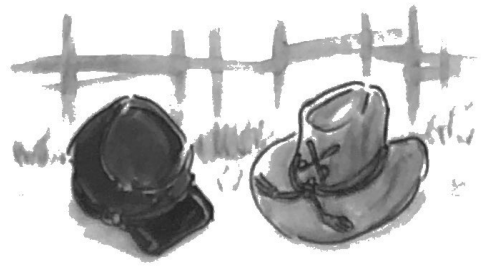


# The American Civil War



## The Battle Of Gettysburg

The Battle of Gettysburg took place from July 1-3, 1863 near the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. This battle was one of the most important battles of the Civil War for the North. It was the deadliest battle of the Civil War. There were around 46,000 casualties including nearly 8,000 deaths. ?

Robert E. Lee had invaded the North and was trying to defeat the Union Army once and for all. The Confederates were confident in Lee because he had just had a victory at the Battle of Chancellorsville, Virginia. However, the Union Army held him off and sent him retreating. This was a major turning point in the war.

The Union forces were led by General George Meade. He was only in command three days before the battle. The Confederate forces were led by General Robert E. Lee along with General's Longstreet and Pickett.

On the first day of the battle, the Confederates outnumbered the Union and were initially the stronger force. By the second day, both sides were now at full force because reinforcements had arrived during the night. Lee drove back a part of the Union line, but he was unable to seize the area they were in called Culp's Hill. The Union lines held. On the third day, Union troops were making progress in driving the Confederates back, but General Lee sent General Pickett, with 13,000 men, on a direct charge at the heart of the Union Army. This famous attack is called Pickett's Charge. Pickett's men were defeated with over half of them injured or killed. The Union Forces had won. The next day, General Lee began his retreat toward Williamsport. The Confederate train of wounded stretched more than fourteen miles. General Meade and the Union Army were exhausted and had many casualties and deaths as well. They did not pursue Lee's Army. President Lincoln was disappointed that Meade did not pursue General Lee as he felt the entire Confederate army could have been defeated and the war ended that day. Because of his defeat at Gettysburg, General Robert E. Lee offered his resignation to Confederate President, Jefferson Davis. President Davis refused to accept it.

The Union victory boosted the North's morale and eventually helped Lincoln to keep the country one united country. Four months after the battle, President Lincoln used the dedication ceremony for Gettysburg's Soldiers National Cemetery to honor the fallen Union soldiers and redefine the purpose of the Civil War in his historic Gettysburg Address. His speech was short and lasted only two minutes. Not much was thought of the speech at the time, but today it is considered one of the greatest speeches ever given.

# The American Civil War



## The Battle Of Gettysburg Answer Key

1. When and where did the Battle of Gettysburg take place?  
From July 1-3, 1863 near the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
2. How many casualties resulted from the Battle of Gettysburg?  
Around 46,000 casualties including nearly 8,000 deaths
3. Who led the Union forces?  
General George Meade
4. Who led the Confederate forces?  
General Robert E. Lee along with General's Longstreet and Pickett
5. What was the famous attack on day three that was led by General Pickett called?  
Pickett's Charge
6. Who won the Battle Of Gettysburg?  
The Union (The North)
7. Did General Meade pursue the Confederate army after they retreated?  
No
8. Who did not accept General Lee's resignation after the Battle of Gettysburg?  
Confederate President, Jefferson Davis
9. What famous speech did Lincoln give four months after the Battle of Gettysburg?  
The Gettysburg Address
10. How long did the speech last?  
Two minutes