

DIRECTIONS: MAKE COPIES OF THE ROLES; YOU MIGHT USE DIFFERENT COLORS FOR THE DIFFERENT OPINIONS. RED FOR THE WAR; BLUE AGAINST THE WAR; ORANGE FOR NEUTRAL

PLANTATION OWNER: You own a large plantation in South Carolina with over 150 field slaves who work your cotton fields and 30 house slaves who cooks, cleans and takes care of the children. YOU ARE VERY WEALTHY. You are **FOR** the war because you believe that the South will win the war and that is the only way to keep your slaves and plantation life. You invested a lot of money in your slaves and you do not want to lose your investment.

FACTORY OWNER: You are the wealthy owner of two large factories that manufacture war materials such as guns, ammunition and cannon. Your factories are in New York City. You do not believe in slavery, but if war comes, you will make a lot of money manufacturing the materials needed to fight the war. You are **FOR** the war mostly because of the money you will make. It does not matter who wins war, because you will become wealthier.

FIELD SLAVE: You are a field slave in a large plantation and you have heard rumors that because you are getting old, you will be sold off. Your family lives in the same plantation as you and you do not want to be separated, but you will have no choice in the matter. You are not treated very well and you are worried about your family if you are sold. You are **FOR** the war because you believe you will gain your freedom and that means your family can stay together.

ABOLITIONIST: You are Frederick Douglass, a run-away slave who gained your freedom, learned to read and write and began to be a spokesman for the slaves. *You know first hand the hardships of being a slave and the dangers of escaping.* You are **FOR** the war because you believe that slavery has to end and it will take a war to do it. You give speeches and write articles in the newspapers arguing for the end to slavery.

ABOLITIONIST: You are Harriet B. Stowe and you wrote the book *Uncle Tom's Cabin* that caused uproar on both sides. You described the harsh conditions of the lives of the slaves and the plight of the run-away slaves. Northerners were enraged by what you wrote and Southerners said that it was not true. You met President Lincoln who said, "So you are the little lady who caused this Great War". You are **FOR** the war because you believe it is wrong to own people and you hope a war will free the slaves.

SHARECROPPERS: You farm a share of the land that is owned by a wealthy plantation owner in the South. You resent that you are poor and you work hard on the land but it still belongs to the plantation owners. You have to share or give a part of the profits to him. He lives in a mansion and has slaves to do all the work and you live a shack much like the slaves. You are **FOR** the war because you think that maybe if the North wins, you can get to keep the land you farm.

SENATOR: You are John C. Calhoun, an outspoken Senator from South Carolina. You believe in states' rights and that slavery should not be decided by Congress or the federal government but by every state. You also believe that states should have the right of "nullification", that means to declare a law passed by Congress "null and void". You are **FOR** the war, because you believe the South should form its own country and keep their slaves and that only a war will allow that to happen.

ABOLITIONIST: You are Harriet Tubman, a slave who escaped to the North and organized the "Underground Railroad". This was a system of using homes and churches to hide slaves and help them escape. You helped over 300 "passengers" on the railroad. Although there was a bounty of \$40,000 for your capture, you were never captured. You are **FOR** the war because of your strong belief that only a war will force the South to give up their slaves and way of life.

SOUTHERN BELLE: You are a young beautiful southern belle, who has grown up on a plantation being taken care of by your “mammy”, a black slave. You have romanticized the war and can’t wait to see your beaux in their uniforms. You are **FOR** the war because you want to maintain your lifestyle and you have been told that only a war will guarantee that. You are “clueless” about the real cost of war.

POOR FAMILY: You and your family are very poor and living in New York City. You have just lost your job and you are planning to go West on a wagon train to look for a new life. You have heard about the possibility of free land and you want a farm of your own. You don’t care one way or another about slavery since it does not affect you. You are **NEUTRAL** about the war because you hope to be gone if it breaks out.

IMMIGRANT: You are an immigrant who just arrived from Ireland. You are Catholic and do not believe in slavery but you do not want to get involved in a war so you wish to remain **NEUTRAL**. You have seen enough war and what fighting can do. You just want to be left alone to start a new life in America.

NATIVE AMERICAN: You are a Native American who lives in Oklahoma, Indian Territory. Although slavery is allowed, you do not want your homeland involved in a war. You are **NEUTRAL** because you believe your Native American people have already suffered enough through the Indian Removal treaties and the long journey to Indian Territory known as the “Trail of Tears”. You hope that the North and the South can resolve the issue of slavery without a war, but if war comes, you want to stay out of it.

SMALL FARMER: You have a small farm in the western part of Virginia. You grow enough crops for you and your family to live on and some extra to sell for cash. You are **AGAINST** the war because you are afraid when the war comes; it will be fought in your home state and maybe even in your backyard. Your state lies right in the middle between North and South. You pray that both sides can resolve the issue without a war. You don’t care if the South forms a Confederacy and where your farm may lie; you just don’t want a war.

