

# Civil War Task: What if the South had Won?

Subject: U.S. History

Grade Level: 11

This task relates to the Themes of U.S. History Section of the People and Cultures High School Standards: A student shall demonstrate understanding of key events, concepts, and people in the historical development of the United States, including...the Civil War and reconstruction.

## Background

We have been studying the Civil War. We started this unit by examining the question: What if the South had won? We brainstormed a list of items we would need to study, and know about, in order to give an informed, meaningful answer to the question. Our list included:

- Slavery
- Goals of the war for each side
- Who was involved, leaders for both sides, common people, freed African Americans and slaves.
- Battles
- Response of other countries
- Results of North winning (Reconstruction)
- How war ended
- Map during the war period

## The Task

Once we have addressed each of these items, you will use the information we learned to speculate on an answer to our "What if?" question. Once you have decided what would have been different if the South had won the war, you will need a way to convey your ideas. For this task you have the choice of what type of product you want to create. You must, however, follow the rules and requirements for the form of that medium.

- **Essay:** Introduction, body, conclusion, well-written, double-spaced typed or clearly printed in pen, correct paragraph and sentence structure, etc.
- **Speech:** Introduction, body, conclusion, speak clear and loud, maintain eye contact, do not read in monotone but make it interesting, etc.
- **Movie Script:** Title, characters listed at front, stage directions, character lines tell the story.
- **Act out a skit:** Set scene, lines spoken well, props, costumes, whatever is needed to convey ideas, story has a beginning, middle and end. Face audience, perform as a stage piece.

**3-panel display:** Each panel has a theme and the themes relate to one another. Text or pictures are clearly labeled. Items in the display are placed in logical relation to one another.

## Due Dates:

- Inform teacher of medium for product by \_\_\_\_\_
- Turn in product by \_\_\_\_\_
- (Performances and speeches must be scheduled by \_\_\_\_\_ and completed by \_\_\_\_\_)

## Rubric

	/30 Points	Content. You have answered the "What if" question in depth by addressing social, economic and political factors.
	/30 Points	Evidence. You give evidence/examples for your suppositions that link to past events. Primary sources are used.
	/20 Points	Form. Your ideas are conveyed well and executed following the rules of form for your chosen medium.
	/20 Points	Creativity. Your response shows originality, is imaginative yet plausible.
	/100 Points possible	