



THE Civil War Curriculum

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GOAL 3 | LESSON PLAN | HIGH SCHOOL

1862: Antietam and Emancipation

GRADES: High School

APPROXIMATE LENGTH OF TIME: 50 minutes

GOAL: Students will be able to analyze the meaning and impact of the Emancipation Proclamation.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will be able to discuss the political and military conditions that led to the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation and General Order 143.
2. After reading the document, students will be able to analyze in writing the meaning of the Emancipation Proclamation.
3. After reading reactions to the proclamation, students will be able to discuss the different attitudes and viewpoints that people had towards the Emancipation Proclamation.

MATERIALS:

1. Sticky Notes
2. Antietam and Emancipation PowerPoint
3. Battle of Antietam Summary
4. Emancipation Proclamation Analysis Sheet
5. Emancipation Proclamation Analysis Sheet Teacher Version
6. General Order 143 Excerpt
7. The Public Reacts

ANTICIPATORY SET/HOOK:

1. Write on the board: What does “emancipation” mean?
2. As students enter the room, they will pick up a sticky note and write their answer on it.
3. Have students place the sticky note on the top corner of their desk or work space. This will be revisited at the end of the class.

PROCEDURE:

Print out the PowerPoint with notes prior to class. There are notes included with the slides that can be on the printed slides, but won't be seen by your students during the presentation.

Activity 1

1. Use the *Antietam and Emancipation PowerPoint* to guide the lesson.
 - a. Hand out the *Battle of Antietam Summary*, *Emancipation Proclamation Analysis Sheet*, and *General Order 143 Excerpt*.
 - b. These worksheets will be referred to in the PowerPoint presentation. When they are, use this time to read and discuss.

Activity 2

2. Hand out *The Public Reacts*; have students read the quotes and complete the questions.

CLOSURE:

1. Have students look back at the answers on their sticky notes.
 - a. Ask students if they were correct in the answer they made at the beginning of class. Even if they were correct, do they know more now? What exactly did the Emancipation Proclamation do?

ASSESSMENT IN THIS LESSON:

1. Informal assessment through discussion questions within PowerPoint.
2. Completed *Emancipation Analysis* sheet; students will complete the associated questions, noting when the proclamation went into effect and under which conditions slaves were freed.
3. Informal assessment of discussion based on *The Public Reacts*; students will discuss the different attitudes and viewpoints that people had towards the Emancipation Proclamation.



Battle of Antietam Summary

Location: Washington County, Maryland

Date(s): September 17, 1862

Commanders: Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan [United States] versus Gen. Robert E. Lee [Confederate States]

Estimated Casualties (died, injured, or captured): 22,700 total

In September 1862, Confederate general Robert E. Lee left the South and moved his army into Maryland. No one could be sure exactly what he planned to do, but in an incredible stroke of luck, a copy of Lee's plans (which had been wrapped around three cigars) was discovered by Union soldiers and given to Union general George B. McClellan. Knowing Lee's plan, on September 17, 1862, McClellan's army attacked Lee's army at Antietam Creek in Maryland.

The Battle of Antietam (also called the Battle of Sharpsburg) was the bloodiest single day in American history. Lee lost 10,300 men to death, injury, or capture while McClellan lost 12,400. However, having limited reinforcements and supplies, Lee was forced to retreat, and the North declared the battle a Union victory. Even though the Union won, it did not continue to chase and fight Lee's army. Since Lee and his army got away, the war did not end here; more battles were to come.



Emancipation Proclamation Analysis Sheet

By the President of the United States of America:

A Proclamation.

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

On what date did Lincoln issue the Emancipation Proclamation? _____

On what date would this document go into effect? _____

Slaves in which states would be free?

Who would enforce the freedom of the former slaves? _____

"That the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the people thereof, respectively, shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State, or the people thereof, shall on that day be, in good faith, represented in the Congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such State shall have participated, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State, and the people thereof, are not then in rebellion against the United States."

If the states did this, they would not be considered to be in rebellion: _____

Now, therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as Commander-in-Chief, of the Army and Navy of the United States in time of actual armed rebellion against the authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do, on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do publicly proclaimed for the full period of one hundred days, from the day first above mentioned, order and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (except the Parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James Ascension, Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the City of New Orleans) Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia, (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Ann, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth[)], and which excepted parts, are for the present, left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.

And by virtue of the power, and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free; and that the Executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.

And I further declare and make known, that such persons of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

What can former slaves now do?

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution, upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind, and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-seventh.

By the President: ABRAHAM LINCOLN
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

Why could Lincoln only free the slaves in the states that were in rebellion and not all of the slaves throughout the country?

Why did Lincoln allow states to return to the United States before he emancipated the slaves?

If a state had returned would their slaves have been freed or would they have remained in slavery?



Emancipation Proclamation Analysis Sheet

(Teacher Version)

By the President of the United States of America:

A Proclamation.

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

On what date did Lincoln issue the Emancipation Proclamation: **September 22, 1862**

On what date would this document go into effect? **January 1, 1863**

Slaves in which states would be free? **Those in rebellion**

Who would enforce the freedom of the former slaves? **the U.S. government, including the military**

"That the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the people thereof, respectively, shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State, or the people thereof, shall on that day be, in good faith, represented in the Congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such State shall have participated, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State, and the people thereof, are not then in rebellion against the United States."

If the states did this, they would not be considered to be in rebellion: **If they send representatives from their state to Congress.**

Now, therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as Commander-in-Chief, of the Army and Navy of the United States in time of actual armed rebellion against the authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do, on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do publicly proclaimed for the full period of one hundred days, from the day first above mentioned, order and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (except the Parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James Ascension, Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the City of New Orleans) Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia, (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Ann, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth[)], and which excepted parts, are for the present, left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.

