Conflict often brings about great change. Neither the Union nor the Confederate forces gained a strong early advantage.
The First Battle

• Main idea: The North realized with the first major battle that the war would be a long, difficult struggle.

• Many thought the North would quickly defeat the South, citizens even went to watch the first battle!
First Battle of Bull Run

• 1\textsuperscript{st} major Civil War battle
  – 30,000 rookie Yankees vs. smaller group of rookie Rebels
  – N. Virginia, outside Manassas Junction

• At first Yankees drove Rebels back

• Rebels rallied under \textit{reinforcements} under General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson
  – Earned nickname for fighting enemy heroically “like a stone wall” he didn’t budge
  – “Rebel yell” became known as Southern troops surged forward, forcing Northern troops to retreat (stampede) back to DC
THE SECOND BATTLE OF BULL RUN, FOUGHT AUG. 29TH, 1862.

Between the Army of Virginia under Maj. Gen. John Pope, and the combined forces of the Rebel Army under Lee, Jackson and others. This terrific battle was fought on the identical battle field of Bull Run, and lasted with great fury from daylight until after dark, when the rebels were driven back and the Union Army rested in triumph on the field.
Outcome shocked the North, but Lincoln was ready to act.

- Called for more volunteers
- Signed bills requesting a million soldiers to serve for three years
- Appointed General George B. McClellan to head Union Army of the East (Army of the Potomac)
1. How did the First Battle of Bull Run change expectations about the war?
2. What role do you think inexperience played in the battle?
War at Sea

• Main idea: The North set up a blockade along the South’s coastline, which caused serious problems for the South.

• Prior to Bull Run, Lincoln ordered naval blockade of Southern ports, cutting off their supplies and trade throughout the war - creating serious problems for the South.
The Monitor vs. The Merrimack

• Angry about blockade, Southerners salvaged an abandoned Union warship, Merrimack
  – Rebuilt/covered w/ thick iron plates & renamed the Virginia
• March 8, 1862 the ironclad, attacked Union ships
  – Wooden Union ships could not harm Rebel ships, shells bounced off ironsides
  – Yankees sent their ironclad, Monitor, in response & neither could sink the other
• First battle between two metal-covered ships
  – New age in naval warfare
  – Used as models for future
1. What was the significance of the battle of the ironclads?
War in the West

- Main idea: Action shifted to the West after the First Battle of Bull Run as each side reorganized forces.
- After Bull Run, each side took time to build army.
- Fighting in the East settled; picked up in West…
Early Victories for the North

- Union goal = gain control of Mississippi and Tennessee Rivers, split South in 2 and limit transportation of goods
- 1862, launched operation from Cairo, Illinois under command of Ulysses S. “Unconditional Surrender” Grant
  - February 6, captured Fort Henry on Tennessee River
  - February 16, captured Fort Donelson
    - Both victories helped secure river
    - Opened up path for Union troops
  - Grant became a hero
The Battle of Shiloh

- **General Grant**, with 40,000 troops, marched along Tennessee River toward railway junction
- April 1862, Union army, joined by other Union forces, camped at Pittsburg Landing, near a church named Shiloh
  - April 6, Confederate troops launched surprise attack on Union soldiers...Conflict lasted two days
    - Rebels drove Yankees back on first day, but Yankees recovered to defeat Rebels on second day
  - The two sides suffered more than 20,000 casualties combined, including a Confederate General Johnston
- After victory, Union took control of Corinth, and Memphis soon after, well on their way to controlling the Mississippi R.
Surprise!
New Orleans Falls

• April 25, 1862, Union naval forces under David Farragut captured New Orleans (South’s largest city)
  – Confederates could no longer use Mississippi to carry goods to sea
• Union had almost all of Mississippi River
1. Why was control of the Mississippi River important to the North and to the South?
Battle Names

• Some Civil War battles have more than one name
  – Union liked to name battles after nearest body of water
  – Rebels liked to name battles after nearest town or city

Bull Run →
Antietam →
Stone’s River →
Pittsbug Landing →

← Manassas
← Sharpsburg
← Murfreesboro
← Shiloh
War in the East

• Main idea: Battles continues and after several Southern victories, Lincoln removed General McClellan for his failure to act in these battles.

