In the summer of 1863, Southern and Northern troops clashed in one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. After the Confederate, or Southern, Army won a battle in northern Virginia, it invaded the North and headed into Pennsylvania. It hoped to collect more supplies and weaken the North. Meanwhile, the Union Army of the North was pursuing the Confederate troops. The two sides met and fought near the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The battle at Gettysburg has been called "the most crucial battle in American history."

Before the Battle of Gettysburg, the Confederacy had been doing very well in the Civil War. But at Gettysburg, the North defeated the South. The battle was bloody. The Union Army suffered 23,000 casualties, while the Confederate Army suffered 28,000. A casualty is someone who is killed, wounded, or captured in battle. The Battle of Gettysburg turned the tide of the war and marked the beginning of the success of the North in defeating the South.

In the fall of 1863, President Lincoln visited the battlefield at Gettysburg for a ceremony
dedicating the field to all the soldiers who had died. He reminded people why Americans must stand up for their values. His speech, the Gettysburg Address, has become one of the most famous speeches of American history. Lincoln said:

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the [idea] 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 battlefield 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, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Lincoln's words were never forgotten. The government of the people, by the people, and for the people remains.
**dedicate**  ded-i-cate

**Advanced Definition**

transitive verb

1. to set apart or declare to be for a special use or purpose, as a worthy cause, public benefit, or sacred activities.

   *These funds are dedicated to improving the transportation system.*

   *We all must dedicate some time and effort to solving this problem.*

   *All the profits are dedicated to medical research.*

2. to devote (oneself or one's life) to a particular person, cause, or course of action.

   *He will have to dedicate himself to his studies if he wants to go to medical school.*

   *She dedicated her life to helping others.*

3. to address or inscribe (a book or the like) to a particular person as a token of affection or respect.

   *This library is dedicated to the founder of the university.*

   *I would like to dedicate this song to my lovely wife.*

**Spanish cognate**

dedicar: The Spanish word dedicar means dedicate.

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**These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:**

1. "But, in a larger sense, we can not **dedicate** - we can not consecrate - we can not hallow - this ground."

2. He decided to **dedicate** one of his symphonies to Napoleon.
devotion  de·vo·tion

Advanced Definition
noun
1. great attachment; strong affection.

   *He felt great devotion towards his aunt, who had raised him as her own.*

2. ardent or zealous concern for.

   *Her devotion to the cause of civil rights was without parallel.*

3. (often pl.) religious worship.

Spanish cognate

*devoción:* The Spanish word *devoción* means devotion.

These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:

1. In a letter to his sister, he wrote: "With all my *devotion* to the Union and the feeling of loyalty and duty of an American citizen, I have not been able to make up my mind to raise my hand against my home."

2. "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, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."
**resolve** re·solve

**Advanced Definition**

**transitive verb**
1. to reach a firm or final decision about, or cause one to reach such a decision.

   *The attack on Pearl Harbor resolved the United States to enter World War II.*

2. to clear up or deal with successfully.

   *Let's try to resolve this problem here and now.*

3. to decide by formal vote.

   *The committee resolved to amend the club's constitution.*

4. to break down into constituent parts; separate.

**intransitive verb**
1. to reach a conclusion or make a firm decision.

   *She resolved to quit her current job and switch careers entirely.*

   *The panel has not yet resolved on the issue.*

2. to become reduced into constituent parts.

3. of music, to pass from dissonant to consonant harmony.

**noun**
1. firmness or clearness of purpose; determination.

**Spanish cognate**

*resolver*: The Spanish word *resolver* means resolve.

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**These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:**

1. Agree to return to the situation when you're calm and ready to resolve the problem.

2. "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, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

3. Sometimes, General Assembly members vote on what the U. N. should do to try to resolve disagreements.
Name: ___________________________ Date: _______________

1. Why has the Battle of Gettysburg been called "the most crucial battle in American history"?

   A. It was a turning point in the Civil War.
   B. It was the first time the North was invaded.
   C. It was the bloodiest battle in American history.
   D. It was won by the Confederate Army.

2. The passage sequences the events that led up to the Gettysburg Address. Which of the following events happened first?

   A. The Union and Confederate Armies met near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.
   B. The Confederate Army invaded the North and headed into Pennsylvania.
   C. President Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address.
   D. The Confederate Army won a battle in northern Virginia.

3. The Gettysburg Address shows Lincoln's determination to have a unified country once more. What sentence from the speech best supports this conclusion?

   A. "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."
   B. "It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us...and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."
   C. "Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure."
   D. "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."

4. Based on Lincoln's speech, how can the men who fought in the Battle of Gettysburg best be honored?

   A. by giving a powerful speech that reminds people of their values
   B. by creating a whole new government that includes the North and the South
   C. by consecrating the battlefield on which the soldiers fought
   D. by working to unite the American nation once more
5. What is the passage, "Gettysburg and the Gettysburg Address" mostly about?
   A. the casualties suffered by the Union and Confederate Armies
   B. an important Civil War battle and Lincoln's address
   C. how the Battle of Gettysburg impacted the tide of the Civil War
   D. how Lincoln was involved in the Battle of Gettysburg

6. What is the purpose of the paragraphs provided before the text of the Gettysburg Address?
   A. to explain how the South defeated the North
   B. to examine the dedication of the battlefield
   C. to criticize Lincoln's speech
   D. to provide historical context for the Address

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.
   In the summer of 1863, the Confederate Army of the South invaded the North ___________ it hoped to collect more supplies and weaken the North.
   A. sometimes
   B. however
   C. because
   D. although

8. How did the Battle of Gettysburg impact the outcome of the Civil War?

   ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________
9. What is the "great task" described in the Gettysburg Address?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

10. What does Lincoln's description of the "great task" show about his attitude toward the war? Use information from the passage to support your answer.

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________________________________________________________________________