

# The Civil War Vocabulary

plantations, n. Large farms where crops are raised

slavery, n. The practice of forcing people to work without pay as enslaved people, and denying them the freedom to decide how to live their lives

survival, n. The state of continuing to exist, especially in spite of difficult conditions

value, n. Usefulness or importance

wages, n. Money that is paid or received for work

conductor, n. A person who led or directed enslaved Africans to freedom during the Civil War using the Underground Railroad

contributions, n. Money, materials, information, or labor given by someone to help others

gourd, n. A plant whose hard-shelled fruit is sometimes dried and hollowed out to be used as a tool

**passengers**, n. Enslaved Africans who traveled to freedom on the Underground Railroad

**rebellious**, adj. Resisting, or fighting, being controlled by someone else

**abolitionists**, n. People who worked to abolish, or end, slavery

**agriculture**, n. The science of producing crops; farming

**cotton**, n. Soft, white fibers that surround the seeds of a cotton plant

**economy**, n. The system by which people produce and trade goods

**factories**, n. Buildings where goods are manufactured, or made

**candidates**, n. People who are chosen to run, or compete against others, for an office, prize, or honor

**debates**, n. Discussions involving two sides; arguments

**expand**, v. To spread out; to become greater in size

**government**, n. A group of people who help lead a country

**politicians**, n. People involved in the activities of a government

**Confederacy**, n. The government formed by the states in the South after they withdrew from the United States

**elected**, v. Chosen by a vote to do something or be in a certain position

**heritage**, n. Something that is inherited, or passed down; traditions, or ways of doing things that haven't changed over time

**seceded**, v. Withdrew membership from an established group

**Union**, n. The northern states that did not secede from the United States

**civilians**, n. People who are members of society and are not part of the military or police force

**civil war**, n. A war between different groups or regions in the same country

**clash**, v. To collide in intense disagreement

**devastated**, v. Destroyed

**flee**, v. To run away quickly from danger

**Rebels**, n. The nickname given to the Confederate soldiers

**advisors**, n. People who give advice

**frail**, adj. Weak; fragile

**general**, n. A military officer of high rank or position

**oath**, n. A promise made before witnesses

**wasteland**, n. An area that is devastated, or destroyed, by something, such as a flood, storm, or war

**compassionate**, adj. Caring; having or showing sympathy or pity

**countless**, adj. Too numerous to count

**disasters**, n. Events that cause a lot of destruction and pain

**wounded**, n. People who are injured

**abolished**, v. Did away with; ended

**Cabinet**, n. A group of people who give advice to the president; advisors

**emancipation**, n. The act of releasing, or setting free

**proclamation**, n. An official announcement

**scroll**, n. A rolled piece of parchment, or paper

**ammunition**, n. Material fired from weapons

**defeat**, n. Failure to win

**rations**, n. Amounts of food or provisions set aside for each person

**surrendered**, v. Yielded or gave something up to another

**Yankees**, n. Union soldiers during the Civil War; people from the northern States

**equality**, n. The state of being the same; fairness

**monument**, n. A structure, such as a building or sculpture, built as a memorial to a person or event

**prosperity**, n. Financial success or good fortune

**ransacked**, v. Searched through to steal goods; looted

**rival**, n. A person who is competing for the same object or position as another

**united**, adj. Joined together as one