

# The Civil War

## *Part Three*



Part One

Part Two

Part Three

## Thematic Icons



Economics



Geography



Historical concepts



Government

## Icons



Flash activity (these activities are not editable)




Teacher notes included in the Notes page


For more instructions, see the *User Guide*.



# Could war have been prevented?



Some say that civil war was necessary in order for the country to move ahead socially, politically and economically.



Others feel it could have been avoided through some form of political compromise.



**Do you think the Civil War could have been avoided? Why or why not?**





## Abraham Lincoln

- acquired sophisticated sense of strategy
- skilled at balancing personalities
- realistic understanding of the war.



## Jefferson Davis

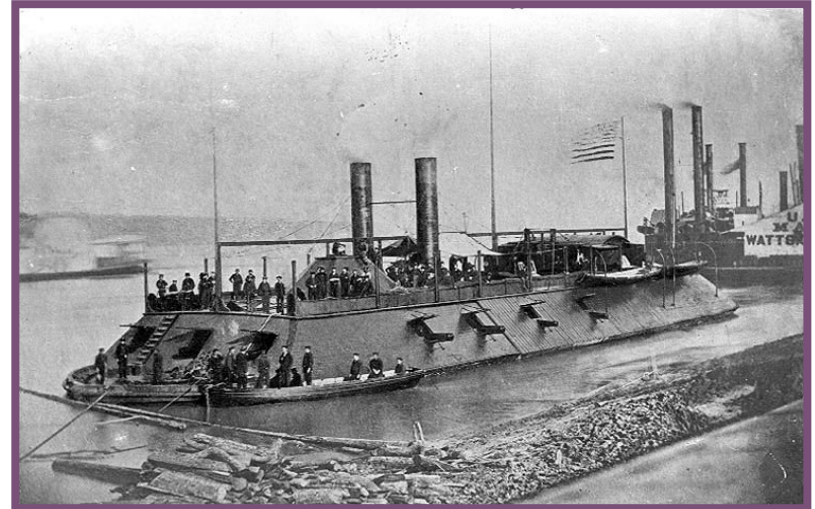
- detail-oriented
- unable to develop broad war strategy
- burdened by ineffective central government
- impersonal.





The 19<sup>th</sup> century saw major developments in warfare and technology. These “modern” advancements were all used in the American Civil War.

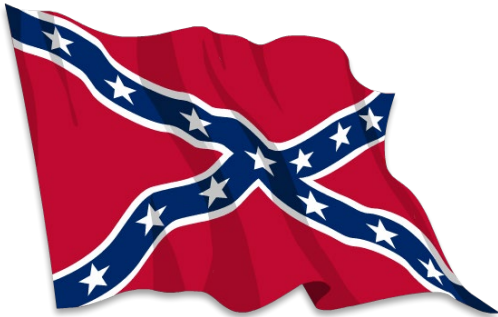
- Rifles: Unlike muskets of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, these weapons had grooves carved into the barrel which made them much more accurate.
- **Ironclads**: Armored steam ships that were the predecessor of the modern battleship.
- Trains: These allowed incredibly fast transport and deployment of large armies across the states.





The Northern strategy was to:

- blockade Southern ports to prevent export of cotton and import of resources
- seize control of the Mississippi Valley to divide the Confederacy
- defeat Confederate armies in the field.



The most effective Southern strategy would have been defensive. However, the Southern laws of honor dictated that they take the war to the North. Consequently, the South had no “grand strategy” to speak of.

Why was control of the Mississippi important?

# War in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century



What do you think is needed to fight a war?

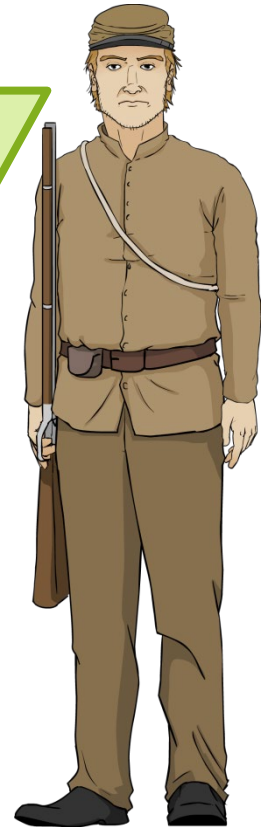
# Rich man's fight, poor man's war

Both armies consisted mainly of young men from rural areas. Many resented the **draft**, particularly as the wealthy were able to avoid it.



I am fighting to preserve the great United States and the Union.

I am fighting to defend my states' rights against the domination of national government.



Yet Union and Confederate soldiers alike felt that justice was on their side.



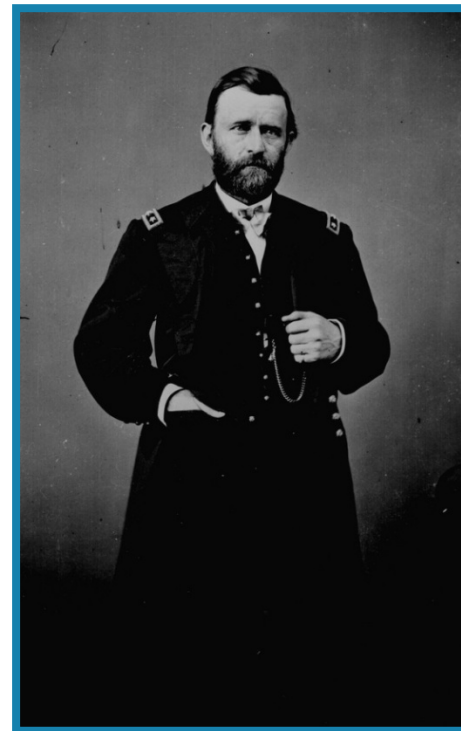


The Civil War lasted from 1861-1865.

In the early years of the war, the Confederate army saw considerable success against the Union. Exceptional generals on both sides, such as **Ulysses S. Grant** and **Robert E. Lee**, fought to gain the upper hand in the war.

However, with no war strategy and costly battles, such as those at Antietam and Gettysburg, the tide quickly turned to the favor of the Union.

The Union could replace injured or killed soldiers with new recruits. The Confederacy could not.



# The Battle of Gettysburg







# The Emancipation Proclamation





General Lee's surrendered at Appomattox on April 9 1865. After the surrender, several Southern generals wanted to continue fighting a **guerrilla war**.

However, by 1865, the Southern economy was devastated. Without slaves, the South had no hope of rebuilding.



Lincoln, Grant and Sherman's generosity with surrendering armies further halted the Confederacy's will to continue fighting. With the war over, one very difficult issue remained: how to rebuild the broken Union.





