrick Cleburne's proposal each aim to help the Confederacy?	**Boyd passed information about Union troops to Confederate commanders. Cleburne proposed gaining soldiers by freeing enslaved men who joined Confederate forces, though leaders rejected the plan.**
3	How did the 54th Massachusetts's attack and Thomas Francis Meagher's leadership contribute to the Union war effort?	**The 54th fought at Fort Wagner and challenged doubts about Black soldiers' bravery. Meagher led the Union's Irish Brigade.**
4	How do Ely S. Parker and Stand Watie show that Native people did not all support the same side?	**Parker served the Union and wrote out Lee's surrender terms. Watie commanded Native troops for the Confederacy.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Clara Barton brought supplies to Union troops and cared for wounded soldiers near battlefields. Stand Watie commanded Native troops for the Confederacy. The 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment fought for the Union, and its attack on Fort Wagner challenged doubts about Black soldiers' courage. Barton helped soldiers survive, while Watie directed fighters and the 54th showed what Black troops could do in battle. Their contributions show that care, leadership, and combat all shaped the war, even when people supported opposing sides.

Accept accurate paraphrases grounded in the passage. For the museum label, check that the three choices fit the requested roles and that the student explains how their contributions differed.