

## APUSH Civil War Review

[The Civil War, Part I: Crash Course US History #20](#)

[The Civil War, Part 2: Crash Course US History #21](#)

# The Civil War, Part I: Crash Course US History #20

**Instructions:** As you view the video (12 min.), please record notes on each of the following checking for understanding questions.

1. What was the death toll in the Civil War, and contrast it with all other U.S. wars?

Although it depends on the calculations, recent estimates indicate that the death toll in the Civil War is between 680,000 and 800,000 total casualties. This significantly high death toll shows that the Civil War was deadlier for American citizens than the American Revolution, World War I, World War II, and Vietnam War combined because more Americans died in the Civil War than in all those other wars combined.

2. What was the importance of three of the four border states?

The four Border States were Kentucky, Missouri, Delaware, and Maryland. These Border States remained slavery but never left the Union. The three important states among the four Border States were Kentucky, Missouri, and Maryland. First, Kentucky controlled the Ohio River, which acted as a major source of transporting troops and supplies for the Union army. Second, Missouri was the state that acted as a gateway to the west because it was an ideal location to go to the west as it connected the Ohio River, Mississippi River, and Missouri River. Finally, Maryland was north of the nation's capital in Washington, D.C, which was a critical location for the Union.

3. Copy Lincoln's quote. What was the war about, and what wasn't it as much about?

Lincoln said, "One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was, somehow, the cause of the war." This indicated that the war was about ending the Southern institution of slavery, not much about agriculture versus industry or states' rights versus the tyranny of a large federal government. If that was actually the reason for the Civil War, the Civil War should have occurred in 1830 during the Nullification Crisis, in which President Andrew Jackson directly said that South Carolina could not nullify a federal tariff within their state. Furthermore, the Confederate government passed the first conscription act in American history, implemented national taxes, created a national currency, and had 70,000 people in the government bureaucracy, which was more than the federal bureaucracy in Washington, D.C. Considering these factors, it is hard to claim that the Civil War occurred due to the Southerners' resentment to a strong federal government. Lincoln initially downplayed slavery, saying that the war was only about preserving the Union. However, as the Civil War progressed, religion and an end to slavery mixed together, which formed a potent rationale for the war. Therefore, the Civil War was about ending slavery within the United States.

4. List the Northern & Southern advantages going into the war.

The North had many advantages in the Civil War compared to the South. To begin with, the North had more population, of approximately 22 million, as compared to 9 million in the South, of whom 3.5 million were slaves that were unlikely to agree to the Southern cause. Second, the North manufactured more than 90% of all goods in America; its factories produced 17 times more textiles than the South, 30 times more shoes and boots, 13 times more iron, and 32 times more firearms, which were all critical for supplies used in war. Third, the North had 20,000 miles of railroad compared to the South's 10,000 miles of railroad, which enabled the North to transport its troops and supplies more effectively. Finally, the North even had more productive agriculture by taking greater advantage of mechanization than the Southern farmers did.

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The only advantage that the South had was better military leaders compared to the North. Famous figures during the Civil War, such as Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, J.E.B Stewart, etc, were all Southerners and fought for the Confederacy. The South had more well-trained generals with better tactics because the South usually had more war experience due to the Mexican War and frequent conflicts with the Native Americans in the past.

5. What were three problems the South had to overcome, and what was their strategy according to some?

One problem that the South had to overcome was that they had to create a nation from scratch and build national unity among the Southerners who were committed to the autonomy of their individual home states. So, they had hardships in creating unity as a newly established nation. The Confederates tried to solve this problem by having the central government regulate the nation's taxation and many political affairs during the Civil War. Another problem in the South was the issue of overcoming class conflicts because the ruling class of the South was often exempted from fighting in the battles. The third problem was that the South was excessively deprived of resources. Many Confederate leaders suggested a strategy for attempting to outlast Northern efforts to bring them back into the Union. However, this solution had two problems. First, the North had excessive superiority in manufacturing capacity compared to the South. Second, due to lacking manufacturing capabilities, the South's resources would be depleted long before the North's were depleted.

