

STANDARD USI.9f

The student will apply social science skills to understand the causes, major events, and effects of the Civil War by

f) describing the effects of war from the perspectives of Union and Confederate soldiers (including African American soldiers), women, and enslaved African Americans.

Essential Understandings

Life on the battlefield and on the home front was extremely harsh. Many soldiers died from disease and exposure.

Essential Knowledge

General effects of the war

- Family members were often pitted against one another, as were friends against friends.
- As the war went on, Southern troops became increasingly younger and more poorly equipped and clothed.
- Much of the South was devastated at the end of the war (e.g., burning of Atlanta and Richmond).
- Disease was a major killer.
- Clara Barton, a Civil War nurse, created the American Red Cross. Harriet Tubman, an abolitionist and political activist, and conductor on the Underground Railroad. Elizabeth Van Lew, a Virginia abolitionist and spy for the Union Army. Mary Bowser was an African American Union spy.
- Combat was brutal and often man-to-man.
- Women were left to run businesses in the North and farms and plantations in the South.
- The collapse of the Confederacy made Confederate money worthless.
- Abraham Lincoln sought to reconstruct the nation by bringing Southern states back into the Union when 10 percent of voters accepted the end of slavery and reunion.

Effects of the war on African Americans

- African Americans fought in the Union army. Some African Americans accompanied Confederate units in the field.
- The Confederacy used enslaved African Americans as ship workers, laborers, cooks, and camp workers.
- The Union moved to enlist African American sailors and soldiers during the war.
- African American soldiers were paid less than white soldiers.
- African American soldiers were discriminated against and served in segregated units under the command of white officers.
- Robert Smalls, an African American sailor and later a Union naval captain, was highly honored for his feats of bravery and heroism. He was elected to the United States House of Representatives after the war.