

Goal 3 Study Questions



1. Which region seemed to have the greatest economic advantages prior to the Civil War - North or South?
2. Examine the presidential elections of 1852, 1856, and 1860. How did candidates address the issue of slavery?
3. Compare and contrast the views of Clay, Webster, and Calhoun in the congressional debate over slavery.
4. Design a social pyramid of southern society in the ante-bellum period.
5. How was the Mexican War a major cause of the Civil War?
6. Explain how popular sovereignty proved to be a horrible idea, especially in Kansas.
7. Why was the election of Lincoln the spark that started the war?
8. Although the Civil War began in 1861, why was it 1863 before Lincoln made emancipation of slaves a part of the Union commitment?
9. List the "modern weapons" of the Civil War.
10. What might have persuaded Britain to help the South?
11. How did the Emancipation Proclamation change the nature of the war?
12. What mistake did Union generals repeatedly make during the first three years of the war?
13. Why did the North adopt a policy of total war during the last two years of the war?
14. What aspects of the Anaconda strategy worked best for the North?
15. Why is Gettysburg considered the turning point of the war?
16. Compare and contrast the military strategies of the North and South.
17. Lincoln's assassination was the worst thing that could have happened to the South. Defend this statement.
18. What events led to the impeachment of Andrew Johnson?
19. Was Johnson's impeachment just a power play of the Radical Republicans? How?
20. What changes came about in the South as a result of Radical Reconstruction?
21. Compare the reconstruction plans in terms of fairness.
22. Explain how the tenant farming system resembled slavery.
23. Why should Tilden be considered an American hero?
24. Why did the Whiskey Ring scandal not harm Grant's administration?