

From Secession to Freedom

Trace how conflict over slavery became a war with changing aims.

11.3c “Long-standing disputes over States rights and slavery and the secession of Southern states from the Union, sparked by the election of Abraham Lincoln, led to the Civil War. After the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation...”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a cause of war. Circle the change in Union aims. Mark one Union advantage and one human or physical cost.

A Nation at War

- ① By 1860, slavery’s future divided the United States. Southern secessionists defended slavery and claimed states could leave the Union to protect it. Many Northerners opposed slavery’s expansion without favoring immediate nationwide abolition. Lincoln’s election threatened slaveholding leaders’ political power. Seven states seceded before he took office; four more joined after war began. Confederate forces attacked Fort Sumter in April 1861. Secession over slavery became armed conflict.
- ② The Union initially fought chiefly to preserve the nation; the Confederacy sought independence protecting slavery. Wartime federal power expanded, including suspension of habeas corpus, a protection allowing people to challenge detention in court. Lincoln’s January 1, 1863, Emancipation Proclamation declared freedom in designated rebellious areas. It excluded loyal slave states and certain Union-controlled areas; enforcement depended on Union advances. It made emancipation a major Union aim and promoted Black military recruitment. Enslaved people also pursued freedom through escape, resistance, and assistance to Union forces.
- ③ The Union’s larger population, industrial capacity, rail network, and navy helped sustain armies and blockade Confederate ports. Confederate forces benefited from capable commanders and familiar ground but faced growing supply shortages. Resources, strategy, and military victories together helped the Union prevail in 1865; its advantages had not guaranteed victory. Hundreds of thousands of soldiers died. Families endured loss, while farms, homes, towns, and railroads suffered destruction, especially in the South.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What two connected issues had become major disputes by 1860, according to the passage?

2 How did Lincoln's election contribute to secession?

3 How did the Emancipation Proclamation change the Union's goals in the war?

4 Give two Union advantages and explain how one of them helped the North prevail.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

In three sentences, connect one cause of war, the change in a Union goal, and one human or physical impact.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline a cause of war. Circle the change in Union aims. Mark one Union advantage and one human or physical cost. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two connected issues had become major disputes by 1860, according to the passage?	Slavery and political power, including whether states could protect slavery from federal interference.
2	How did Lincoln's election contribute to secession?	Leaders in several Southern states believed Lincoln's election threatened their influence, so they seceded from the Union.
3	How did the Emancipation Proclamation change the Union's goals in the war?	It made destroying slavery, or freeing enslaved people in areas in rebellion, a major Union goal in addition to preserving the nation.
4	Give two Union advantages and explain how one of them helped the North prevail.	Answers may name population, factories, railroad mileage, or naval power. For example, railroad mileage helped the Union move supplies and weapons.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Disputes over slavery and the secession of Southern states after Lincoln's election led to war. The Emancipation Proclamation made freeing enslaved people a major Union aim alongside preserving the nation. Hundreds of thousands of soldiers died, and homes, farms, and transportation systems were devastated.

Accept accurate cause-and-effect explanations with all three elements. The proclamation did not immediately free everyone; military enforcement and enslaved people's own actions mattered.