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America: The Story of Us

(Episode 5: The Civil War)

Directions: Answer the questions provided below while following along with the video.

1. What is a “Minie ball?” Where was this invented? What was so deadly about this invention?
2. In what ways was the American Civil War labeled as the “most modern war?”
3. In what ways was the American Civil War fought like other traditional wars in the past?
4. By the time of the Northern troops victory, how many overall people had died due to participating in the American Civil War? Because of the large number, what did troops on both sides of the line start to do in the event of their possible death on the battlefield?
5. How did the U.S. Postal Service aid in telling the story of what took place on the battlefield?
6. What percentage of cotton, a.k.a “white gold” did the U.S. South produce for the GLOBAL economy?
7. Who was Robert E. Lee? What were his credentials to make him the best fit for his job?
8. How many Union (Northern) soldiers died at the hand of the Southern Confederate army?
9. What “secret weapon” does President Lincoln use to help Union forces replenish resources and ultimately win the Civil War?
10. What were the issues with the railways in the South? What was the ultimate, end result for Southern troops?
11. How did industry and the war effort during the Civil War work hand in hand during this time in American history?
12. What was the telegraph? How was this a useful invention during the Civil War?

13. What two commands did President Lincoln enforce concerning the telegraph which also helped the Northern Union soldiers victorious?
14. The Battle of Antietam was known as the bloodiest of the American Civil War battles. What were the casualty and wounded numbers from this event?
15. Describe doctors William Watson and Theo Dimon's experience as onsite surgeons during the war?
16. What were other issues that arose as a result of battlefield wounds and amputations during the war?
17. Who is Clara Barton? What was so unique about her involvement during the war? What does she go on to start after the war?
18. What is bromine? How does it help during the war?
19. Explain the role of photography and the American newspaper during the Civil War.
20. What is embalming? How does this invention serve as a new business venture for certain groups of Americans?
21. What were the terms of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863? How did news of this document travel so quickly throughout America?
22. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do for the enrollment numbers of the Union Army in the North? Why was this so?
23. What was the Gettysburg Address? What was the purpose behind the delivery of this document?
24. What was President Lincoln's final order to Union General William T. Sherman as a means to finally end the war? Describe Sherman's "Scorched Earth" approach to winning the war?
25. How long did it take for the South to surrender following Sherman's all out plan of war? How long after the South's surrender was President Lincoln assassinated?