**Causes of the Civil War Study Guide**

1. What was the primary economy in the South?

* Plantations that grew cotton and had slave labor

1. States that were a part of the Union and believed in state’s rights believed that the states should be able to set their own laws. Which side agreed with state’s rights?

* The South

1. What is an abolitionist?

* A person who wants to abolish slavery

1. Which abolitionist planned to steal the weapons from an army’s arsenal in Harpers Ferry, Virginia for attacks on pro-slavery people?

* John Brown

1. Which abolitionist wrote *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*?

\*Harriet Beecher Stowe

1. Define the Fugitive Slave law.

* Escaped slaves found in the North had to be returned to their owners.

1. How did Lincoln’s election to the presidency contribute to the beginning of the Civil War?

\* Southerners feared that Lincoln would try to end slavery

1. The Underground Railroad was a network of paths that lead slaves to freedom in the North. Who was a conductor of the Underground Railroad?

\* Harriet Tubman

1. What was the main cash crop in the south?

\* cotton

1. Who was the president of the Confederacy?

\* Jefferson Davis

1. Who was the president of the Union?

\* Abraham Lincoln

1. Who was the General of the Union Army?

\* Ulysses S. Grant

1. Who was the General of the Confederate Army?

\* Robert E. Lee

1. Where were the first shots of the Civil War fired?

\*Fort Sumter

1. What were the 2 main causes of the Civil War?

* Slavery and State’s Rights

**Essay Questions:** Write 3 to 4 sentences for each of the questions below. Make sure that your responses answer the question being asked completely. Also, make sure you write in complete sentences (it might even help to use the question as part of your answer).

1. Compare and contrast the strengths and weaknesses of the Union and Confederate armies.

**Northern (Union) Strengths:**

* Greater population (22 million; more soldiers & factory workers to make supplies).
* Industry created money & supplies for Union army.
* Strong navy and large fleet.
* Had more than 70% of nation’s railroads, which transported both troops and supplies

**Northern Weaknesses:**

* Lincoln had trouble finding good military leaders.
* They faced a difficult military challenge—
  + Invaded unfamiliar land
  + Open to attack
  + Used up more supplies
* They had to conquer a HUGE land area.

**Southern (Confederacy) Strengths:**

* skilled soldiers (used to hunting).
* Better military leaders.
* They had a strong advantage of fighting a defensive war (waiting for the North).
* Fighting for independence gave men bravery.

**Southern Weaknesses:**

* Few factories to produce weapons and other supplies.
* Few railroads to move troops and supplies.
* No navy.
* Favored states’ rights and so they had more political problems.
* Smaller population (9 million).

1. Why did Robert E. Lee surrender to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse? Do you think it was a good idea? Why or Why not?

Lee surrendered because his men was surrounded by Union soldiers and running out of supplies. He knew they wouldn’t survive another battle.