

Name: _____ Hr: _____

Interesting Facts- Civil War

Directions: Read the facts about the Civil War below. With your partner, discuss each fact and then circle the five that are the most interesting to you. Be ready to share.

- 1.) One-third of the soldiers who fought for the Union Army were immigrants, and nearly one in 10 was African American.
- 2.) Black Union soldiers refused their salaries for 18 months to protest being paid lower wages than white soldiers.
- 3.) Harriet Tubman led a raid to free slaves during the Civil War.
- 4.) Lincoln was shot at—and almost killed— nearly two years before he was assassinated.
- 5.) Before William Tecumseh Sherman became a great Union general, he was demoted for apparent insanity.
- 6.) General Ulysses S. Grant wasn't the bloodiest general of the war—Robert E. Lee was.
- 7.) Both before and during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln pushed to send freed slaves abroad.
- 8.) Robert E. Lee's Virginia estate was confiscated by the Union and turned into a cemetery during the war.
- 9.) Privates weren't cannon fodder during the Civil War—generals were.
- 10.) More men died in the Civil War than any other American conflict, and two-thirds of the dead perished from disease.
- 11.) It was the deadliest war in American history. There were around 210,000 soldiers killed in action and 625,000 total dead.
- 12.) A Civil War soldier's chance of surviving the war was about 1 in 4.
- 13.) John and George Crittenden were brothers who were both generals during the war. John for the North and George for the South!
- 14.) Stonewall Jackson, one of the South's greatest generals, was killed by friendly fire.
- 15.) Lincoln dreamed of getting assassinated only a few days before he was killed by John Wilkes Booth.
- 16.) Many of the Southern men already knew how to shoot a gun and ride a horse from hunting . The Northern men tended to work in factories and many didn't know how to fire a gun or ride horses.
- 17.) The youngest soldier in the Civil War was a 9-year-old boy from Mississippi. The oldest was an 80-year-old from Iowa. More than 10,000 soldiers serving in the Union Army were under 18 years old.
- 18.) After John Wilkes Booth shot Lincoln, he jumped from the box and broke his leg. However, he still managed to stand up on the stage and yell out the Virginia State Motto "Sic semper tyrannis" which means "Thus always to tyrants".
- 19.) Clara Barton was a famous nurse to the Union Troops. She was called the "Angel of the Battlefields" and founded the American Red Cross.
- 20.) The average Civil War soldier was 5'8" tall and weighed 143 pounds. He was 23 years old
- 21.) During the Civil War, 2% of the U.S. population died. This is equivalent to 6 million men today.