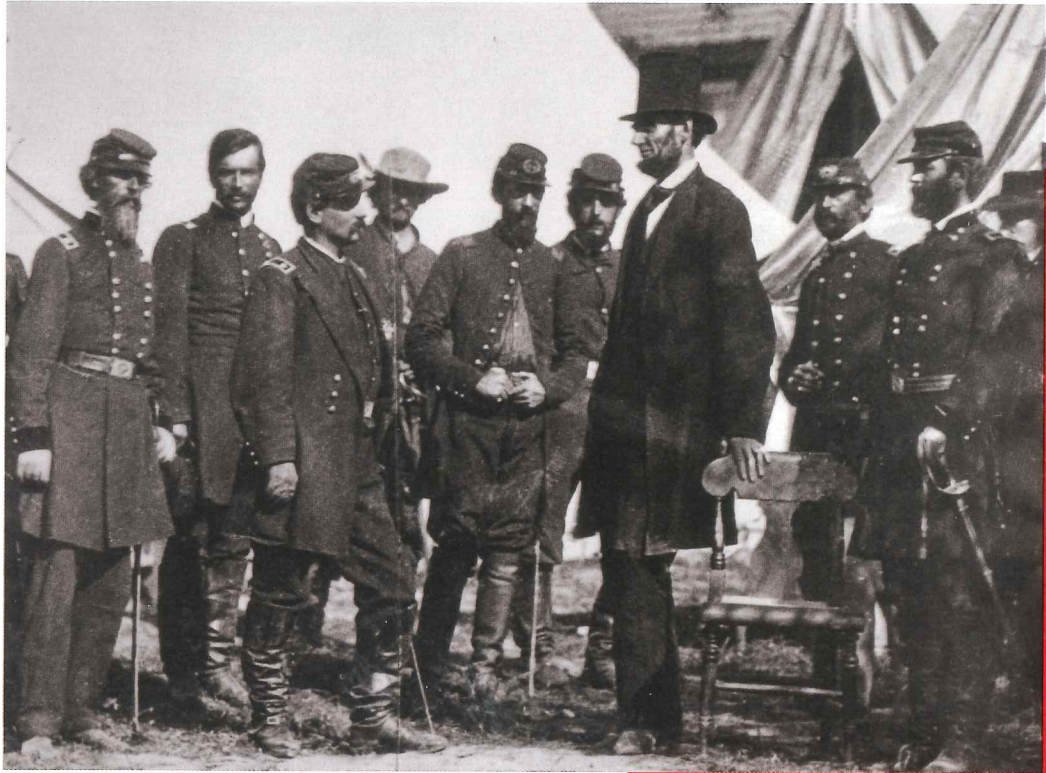




THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR 1861 - 65

The Union army in the North numbered 2½ million men, including 180,000 blacks, while the Confederate army in the South had 1 million. 360,000 Union soldiers died, including 40,000 blacks. 258,000 Confederates died. As the Union took control of Confederate states, so the slaves in the South were gradually freed. When the Confederates were finally defeated, Congress made a law to free all slaves everywhere in the re-united states.

During the war President Lincoln made a famous speech on the battlefield of Gettysburg in which he defined democracy as “government of the people, by the people, for the people”. In 1863 he freed all the slaves with the Emancipation Proclamation.



Lincoln with soldiers, October 3, 1862.

THE DAY OF FREEDOM

Booker T. Washington was a 9-year-old boy in Virginia when the day of freedom arrived:

“As the great day drew nearer, there was more singing in the slave quarters than usual. It was bolder, had more ring, and lasted later into the night. Most of the verses of the plantation songs had some reference to freedom ... Some man who seemed to be a stranger (a United States officer, I presume) made a little speech and then read a rather long paper—the Emancipation Proclamation, I think. After the reading we were told that we were all free, and could go when and where we pleased. My mother, who was standing by my side, leaned over and kissed her children, while tears of joy ran down her cheeks. She explained to us what it all meant, that this was the day for which she had been so long praying, but fearing that she would never live to see.”

1. DISCUSS – IN GROUPS

How do you imagine the slaves reacted to being told they were free?

Do you know of other situations where people's lives have changed dramatically for the better?

2. QUIZ SHOW – IN GROUPS OF FOUR

Write questions that relate to all the texts you have read so far. Also write down the answers.

Let other groups try your quizzes. It's a good way to sum up your knowledge on the topic.

3. QUIZ-QUIZ-TRADE©

Write a question that relates to the chapter on a small piece of paper.

Write the answer on the other side.

Find a partner, ask your questions and trade cards.

The Quiz-Quiz-Trade structure is presented on page 70.