

Chapter 11 Section 1 The Civil War Begins Reteaching Activity

Chapter 11 Section 1 The Civil War Begins Reteaching Activity The Civil War Begins A Nation Divided The year is 1861 The United States a young nation forged from revolution and dreams of liberty stands at a crossroads A simmering conflict over slavery has boiled over igniting a fire that will consume the country for four bloody years This is the story of the Civil War a period of immense hardship and sacrifice that forever changed the course of American history The Roots of Conflict Slavery The institution of slavery a moral and economic issue was the most contentious point between the North and South The North increasingly industrialized saw slavery as an abomination and a threat to its labor system The South heavily reliant on slave labor for its agricultural economy fiercely defended it as a cornerstone of its way of life States Rights The debate over slavery was intertwined with the issue of states rights Southern states believed they had the right to govern themselves and could choose to allow or prohibit slavery within their borders The North advocating for a stronger federal government argued that slavery was a national issue that should be regulated by the federal government Economic Differences The North and South developed distinct economies fueled by different industries The Norths industrial economy was based on manufacturing and trade while the Souths agrarian economy depended on cotton production and slave labor These economic differences contributed to diverging political and social values The Road to War The Election of Abraham Lincoln In 1860 the Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln a staunch opponent of slavery expansion was elected president This victory sparked fear and anger in the South leading to the secession of seven states South Carolina Mississippi Florida Alabama Georgia Louisiana and Texas They formed the Confederate States of America with Jefferson Davis as president Fort Sumter The first shots of the war were fired on April 12 1861 when Confederate forces bombarded Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor South Carolina This event ignited a wave of nationalism in both the North and South quickly leading to the mobilization of armies and the escalation of the conflict The Union and the Confederacy The Union Led by President Lincoln the Union comprised the remaining states that remained loyal to the United States It was characterized by a strong belief

in national unity and a commitment to ending slavery The Confederacy Headed by Jefferson Davis the Confederacy consisted of the eleven states that seceded from the Union It was founded on the principle of states rights the protection of slavery and the belief in the right to selfdetermination Key Battles and Events The Battle of Bull Run First Manassas A Confederate victory in July 1861 shattered the Unions early optimism and demonstrated the brutal reality of the war The Battle of Antietam Fought in September 1862 this bloody battle was a turning point as it resulted in the Unions first major victory and prompted Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation The Emancipation Proclamation Issued by President Lincoln in January 1863 the Emancipation Proclamation declared that all slaves in Confederateheld territory were to be freed It had significant ramifications transforming the war into a fight for freedom and equality The Siege of Vicksburg A key Union victory in 1863 the capture of Vicksburg Mississippi gave the Union control of the Mississippi River effectively splitting the Confederacy in two The Battle of Gettysburg A pivotal battle fought in July 1863 Gettysburg marked a turning point in the war as the Confederacy was defeated in a decisive loss The March to the Sea Led by General William Tecumseh Sherman the Union Army embarked on a devastating campaign through Georgia in late 1864 crippling the Confederate war effort The End of the War The Surrender at Appomattox Court House In April 1865 Confederate General Robert E Lee surrendered to Union General Ulysses S Grant at Appomattox Court House Virginia effectively ending the war Lincolns Assassination Just days after the wars end President Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth a Confederate sympathizer This tragedy cast a shadow over the nations victory Legacy and Aftermath 3 Reconstruction The years following the war known as Reconstruction were marked by the process of rebuilding the South and integrating formerly enslaved people into American society This period witnessed significant progress but also faced challenges including the rise of Jim Crow laws and continued discrimination A Nation Transformed The Civil War left an indelible mark on American society It solidified the federal governments authority and ended the institution of slavery laying the foundation for a more unified and equitable nation However the wounds of the war and the legacy of slavery would continue to shape American history for generations to come The Civil War was a defining moment in American history a period of both immense tragedy and profound transformation It serves as a powerful reminder of the fragility of democracy and the importance of unity sacrifice and perseverance in the face of adversity By studying this pivotal period we gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of our nations past and the ongoing struggle for a more just and equitable future

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