PENNSYLVANIA QUAKER: You have a prosperous small farm in Pennsylvania. You are of the Quaker faith who does not believe in fighting or any kind of violence. You have two grown sons who will be asked to fight if war breaks out. You are **AGAINST** the war because of your faith and your sons. You also worry about your farm being in the path of the fighting. You feel that any fighting might take place near your farm at Gettysburg.

ARTIST: You are an artist who lives in Rhode Island. You are against slavery, but your parents, brothers and sisters live in Georgia on a large plantation with over 150 slaves. They are very kind to their slaves and their livelihood depends on slavery. You are **AGAINST** the war because of your family. You just know if war comes, your family will be right in the middle because they will not give their slaves easily.

MINISTER: You are a minister from the South who, although you defend the institution of slavery, you do not believe in war. You say there has always been slavery and that even Jesus said “Be kind to your slaves”. You are **AGAINST** the war, because you believe that the federal government should just leave the South alone. You are a Christian who believes that war is not the way to solve a problem.

HOUSE SLAVE: You are a house slave and you are able to be indoors doing the cooking, cleaning and caring for the children. You dress nicely and you eat better food than the field slaves. You are worried what will happen to your family out in the field if war breaks out. You are **AGAINST** the war because your life is not that bad and you are not sure of the future if you are free. You worry about a shelter, food and earning money on your own. You were never allowed to learn to read and write and you are just afraid to be on your own.

YOUNG WIFE: You live in the South and you and your husband do not own slaves. He is a doctor and you just got married and are expecting your first child. You are **AGAINST** the war for several reasons. You know that your husband will be forced to go to take care of the wounded. Also, you are afraid he might get hurt or die in the course of the fighting. You could be left a widow with a young child to rear on your own.

NEWSPAPER JOURNALIST: You write editorials for a newspaper in Washington D.C. and you hear all the talk of war. You have met President Lincoln and you know how much he wants to avoid war. You also believe, like Lincoln, that there should be a way to resolve the issue of slavery besides going to war. You are **AGAINST** the war and write articles in your newspaper against it. You write about the cost of war both in lives and destruction to our land.

YOUNG MAN: You are a young man in Boston about to enter college to become a lawyer. You have dreamed all your life of going to college. Now war looms in your horizons and you wonder what will happen to you. You know you will be asked to join in the fight to defend your country. You do not believe in slavery, but you do not want to risk your life to defend it. You are **AGAINST** the war, because you want a chance to live your life and fulfill your dreams.

A PARENT: You live in Philadelphia and you have four grown sons. You are a very close family who supports each other and stays close together. You are **AGAINST** this war because your sons are just the right age to have to join the fight. You have taught them about honor and you know they will want to join in the battle to defend their country. You do not believe in slavery, but you do not want to give up your sons for that cause.

Using information from the slide presentation and the simulation game decide if the statement refers to the NORTH or the SOUTH.

1. _____ Strong believer in federal rights
2. _____ Most abolitionists were from there
3. _____ Contained a large coastal plain
4. _____ Most of the immigrants from Europe went there
5. _____ Believed that “nullification” was fair
6. _____ Its industry was most affected by the cotton gin
7. _____ Strong believer in states’ rights
8. _____ Had a marine climate that led to harsh winters
9. _____ Developed a lumber and shipping industry
10. _____ Senator John C. Calhoun was from there

Answers: CIVIL WAR SIMULATION QUICK QUIZ

1. North _____ Strong believer in federal rights
2. North _____ Most abolitionists were from there
3. South _____ Contained a large coastal plain
4. North _____ Most of the immigrants from Europe went there
5. South _____ Believed that “nullification” was fair
6. South _____ Its industry was most affected by the cotton gin
7. South _____ Strong believer in states’ rights
8. North _____ Had a marine climate that led to harsh winters
9. North _____ Developed a lumber and shipping industry
10. South _____ Senator John C. Calhoun was from there

RESOURCES

Throughout the PowerPoint, A Nation Breaks Apart, there are numerous websites and links to causes of the Civil War.

The following websites are also excellent Civil War resources

<http://americancivilwar.com/>

<http://ehistory.osu.edu/uscw/library/maps/index.cfm>

<http://www.pdmusic.org/civilwar.html>

<http://www.greatamericanhistory.net/causes.htm>

<http://www.nps.gov/archive/gett/gettkidz/cause.htm>

<http://library.thinkquest.org/CR0215086/dailylife.htm>

Some of the most important documentaries on the Civil War are those made by Ken Burns.

Here is a link to some Civil War videos for classroom use.

<http://www.pbs.org/civilwar/>