



## CIVIL WAR AND EMANCIPATION

The South would reach the breaking point in 1860, when Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln was elected as president. Within three months, seven southern states had seceded to form the Confederate States of America; four more would follow after the Civil War (1861-65) began. Though Lincoln's antislavery views were well established, the central Union war aim at first was not to abolish slavery, but to preserve the United States as a nation. Abolition became a war aim only later, due to military necessity, growing anti-slavery sentiment in the North and the self-emancipation of many African Americans who fled enslavement as Union troops swept through the South. Five days after the bloody Union victory at Antietam in September 1862, Lincoln issued a preliminary emancipation proclamation, and on January 1, 1863, he made it official that "slaves within any State, or designated part of a State...in rebellion,...shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free."

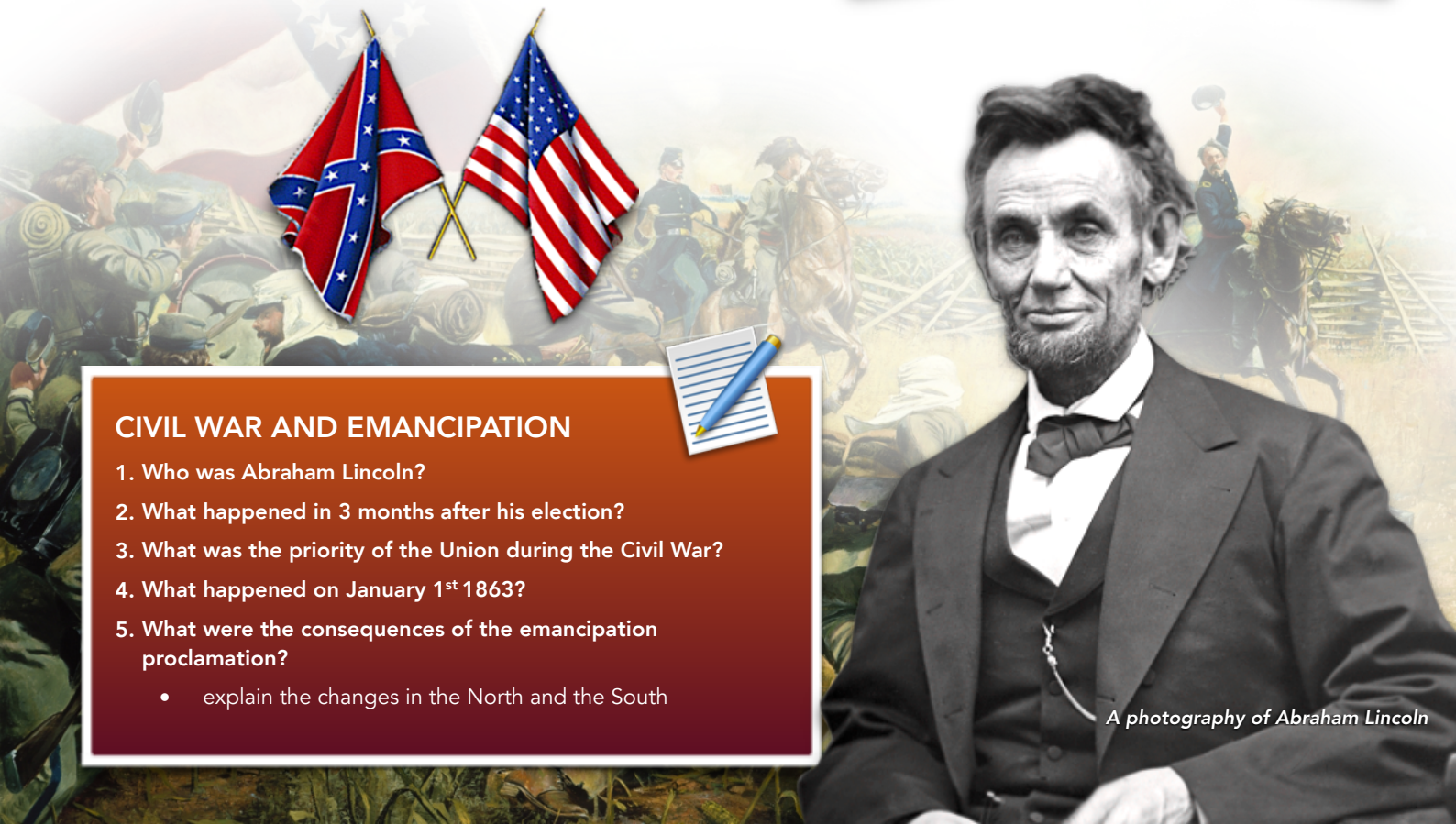
By freeing some 3 million black slaves in the rebel states, the Emancipation Proclamation deprived the Confederacy of the bulk of its labor forces and put international public opinion strongly on the Union side. Some 186,000 black soldiers would join the Union Army by the time the war ended in 1865, and 38,000 lost their lives. The total number of dead at war's end was 620,000 (out of a population of some 35 million), making it the costliest conflict in American history.



Painting representing the fight between the soldiers from the Union and the Confederate

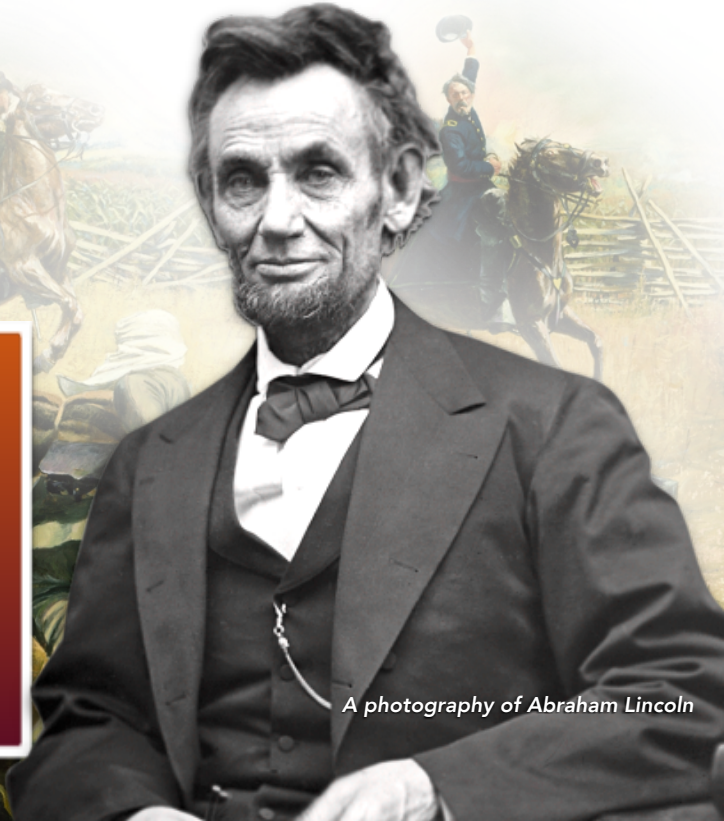


Map of the Union v.s the Confederacy



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1. Who was Abraham Lincoln?
2. What happened in 3 months after his election?
3. What was the priority of the Union during the Civil War?
4. What happened on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1863?
5. What were the consequences of the emancipation proclamation?
  - explain the changes in the North and the South



A photography of Abraham Lincoln