6. What does the Mystery document indicate, and what statistics at the Battles of The Wilderness and Cold Harbor support the document?

The Mystery document indicates that the author of this document was presumably a general of the Union. Although this document talks about attrition, which was widely used by Confederates, it talks about the enemy and his resources, which is what the Union focuses on. Furthermore, the document mentions preventing him from using the same force at different seasons. Finally, the Mystery document says that he would use the greatest number of troops practicable. Considering these factors, the author of this document would be Union General Ulysses S. Grant. Grant was different from previous Union generals because he was willing to sustain enormous casualties to end the Civil War. The statistics at the Battles of The Wilderness and Cold Harbor indicate that 41% (52,000 men) of Grant's army died or were injured, but Grant never halted his army's march. This supports that Grant was using the greatest number of troops practicable against the armed force of the South, as the Mystery document indicated.

7. What two arguments undermine the following statement? “. . . *some argue that the North had superior motivation to prosecute the war.*”

The first argument that undermines the statement above is that the motivation for the war to end slavery had minimal appeal to the ones who joined the Union army. Especially, the poor people also were afraid that the freed black slaves would compete with them for jobs. Therefore, it is difficult to say that the North's motivation was superior to that of the South. The second argument that undermines the statement above is that the Southerners also had a strong motivation that they were engaged in a war fighting for their freedom to own their “property.” Since the Confederates did not think slavery was unjust, they also had very high morale. As a result, when it comes to war, it would be more appropriate to say that victory is primarily determined by the number of turning points, not by motivation.

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8. Explain the two turning points in the war and their significance according to historian James McPherson.

One turning point of the Civil War was in July 1863. In July 1863, Union General Ulysses S. Grant sieged Vicksburg, Mississippi, and eventually captured it. This gave control of the Lower Mississippi River to the Union and enabled it to cut supplies of the Confederacy by blocking the Southern trade of cotton or any other supplies through the Lower Mississippi. Furthermore, after the Union won a victory in the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863 against Southern General Robert E. Lee, the Civil War was in the tide of the North. After this battle, the South turned to a defensive strategy and never again threatened a Northern city.

Another turning point of the Civil War was in August 1864. This turning point was the capture of Atlanta by Union General Sherman. Atlanta was a critical city for the Confederacy because it was a railroad hub and the manufacturing center of the South. Moreover, the capture of Atlanta happened close to the election of 1864, which was the last chance the Confederates could have won the Civil War. The capture of Atlanta by General Sherman changed the Northerners' views about Lincoln and finally made him a re-elected president. Therefore, August 1864 was the second turning point of the Civil War.

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# The Civil War, Part 2: Crash Course US History #21

**Instructions:** As you view the video (11 min.), please record notes on each of the following checking for understanding questions.

