**1.1**

**CIVIL WAR**

**LECTURE HANDOUT**

**Key Terms:**

**Civil War**

**Abolitionist**

**John Brown**

**Union**

**Confederacy**

**Emancipation Proclamation**

**Gettysburg Address**

**Turning Point**

**Essential Questions:**

**How did the issue of slavery divide the Union?**

**What factors and events led to a Union victory in the Civil War?**

**What impact does the Civil War have on the United States today?**

A civil war by definition is a war between citizens of the same country.

**The American Civil War was a war between the Union (North) and the Confederacy (South).**

**It lasted from 1861-1865.**

What led to the Civil War?

* In short, it was the issue of slavery. It was NOT states’ rights.
* As the United States began to expand west, there were debates on whether new states added to the Union should be FREE or SLAVE states.
* In 1960, a Republican from Illinois named Abraham Lincoln was elected president of the United States.
* Abraham Lincoln wanted to abolish slavery.
* The election of Abraham Lincoln contributed to South Carolina being the first Southern state to secede on December 20, 1860. To secede means to withdraw membership in a federal union or alliance.

The following states seceded from the Union to become their own “country” called the Confederate States of America:

* South Carolina
* Mississippi
* Florida
* Alabama
* Georgia
* Louisiana
* Texas
* Virginia
* Arkansas
* North Carolina
* Tennessee

John Brown’s raid on Harper’s Ferry

* An abolitionist is a person who believes in the movement to end slavery.
* One of the most famous abolitionists was a man named John Brown.
* He planned a slave rebellion in 1859 in Harper’s Ferry Virginia (a Southern state).
* Brown’s plan was for slaves to rebel against their owners and meet him at the arsenal in Harper’s Ferry where he would provide them with weapons.
* John Brown essentially wanted to start a Civil War.
* His plan failed and he was captured, charged with treason, and executed on December 2, 1859.

"I, John Brown, am now quite certain that the crimes of this guilty land can never be purged away but with blood.”

-John Brown’s famous last words before being hanged

Union (North) Advantages

* Population - 22 million
* 90% of industry (factories) The North had an industrial economy compared to the South’s agricultural economy.
* Efficient transportation system (railroads)
* Controlled the navy, which could be used to blockade southern ports and shut down the southern economy. Southern economy based on trade with other countries.
* Telegraph lines (communication)

Confederate (South) Advantages

* Confederates had excellent generals -Robert E. Lee and Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson
* Defending is always easier than attacking - (familiar with climate and territory, possible psychological advantages)
* Profitable economy based on cotton exports (agricultural economy)
* BUT disadvantages…a smaller population of 9 million (including 3.5 million slaves) and they had to import industrial goods

Emancipation Proclamation

* President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, as the nation approached its third year of bloody civil war.
* The proclamation declared, "that all persons held as slaves" within the rebellious states "are, and henceforward shall be free."

Battle of Gettysburg – turning point

A turning point is a moment when the course of events is changed. The Battle of Gettysburg was a turning point because it was the beginning of the end for the South. After this battle, the North was winning the war.

* Lee realized that the South was in about to lose the war and decided that it was crucial to attack the North on its own territory
* July 1-3, 1863 - BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG, Pa.
* July 3, General Pickett led 15,000 Confederate Troops across open fields - Union mowed them down (="Pickett’s Charge")
* Lee was defeated and retreated to Virginia
* Gettysburg is the deadliest battle in the history of the Western hemisphere.
* Over 100, 000 people died in 3 days 🡪it was the last time the South invaded the North.

Gettysburg Address

* “…that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

-Abe Lincoln

Technology made Civil War . . .

* The Telegraph “Mr. Lincoln’s T-mails”
* More efficient and deadly weapons
* Railroad

African Americans in the Civil War

* After the Emancipation Proclamation black men began to join the Union Army
* Initially they were only used for manual labor
* Eventually, black men saw live combat
* 54th regiment out of Massachusetts

The South Surrenders

* April 3, 1865 – General Grant took Richmond, VA - final blow to Lee's (Southern) army
* Lee surrenders on April 9, 1865 at APPOMATTOX COURTHOUSE
* All Confederate troops forced to take an oath of loyalty to U.S.
* Why were Confederate Generals not executed for treason? Lincoln didn't want a humiliated South and further conflict. Lincoln made it clear in his Second Inaugural Address that he wanted the nation to heal.

After four bloody years of civil war, the South was defeated.

* Over 618,000 military deaths during Civil War.
* 360,222 from the North and 258,000 from the South — by far the greatest toll of any war in American history.
* About 2% of the population of the United States died.

What is 2% of the population of the U.S. today? About 6,278,000 people

EFFECTS OF CIVIL WAR

* ABOLITION OF SLAVERY
* Creation of a single unified country
* Increased power to federal government – killed the issue of states’ having the right to secede from the Union.
* U.S. now an industrial nation
* stronger sense of nationalism (U.S. pride)
* Western lands increasingly opened to settlement
* South was economically and physically devastated, with the plantation system crippled...thus *Reconstruction* (rebuilding the U.S.) began