• While North and South were fighting over control of Mississippi, other battles were being fought in the East by General George B. McClelland and troops
McClellan Hesitates

- **McClellan** was training Army of the Potomac to fight effectively through reorganization and drilling, but when faced with battle, he was worried that troops weren’t ready
  - Hesitated to fight due to reports that overestimated size of Rebel troops
- March 1862, **McClellan’s** army set out to capture Richmond, however they did not follow **Lincoln’s** wishes
  - **McClellan** moved army by ship and began offensive Peninsular Campaign, taking many weeks
  - Lincoln constantly told **McClellan** to act, as he let opportunities to attack slip by and gave the Confederates time to prepare a defensive plan for Richmond
- Finally, forces met at the end of June in the Seven Days’ Battles
Seven Days’ Battles

• Confederate General Robert E. Lee was in command opposite Union General McClellan.

• Lee’s cavalry leader, JEB Stuart, led 1,200 men in a circle around Union positions, gathering info and boosting Southern morale, led to driving Union back and preventing them from taking Richmond.
Gloom in the North

• Reports from Richmond disappointed North
  – More volunteers called for (300,000 more) but response was much slower

• Southern strategy seemed to be working
  – North growing weary of war
  – But defeat not complete
    • McClellan’s army pushed back, but still larger than Lee’s and only 25 miles from Richmond
  – Lincoln ordered them back to Virginia to join Major General John Pope’s troops
Gloom in North

- Confederate General Stonewall Jackson and forces, as well as Lee’s army, moved north to attack Pope’s supply base
  - August 29, 1862, Pope attacked, approaching Confederates at Second Battle of Bull Run
    - Ending in Confederate victory
    - Richmond no longer threatened, now Lee and Confederates stood only 20 miles from DC

Nice going McClellan...
1. Was McClellan’s caution good for the Union or a problem? Why?
2. Why would Stuart’s ride around the Union army boost Southern morale?
Lee Enters Maryland

• Following Southern victories, CSA President Davis ordered Lee to launch offensive attack of Maryland
  – Hoped another win would bring aid from England/France
  – Davis also urged people of Maryland to join Confederacy

• September 13, 1862, as Lee’s army marched into Maryland, two Union soldiers found a copy of Lee’s orders for army dropped by a Rebel soldier…LUCKY!
  – McClellan knew Lee’s plan and was provided with an opportunity to defeat him
The Battle of Antietam

- Again **McClellan** too cautious, waiting four days to attack, enabling **Lee** to gather forces near Sharpsburg along Antietam Creek
- Union and Confederates met on September 17th in the bloodiest battle of the war
  - 6,000 dead and 17,000 injured (combined)
  - Both suffered losses, neither destroyed
- Confederate **General Lee** and army withdrew to Virginia, allowing Union to claim victory
The Battle of Antietam

- Lincoln urged **McClellan** to follow and “destroy the rebel army”, but again he did not follow orders
  - **Lincoln** removed him from command in November, replacing him with **General Ambrose Burnside**

- Antietam victory crucial for Union, as British were ready to intervene (if **Lee** had succeeded) AND ready to recognize Confederacy as a nation
  - Instead withheld support and South lost best chance to gain international support and recognition

- Union victory at Antietam changed Northern war aims
  - **Lincoln** used battle to take action against slavery
1. What event convinced Lincoln that the time was right to move against slavery?
2. What was the outcome of the Seven Day’s Battles?
3. Explain why the North wanted to blockade the South.
4. Which general won victories at Fort Henry and Fort Donelson? What nickname did he earn at the second battle?
5. Why was Union general McClellan not effective as a military commander?
6. What was the importance of the Union victory at the Battle of Antietam?