

CIVIL WAR SIMULATION

Battle Journal

WHAT TO DO · WHILE YOU PLAY HISTORICAL MODE

1. You will play all 13 battles. On this page, you write about **two key battles per act** (the others you just play).
2. After each **Act review screen**, answer that act's **reflection question** in the box.
3. Your final job: **How was the Union able to defeat the Confederacy?** Build evidence as you play, then answer on the back.

ACT I · THE WAR BEGINS · 1861–1862

Bull Run

My choice

Matched history? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why it mattered (sum up the key idea in your own words)

*This battle mattered because...***Shiloh**

My choice

Matched history? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why it mattered (sum up the key idea in your own words)

This battle mattered because...

ACT I REFLECTION · ANSWER AFTER THE ACT I REVIEW SCREEN

After Shiloh, Grant said the only way to save the country was to completely beat the South, not just win one battle. Why do you think seeing so much fighting changed how he thought about the war?

EVIDENCE FOR THE BIG QUESTION

One way this act helped the Union win:

This act helped the Union because...

ACT II · A NEW KIND OF WAR · 1862–1863

Antietam

My choice

Matched history? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why it mattered (sum up the key idea in your own words)

This battle mattered because...

Chancellorsville

My choice

Matched history? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why it mattered (sum up the key idea in your own words)

This battle mattered because...

ACT II REFLECTION • ANSWER AFTER THE ACT II REVIEW SCREEN

Lee won a huge battle, but he lost his best general, Stonewall Jackson. Was this victory worth it? When can winning still feel like losing?

EVIDENCE FOR THE BIG QUESTION

One way this act helped the Union win:

This act helped the Union because...

ACT III • THE TIDE TURNS • 1863

Gettysburg

My choice

Matched history? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why it mattered (sum up the key idea in your own words)

This battle mattered because...

Chickamauga

My choice

Matched history? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why it mattered (sum up the key idea in your own words)

This battle mattered because...

ACT III REFLECTION • ANSWER AFTER THE ACT III REVIEW SCREEN

One mixed-up order created the gap that lost the whole battle. How much of war comes down to luck or mistakes versus actual skill and planning?

EVIDENCE FOR THE BIG QUESTION

One way this act helped the Union win:

This act helped the Union because...

Atlanta

My choice

Matched history? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why it mattered (sum up the key idea in your own words)

This battle mattered because...

Appomattox

My choice

Matched history? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why it mattered (sum up the key idea in your own words)

This battle mattered because...

ACT IV REFLECTION • ANSWER AFTER THE ACT IV REVIEW SCREEN

Grant let the Confederate soldiers go home in peace. Five days later, Lincoln was killed. How might things have been different if Lincoln had lived? When a war ends, what does a country owe to the people who suffered?

EVIDENCE FOR THE BIG QUESTION

One way this act helped the Union win:

This act helped the Union because...

PART 2 • BUILD YOUR ANSWER

How Did the Union Win?

Look back at your four "**One way this act helped the Union win**" lines. You already have your evidence. Use them to build your answer below.

WORD BANK • CIRCLE EACH TERM WHEN YOU FIND IT IN THE GAME

Anaconda Plan: the Union's plan to block Southern ports and take the Mississippi River, like a snake squeezing the South.

total war: destroying not just the enemy army, but also farms, factories, and railroads that help them fight.

Siege of Vicksburg: A 47-day siege ending July 4, 1863. The Union got control of the entire Mississippi River.

William T. Sherman: A Union general who marched through Georgia in 1864, destroying everything that helped the South fight.

Emancipation Proclamation: Lincoln's order in 1863 freeing enslaved people in the South. The war was now also about ending slavery.

Battle of Gettysburg: A huge Union win in July 1863. Lee tried to invade the North and failed.

Ulysses S. Grant: A Union general who would not give up after a hard battle. Lincoln put him in charge in 1864.

54th Massachusetts: A Black Union regiment that fought bravely at Fort Wagner in 1863, proving Black soldiers would fight for freedom.

PROMPT How was the Union able to defeat the Confederacy? Use at least **three things** from the game.

Q1 Build your thesis. Fill in three reasons the Union won.

Try: *Pick three things from the Word Bank, or three battles from the front of this paper.*

The Union won the Civil War because of _____, _____, and _____.

Q2 Evidence. For each reason, give one specific battle, person, or event.

Try: *"This helped the Union win because _____."*

REASON 1

REASON 2

REASON 3

Q3 Pick one word from the Word Bank that was **most important** to the Union's win. Tell why in one sentence.

Try: *"I picked _____ because _____."*

My pick: _____

Q4 The South had brave soldiers and good generals too. Why was that **not enough** for them to win?

Try: *"Bravery was not enough because the South did not have _____."*
