
Women in the Civil War: In Battle and at Home

Start-to-Finish® Core Content



Article 1: Women on the Battlefield

Comprehension Questions

1. How did Sarah Emma Edmonds join the Union army?
 - a. By pretending to be a spy from the Confederate army.
 - b. By running onto the battlefield and killing a Confederate soldier.
 - c. *By pretending to be a man named Franklin Thompson.*
 - d. By giving the Union army a lot of money.

2. Why didn't army leaders want women to work as nurses on the battlefield?
 - a. Because the army wanted women to fight as soldiers.
 - b. *Because they thought that women shouldn't see the bloody side of war.*
 - c. Because the army ran out of money to pay women.
 - d. Because women screamed when they saw injured soldiers.

Vocabulary Questions

1. A Civil War doctor said that Clara Barton was "a true heroine." A heroine is _____.
 - a. *a brave woman*
 - b. an angel
 - c. an injured soldier
 - d. a famous president

2. When people fight against their own government, they are called _____.
 - a. slaves
 - b. soldiers
 - c. nurses
 - d. *rebels*

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Article 2: Spying on the Enemy

Comprehension Questions

1. How did Elizabeth Van Lew help the Union?
 - a. By working for the American Red Cross.
 - b. By cooking food for wounded soldiers.
 - c. By spying for the Union.
 - d. By dressing as a man and becoming a soldier.

2. Why did newspapers in the North and South write about Belle Boyd?
 - a. Because she was killed when she was 17.
 - b. Because she was called “the angel of the battlefield.”
 - c. Because she became famous as a Confederate spy when she was still a teenager.
 - d. Because she dodged bullets and cannonballs during the Battle of Richmond.

Vocabulary Questions

1. To abolish slavery means to _____.
 - a. end it
 - b. praise it
 - c. follow it
 - d. allow it

2. A group of spies who work together secretly are called a _____.
 - a. Stonewall
 - b. pass along
 - c. Red Cross
 - d. spy ring

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Article 3: Working at Home and Helping the Troops

Comprehension Questions

1. Who ran the family farms when the men went to fight in the war?
 - a. Troops
 - b. Women
 - c. Regiments
 - d. Teenagers

2. Why is Harriet Tubman famous?
 - a. Because she was shot and killed while she was making bread.
 - b. Because she ran a weekly newspaper.
 - c. Because she helped slaves to escape from the South.
 - d. Because she bought uniforms for a whole regiment of soldiers.

Vocabulary Questions

1. A large group of soldiers in an army is called a _____.
 - a. regiment
 - b. Union
 - c. camp
 - d. government

2. A person who gets others to join the army is called a _____.
 - a. rebel
 - b. Franklin
 - c. worker
 - d. recruiter

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Article 4: Helping Former Slaves

Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Charlotte Forten travel to the South during the Civil War?
 - a. To marry a Union officer.
 - b. To spy for the Confederate army.
 - c. To take care of wounded soldiers.
 - d. *To teach former slaves to read and write*

2. Frances Beecher helped teach some men to read and write. Who were these men?
 - a. Prisoners from the North and South.
 - b. *Black soldiers in her husband's regiment.*
 - c. Troops from England.
 - d. A group of spies who worked together secretly.

Vocabulary Questions

1. Slaves who had escaped from their owners were called _____.
 - a. *runaway slaves*
 - b. secret slaves
 - c. wounded slaves
 - d. carriage slaves

2. Former slaves were people who _____.
 - a. had sold their family farms
 - b. had decided to stay with their master
 - c. *had been slaves but now were free*
 - d. had never been slaves