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And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.

And I further declare and make known, that such persons of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

What can former slaves now do? **Labor for wages and join the U.S. armed forces**

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution, upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind, and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-seventh.

By the President: ABRAHAM LINCOLN
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

Why could Lincoln only free the slaves in the states that were in rebellion and not all of the slaves throughout the country?

The president did not have the power to end slavery within the United States; this would have been a matter of changing the Constitution, which cannot be done by the president alone.

Why did Lincoln allow states to return to the United States before he emancipated the slaves?

He was offering this as a way to end the war, which he knew would not be accepted by the Confederate states

If a state had returned to the Union, would their slaves have been freed or would they have remained in slavery?

The slaves would have remained in slavery for the time being, but the writing was on the wall, that the institution of slavery was about to end



General Order 143

MAY 22, 1863 | WAR DEPARTMENT

VOCABULARY:

- Bureau**
government department
- Adjutant general**
the chief administrative officer of the U.S. Army
- Consolidated**
to bring together in a single unified whole
- Battalions and regiments**
groups of enlisted soldiers from the same town, county, or state
- Seriatim**
in consecutive order; the order in which they were raised
- Determined**
decided
- Designated**
to mark or name

EXCERPT:

I -- A **Bureau** is established in the **Adjutant General's** Office for the record of all matters relating to the organization of Colored Troops....

VI -- Colored troops may be accepted by companies, to be afterward **consolidated in battalions and regiments** by the Adjutant General. The regiments will be numbered **seriatim**, in the order in which they are raised, the numbers to be **determined** by the Adjutant General. They will be **designated** Regiment of U. S. Colored Troops." (U.S.C.T.)

Why was this document important following the Emancipation Proclamation?



The Public Reacts

"a proposal for the butchery of women and children, for scenes of lust and rapine, and of arson and murder, which would invoke the interference of civilized Europe." –Horatio Seymour, a Democrat running for the governorship of New York

"In the name of freedom of Negroes, [the proclamation] imperils the liberty of white men; to test a utopian theory of equality of races which Nature, History and Experience alike condemn as monstrous, it overturns the Constitution and Civil Laws and sets up Military Usurpation in their Stead." - Henry A. Reeves, a Democrat and editor for the Greenport, New York
Republican Watchman

"The Emancipation Proclamation has done more for us than all our former victories and all our diplomacy." – Henry Adams, U.S. ambassador to the United Kingdom

"Posterity will call you the great emancipator, a more enviable title than any crown could be, and greater than any merely mundane treasure." - Giuseppe Garibaldi, Italian military and political figure

"We joyfully honor you for many decisive steps toward practically exemplifying your belief in the words of your great founders: 'All men are created free and equal.'" - Alan Van Dyke, a representative for workers from Manchester, England

"What it will effect will be to destroy utterly and forever the legal tenure of slavery in the rebel States, and to deprive the slaveholders, wherever our armies go, of the peculiar property on whose behalf they made war upon us, and for whose protection they desire to erect a separate

government. In point of fact, the slaves, when freed, are much more likely to trouble us than their old masters. We shall have to feed them until some new organization of their labor can be effected.... The thing, the only thing, which the rebels do fear is the loss of "four thousand millions of property." The chivalry see that after 1st January, if the rebellion lasts, they will have to work for their living, instead of fattening on the unpaid labor of four millions of blacks. This is the awful prospect which unmans them. It is this which convulses the rebel newspapers, and has thrown their Congress into paroxysms of anguish." - *Harper's Weekly*, October 18, 1862

"I have told you that this war is carried on for the Negro. There is the proclamation of the President of the United States. Now fellow Democrats I ask you if you are going to be forced into a war against your Brethren of the Southern States for the Negro. I answer No!" –David Allen, a Copperhead, Columbiana, Ohio

"a gross outrage on the rights of private property and an invitation to servile war, and therefore should be held up to the execration of mankind and counteracted by such severe retaliatory measures as, in the judgment of the President, may be best calculated to secure its withdrawal or arrest its execution." – Mr. Semmes, a Confederate senator from Louisiana

"the proclamation itself does not in the least alter the character of the war, as it has been an abolition contest from the beginning: the Yankees have stolen and set free all the negroes who were willing to go wherever their soldiers had possession of the country." – *The Richmond Dispatch*

"for my part I am quite satisfied with it [the Emancipation Proclamation]. That letter his to HORACE GREELEY convinced me of the honesty of the man. I know he is not going to do anything unless absolutely necessary, and when anything is necessary for the Union of course that thing must go. I have two slaves, and if parting with them could save the Union, they

should go; although I know there are plenty of men about here who could better spare forty than I can those two." – Citizen of Hagerstown, Maryland

“...the Proclamation has made an excellent beginning. We have no doubt that it will continue to justify itself more and more in the same respects, up to the very day of its practical application. And when it is once fairly in operation, it will make, we believe, very quick work of the rebellion. With our army cordon stretched from the Chesapeake to the furthest frontier, with a strong foothold in every rebel State without exception, and with our gunboats penetrating the swollen rivers in all directions, the rebels will find it an absolute impossibility to prevent this Proclamation of freedom from bringing to a speedy end the whole system through which alone they have been able to keep their rebellion alive thus far. Slavery, in less than a month, from the first day of January, will be so utterly demoralized and broken up, that even the most obdurate rebel will admit that the last slave-grown crop has been raised, and that stark famine confronts the Confederacy.” – *New York Times*, “A Month of the Proclamation”, October 22, 1862

What were the reactions of people in the Union? Were they all the same or varied?

What were the reactions of people in the Confederacy?

What was the reaction in Europe?

Do you think Lincoln was expecting these reactions? Do you think any surprised him?
