

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Emancipation Proclamation

Read a brief overview of the history of the Emancipation Proclamation, then review what you've learned with the exercises that follow.



The Emancipation Proclamation was an order issued by President Abraham Lincoln which began the process of freeing all the slaves in the United States.

Lincoln issued a preliminary Emancipation Proclamation after the battle at Antietam on September 22, 1862. It declared all slaves free as of January 1, 1863, when the proclamation was signed.

The order stated that if the rebels did not end the fighting and rejoin the Union, all slaves in the rebellious states would be free. The Emancipation Proclamation, followed by the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution, would eventually free four million enslaved Americans.

The order also allowed freed slaves to join the U.S. military. By the end of the Civil War in 1865, 200,000 African American troops, most of whom were former slaves, served in the Union armed forces. These added troops, as well as the political effect of the Emancipation Proclamation, helped the Union win the Civil War.

"All persons held as slaves within any States, or designated part of the State, the people whereof shall be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free."

— The Emancipation Proclamation

Exercises

Fill in the Blank

President _____ signed the Emancipation Proclamation. The preliminary Emancipation Proclamation was issued in _____. The Emancipation Proclamation was signed in _____. The Proclamation started the process for _____ million slaves to be freed. The order allowed freed slaves to join the _____.

Word Scramble

The letters are scrambled in the following words. Put the letters in the correct order, then use them to make a sentence about the Emancipation Proclamation.

CNLOINL: _____

ETH: _____

DMFEREO: _____

ROERD: _____

DEGNIS: _____

Sentence: _____

