

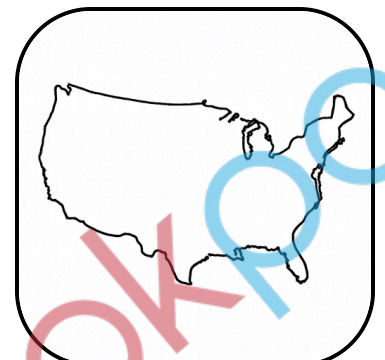
Name: _____

Why the Civil War Changed America

Long ago, the United States was divided over a very serious issue—slavery. Slavery was a system where people were forced to work without pay and could not leave. Many believed this was wrong, but some wanted it to continue. This argument became so strong that the country split in half.

The Civil War began as both sides fought for what they believed was right. Thousands of people, both soldiers and citizens, were caught up in the struggle. The government had to make hard choices to keep the country together. The war lasted for years and brought heavy losses.

Finally, after much fighting, slavery ended and the nation was able to stay united. This important moment changed the course of American history and helped bring freedom to many.



Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Why the Civil War Changed America

Long ago, the United States was divided over a (9)

very serious issue—slavery. Slavery was a system (16)

where people were forced to work without pay and (25)

could not leave. Many believed this was wrong, but (34)

some wanted it to continue. This argument became (42)

so strong that the country split in half. (50)

The Civil War began as both sides fought for what (60)

they believed was right. Thousands of people, both (68)

soldiers and citizens, were caught up in the (76)

struggle. The government had to make hard choices (84)

to keep the country together. The war lasted for (93)

years and brought heavy losses. (98)

Finally, after much fighting, slavery ended and (105)

the nation was able to stay united. This important (114)

moment changed the course of American history and (122)

helped bring freedom to many. (127)

Comprehension Questions:

Literal Question:

What was slavery in the United States?

Answer:

A system where people worked without pay or freedom.

Student Answer:

_____ Correct _____ Incorrect

Inferential Question:

Why do you think ending slavery was so important?

Answer:

It brought freedom and made the nation fairer.

Student Answer:

_____ Correct _____ Incorrect

Vocabulary Question:

What does 'government' mean in this passage?

Answer:

The leaders who make decisions for the country.

Student Answer:

_____ Correct _____ Incorrect

Notes:

Scoring Guide

Text Level: F&P GRL T Grade Level: 5 Word Count: 127

Total Words Read: _____

Errors: _____

WCPM: (total words read — errors = WCPM) _____

WCPM: Below grade level At grade level Above grade level

Prosody: 1 2 3 4

Comprehension: _____ / 3 correct

How to Administer the Fluency Passage Assessment

Assess Oral Reading Fluency

- Give the student a copy of the passage. **Set a timer or stopwatch for 1 minute.**
- Ask the student to begin reading. As the student reads aloud, assess prosody and mark errors and self-corrections on the evaluation copy using the following guides.
- **Stop the student when one minute has passed.** Take note of the last word the student read.
- Score the passage on the evaluation copy according to the **Scoring Guide**. Use the following chart to compare grade level norms for words correctly read per minute.

Marking Conventions	
Attempted Word = Substitution Error	✓ = Accurate Word Reading
^ = Insertion Error	Attempted Word S/C = Self Correction
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
T = Intervention Error (telling student the word)	

Prosody Rubric	1	2	3	4
Expression and Volume	monotone or quiet	some expression	appropriate expression	varied, natural expression
Phrasing	word-by-word reading	some phrase groupings	generally smooth phrasing	natural, meaningful phrasing
Smoothness	frequent pauses, starts and stops	occasional breaks	mostly smooth reading	fluent and confident
Pace	too slow or too fast	uneven pace	generally appropriate pace	consistent, conversational pace

Grade Level Norms (WCPM) *							
Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring	Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring
First	0 - 10	10 - 50	30 - 90	Fourth	70 - 120	80 - 130	90 - 140
Second	30 - 80	50 - 100	70 - 130	Fifth	80 - 130	90 - 140	100 - 150
Third	50 - 110	70 - 120	80 - 140	Sixth	90 - 140	100 - 150	110 - 160

* Rasinski Words Correct Per Minute Target Rates

Fluency Builder: Why the Civil War Changed America

Passage Details

Grade Level: 5

Reading Level: F&P GRL T

Word Count: 127

High-Frequency Words

able, ago, government, thousands, together

Suggestions for Use

Increase Exposure to High-Frequency Words

- Before reading, introduce the list of high-frequency words in the passage.
- Find the words in the passage. Highlight or underline the words.

Illustrate and Label Extension Activity

- Have students draw and label items mentioned in the passage.

Link to Writing or Discussion

- Encourage knowledge transfer and personal connection by asking:
"How do you think people felt during the Civil War?"
"Why is it important to learn about this time in history?"

Use for Repeated Readings

Day 1: Teacher reads aloud, then echo read

Day 2: Partner reading

Day 3: One-minute fluency timing and WCPM tracking

Day 4: Performance reading (with expression!)