Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_KEY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The Gettysburg Address**

Background Information:

*On November 19th, 1863, following the Battle of Gettysburg, Abraham Lincoln gave the Gettysburg Address during the dedication of the cemetery for Union soldiers who fought and died in the battle. Lincoln was the second speaker at the dedication and was preceded on the podium by the famed orator Edward Everett, who spoke to the crowd for two hours. Lincoln followed with his now immoral Gettysburg Address in which Lincoln expressed the great need for Americans to remember the sacrifice made by these soldiers. On November 20, Everett wrote to Lincoln: “Permit me also to express my great admiration of the thoughts expressed by you, with such eloquent simplicity & appropriateness, at the consecration of the Cemetery. I should be glad, if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion, in two hours, as you did in two minutes.”*

Battle of Gettysburg Statistics:



What famous phrase is Lincoln referencing? What is the name of that document?

A score is 20 years, so four scores and seven years is eighty seven years. Lincoln delivered his speech in 1863, 87 years after America declared independence. The first line of the Declaration of Independence – “we hold these truths to be evident...”

**Union Confederates**

3,155 Killed 4,708 Killed

14,351 Wounded 12, 693 Wounded

5,369 Captured/Missing 5,830 Captured/Missing

*Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.*

*Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.*

*But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.*

*It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.*

How is America being tested?

They are being tested on whether the nation can endure.

What is the “unfinished work” Lincoln is referring to?

The “work” to help save the Union.

How might death bring “new birth of freedom?”

The death of the soldiers shall lead to a new birth of freedom meaning the reconciliation of the Union and the continuation of the government.

*After reading the Gettysburg Address, answer the following.*

1. Where is Gettysburg located?

Gettysburg is located in Pennsylvania.

1. Who does President Lincoln mean by “our fathers?”

President Lincoln is referring to the Founding Fathers – the men who created the United States.

1. If the country didn’t “endure”, what might happen?

If the country did not “endure” it would fall apart.

1. Why do you think the Gettysburg Address is still relevant today?

Answers will vary.