1. What are the arguments that Lincoln either did or did not free the slaves?

Abraham Lincoln did free the slaves because Lincoln supported the Thirteenth Amendment, which actually ended slavery in the United States. If it were not for Lincoln, the emancipation of black slaves might have occurred gradually or would have slowed down. However, his push for the Thirteenth Amendment freed the black slaves.	Abraham Lincoln did not free the slaves because his Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 was actually ostensible and ineffectual. The Proclamation freed black slaves in areas where the Union did not have jurisdiction, which was the area of the Confederacy. On the other hand, the Proclamation did not free the black slaves in the Border States, and some captured Southern lands, which were under the Union's jurisdiction. Therefore, since the Proclamation was just an ostensible act, Lincoln did not free the slaves.
Abraham Lincoln did free the slaves because he continued the Civil War to its conclusion and demanded the end of slavery and the return of the Southern states to the Union peacefully after the Civil War ended. Lincoln deserves credit for this because there were substantial calls in the North for an end to war and neglect of Southern secession and slavery. So, since he responsibly concluded the war, Lincoln did free the slaves.	Abraham Lincoln did not free the slaves because the Southern slaves actually freed themselves. The slaves ran away by themselves to routes like the Underground Railroads and escaped to the Union. Moreover, those freed slaves spontaneously joined the Union army and contributed to many battles during the war. Therefore, it was not Lincoln who freed the black slaves; it was actually the black slave themselves.
Abraham Lincoln did free the slaves because he fostered the idea that the Civil War was kind of a second American Revolution in the sense that the Union was fighting for the new birth of freedom and government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Since the "new birth of freedom" had religious significance and reflected the Second Great Awakening, it could definitely be claimed that Abraham Lincoln did free the black slaves under the Confederates.	Abraham Lincoln did not free the slaves because the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 was intended to halt Great Britain from aiding the Confederacy by making the Civil War a "war to end slavery," not to actually free the slaves immediately. Since Great Britain had already abolished slavery in the early 1800s, it was difficult for the British to aid the Confederacy as Lincoln claimed the Civil War as a "war to end slavery." Therefore, since Lincoln's intentions were to halt the European nation's aid of the South, he did not actually free the black slaves.

2. List the effects of the Emancipation Proclamation.

1) The Emancipation Proclamation gave a moral motivation to the Union. Before the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, the primary motivation of the Civil War to the Union was reuniting the nation by making the Confederate states return. However, after the Proclamation, the Union also gained a moral purpose of ending slavery in the United States under the name of God, which increased the morale of the Union.

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2) The Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 halted Great Britain and other European nations' attempts to aid the South during the Civil War. Great Britain was actually trying to help the South as its textile industry depended on Southern cotton. However, the Proclamation established a moral purpose that the Civil War was a war to end slavery, which made Great Britain unable to intervene against the Union, which was trying to morally free all black slaves.

3) The Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 also weakened the South as many black slaves escaped from their plantations, which undermined the labor of the South and devastated the Southern economy that heavily relied on slave labor.

3. Explain how in his famous Gettysburg Address, Abraham Lincoln fostered the idea that the Civil War was a kind of second American Revolution.

Abraham Lincoln fostered the idea that the Civil War was a kind of second American Revolution in his Gettysburg Address by indicating that the Union was fighting for a new birth of freedom, which depicts that he decided that abolishing slavery was the purpose of the Civil War. Furthermore, he claimed that the dead ones did not die in vain but had devoted themselves to resolving the nation's national conflict and creating a totally new nation with a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. The "new birth of freedom" also had religious significance touching the sentiments of the Second Great Awakening, which was the source of the abolitionist movement. Therefore, by claiming that the Civil War was a fight for the new liberty of the nation, he addressed that the Civil War was a kind of second American Revolution.

4. Explain how the Civil War shifted the way wars are fought, with WWI as an exception?

The Civil War shifted the way wars are fought as new technologies applied to the weapons made the weapons significantly destructive compared to the past. Rifles and machine guns shifted the way people fought. Machine guns made it easier for armies to defend a line, so the huge wave of attacks easily became a slaughter for the defenders. World War I was an exception because the doctrines of the European armies and their strategies deterred the European nations from using these new weapons, such as the machine gun, effectively.

5. What were the effects of the Civil War? (There are quite a few!)

To begin with, the Civil War changed people's perspectives about war. Due to Matthew Brady, a prolific photographer during the Civil War who took photos of soldiers, people changed their views because the casualties of the first modern war were massive compared to other war cases of the past. Furthermore, the Civil War actually "united" the nation as a whole instead of being sectionally divided. The United States now became a truly singular nation, not a group of separate states. The Northern victory of the Civil War made the United States follow the path of industrialization along with a national government. This actually benefited the United States a lot, considering that the United States rapidly grew as an industrial giant of the world later on. Finally, the Civil War allowed Lincoln to expand the power of the executive, which he used to order blockades, suspend Habeas Corpus, and emancipate the slaves.