

Economy at War

Compare Northern and Southern resources during the Civil War.

USI.9.b "describing the differences in the economies of the North and the South, growth of agriculture and industry, and how those economies impacted the outcome of the war;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline facts about the North's economy, circle facts about the South's economy, and write 1, 2, and 3 beside three ways economic differences affected the war. These marks will help you compare the regions and explain why the Union had an advantage.

Resources and the War

- ① Before and during the Civil War, the North and South had different economies. The North had many factories that made cloth, shoes, weapons, and other goods. It also had more railroads, cities, banks, and workers. Northern farms grew food, but industry was a major part of the region's economy. These resources gave the Union ways to equip and move its armies.
- ② The South depended mainly on agriculture. Large plantations grew cash crops, especially cotton and tobacco, for sale. Enslaved people were forced to do much of the labor that produced these crops. The South had fewer factories, railroads, and banks than the North. Because much of its wealth was tied to crops, the Confederacy found it harder to make weapons and other supplies.
- ③ During the war, the Union used its industrial strength, railroad network, and larger population to replace soldiers and supplies. A Union naval blockade also limited Southern trade with other countries. The Confederacy still produced food and had skilled soldiers, but it struggled to get enough manufactured goods and transport them. Over time, these economic differences helped the Union win the war.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How was the main focus of the North's economy different from the main focus of the South's economy?

2 Name two Northern resources that helped the Union equip or move its armies.

3 What did the Union naval blockade limit, and why did that hurt the Confederacy?

4 Why did the South's reliance on cash crops make it harder for the Confederacy to get weapons and other supplies?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly three sentences explaining how one Northern strength and one Southern economic limit affected the war. In your third sentence, state how these differences helped the Union over time.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline facts about the North's economy, circle facts about the South's economy, and write 1, 2, and 3 beside three ways economic differences affected the war. These marks will help you compare the regions and explain why the Union had an advantage. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How was the main focus of the North's economy different from the main focus of the South's economy?	The North had a major industrial economy with factories, while the South depended mainly on agriculture and cash crops.
2	Name two Northern resources that helped the Union equip or move its armies.	Factories and railroads. Accept other passage-supported resources, such as banks, workers, or a larger population.
3	What did the Union naval blockade limit, and why did that hurt the Confederacy?	The blockade limited Southern trade with other countries. This hurt the Confederacy because it made getting goods and supplies harder.
4	Why did the South's reliance on cash crops make it harder for the Confederacy to get weapons and other supplies?	Much of the South's wealth was tied to crops, and it had fewer factories to make weapons and other manufactured supplies.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The North could use factories to make uniforms and weapons. Its railroads could carry those supplies to soldiers. The South had fewer factories, so it was harder for the Confederacy to replace needed goods, which helped the Union over time.

Accept equivalent comparisons that accurately connect Northern industry, railroads, banks, workers, or population to Union advantages. For Part 3, check for exactly three sentences, one Northern strength, one Southern limit, and a clear connection to the Union's eventual advantage.