OVERVIEW

The consensus among American historians couldn’t be clearer on at least one point concerning the Civil War: it was the single most important event that has ever happened in our history. The hundreds of thousands of deaths that methodically accumulated over the course of the war tragically highlighted the deep flaws and differences of opinion that lay at the very heart of our nation’s founding. The outcomes of the war--still noticeable today--revealed our struggles as we fitfully and all-too-slowly came to a fuller realization of what we have always considered to be our most sacred values.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Was the Civil War inevitable?
- What were the political, social, and economic causes of the war?
- Why did it take so long for the North to win?
- What was Lincoln’s position on slavery?
- What were some major battles and turning points?
- What were the goals of Reconstruction?
- How did African-Americans win and lose in this time period?
- How did the Civil War change the United States?

VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

---282-287---
John C. Calhoun
Wilmot Proviso
Secession
Missouri Compromise
Henry Clay
Compromise of 1850
Daniel Webster
Stephen A. Douglas
---291-294---
Popular Sovereignty
Kansas-Nebraska Act
Bleeding Kansas
John Brown
Preston Brooks
Charles Sumner
---299-305---
Fugitive Slave Act
Whigs
Nativism
Know-Nothing Party
Free-Soil Party
Republican Party
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Dred Scott
Roger B. Taney
Lecompton Const
Lincoln-Douglas Debate
Freeport Doctrine
Harper’s Ferry
William H. Seward
Election of 1860
C.S.A
Jefferson Davis
---318-322---
The “Trent”
The “Alabama”
Emancipation Proc.
Habeas Corpus
Copperheads
Conscription
Draft Riots
---340-345---
National Banking Act
Merrimack/Monitor
13th Amendment
George B. McClellan
William T. Sherman
Robert E. Lee
Clara Barton
John Wilkes Booth
Other Terms
Underground Railroad
Harriet Tubman
Harriet Beecher Stowe
Horace Greeley
Fort Sumter
King Cotton
Anaconda Plan
U.S. Grant
Stonewall Jackson
Robert E. Lee
Fort Pillow
Andersonville
Bull Run
Gettysburg
Antietam
Chancellorsville
Gettysburg Address
13th,14th,15th Amend
Radical Republicans
Reconstruction
Thaddeus Stevens
Wade-Davis Bill
10% Plan
Black Codes
Freedmen’s Bureau
Scalawag
Carpetbagger
Hiram Revels
Sharecropping
KKK
 Redeemers
Compromise of 1877

RESOURCES

2. Primary Documents: Lincoln’s Inaugural Addresses
4. Facebook Biographies