

The Civil War**Section 4****The North Takes Charge****Terms and Names****Gettysburg** Most decisive battle of the war**Chancellorsville** Confederate victory in Virginia**Vicksburg** Union victory in Mississippi**Gettysburg Address** Important speech by President Lincoln**William Tecumseh Sherman** Commander of Union troops in Georgia and South Carolina**Appomattox Court House** Site of the Confederate surrender**Before You Read**

In the last section, you read how the Civil War affected society and the economy in the North and South. In this section, you will learn about the battles in the final years of the Civil War.

As You Read

Use a time line to take notes on the battles of the last years of the Civil War.

ARMIES CLASH AT GETTYSBURG**(Pages 357–360)****What battle turned the tide of the war?**

In 1863 General Robert E. Lee decided again to invade the North. Lee's forces clashed with the Union army at **Gettysburg, Pennsylvania**. The Union army defeated Lee's troops after three days of fierce fighting. Each side lost more than 50,000 soldiers.

The South, however, won several battles in 1863. Confederate forces defeated the Union army in **Chancellorsville, Virginia**. During the battle, the South's famous general, Stonewall Jackson, died when he was shot accidentally by his own troops.

The Battle of Gettysburg was considered a turning point in the war. Northerners became rejuvenated due to the fact that they had finally broken through and defeated Lee's army.

Lee would continue to lead his men brilliantly in the next two years of the war. But the Confederacy would never recover from the loss and never again hope to invade the North.

1. Why was the Battle of Gettysburg so important?

**GRANT WINS AT VICKSBURG;
THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS****(Pages 360–361)****How did the battle at Vicksburg affect the Confederacy?**

The day after Gettysburg, General Grant captured **Vicksburg, Mississippi**, for the Union. It was another significant defeat for the Confederacy. As a result of

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the battle, the Union controlled the Mississippi River. The Confederacy was split in two.

In November 1863, a cemetery was dedicated at Gettysburg. President Lincoln delivered a short speech. The **Gettysburg Address** honored the dead and asked Americans to rededicate themselves to preserving the Union. Lincoln promised that “this government of the people, by the people, for the people” would survive.

2. What was the result of the battle at Vicksburg?

THE CONFEDERACY WEARS DOWN (Pages 362–365)

How did Union forces wear down the South?

The losses at Gettysburg and Vicksburg caused Southern morale to drop. Many men had been lost in battle. The Confederate army was low on food, ammunition, and supplies. Soldiers began to desert. Some even joined the Union Army.

The South was exhausted and had few resources left. Southern leaders started to fight among each other. The Confederate Congress accused President Davis of ineffective leadership. Some Southerners began calling for peace.

Meanwhile, Lincoln made Ulysses S. Grant commander of all Union armies. Grant gave **William Tecumseh Sherman** command of the military division of the Mississippi. Both generals sought a total victory over the South. This meant conquering not only the South’s army and government but also its civilian population.

In 1864, Grant fought Lee’s army in Virginia. Grant’s basic tactic was to attack and then attack again. Even if his casualties

ran twice as high as those of Lee, the North could afford it. The South could not.

Grant threw his troops into battle after battle. During a six-week period, Grant lost nearly 60,000 men to Lee’s 32,000. Democrats and Northern newspapers called Grant a butcher. However, Grant kept fighting. He had promised Lincoln, “whatever happens, there will be no turning back.”

Meanwhile, Sherman’s troops invaded Georgia. His forces marched across the state to the sea. They destroyed cities and farms as they went. They did the same in South Carolina. The South was quickly becoming a wasteland.

Despite the Union’s military success, Lincoln feared he would not be re-elected in 1864. Many Northerners felt the war had gone on too long and had caused too much destruction. But news of Sherman’s victories helped Lincoln win a second term.

By March 1865, it was clear that the end of the Confederacy was near. President Davis fled Richmond. On April 9, 1865, Generals Lee and Grant met in a Virginia village called **Appomattox Court House** and arranged the Confederate surrender.

The terms were generous. Lincoln did not want to impose harsh terms on the Confederates. As a result, Grant paroled Lee’s soldiers. He sent them home with their personal possessions, horses, and three days’ worth of rations. Officers were permitted to keep their sidearms. Within a month, all Confederate resistance collapsed. After four long years, The Civil War was over.

3. Why were Sherman’s victories important to Lincoln?

Section 4, *continued*

As you read about why the Union won the war, make notes to answer the questions.

1863	Chancellorsville →	1. What did the Confederacy win at Chancellorsville? What did it lose?
	Gettysburg →	2. Why is Gettysburg considered a turning point in the war?
	Vicksburg and Port Hudson →	3. What did the Union accomplish by capturing Vicksburg and Port Hudson?
	Gettysburg Address →	4. What did the Gettysburg Address help Americans to realize?
1864	Grant is appointed commander of all Union armies. →	5. What was Grant's overall strategy for defeating Lee's army? What tactics did he use?
	Sherman's march from Atlanta to the sea →	6. What was Sherman's goal in his march to the sea? What tactics did he use to accomplish that goal?
	Lincoln is reelected. Appomattox →	7. What were the North's terms of surrender? Why were they so generous to the South?