

AmStud/APUSH blog project

Purpose: To gain deeper understanding of motives behind actions taken, the effects of war on people's lives, and the strategy/policy decisions made, as well as to encourage primary source document research and historical writing

Focus event: Civil War, 1860-65

Events by day:

- Day 1: election of Abraham Lincoln
- Day 2: firing upon Ft. Sumter
- Day 3: battle of First Bull Run
- Day 4: battle of Antietam
- Day 5: Emancipation Proclamation issued
- Day 6: battle of Chancellorsville
- Day 7: battle of Gettysburg
- Day 8: fall of Vicksburg
- Day 9: surrender at Appomattox
- Day 10: assassination of Lincoln

Cast of Characters

Mary Chesnut	Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain	Robert E. Lee
George McClellan	Ulysses S. Grant	Joseph Hooker
Jefferson Davis	Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson	Abraham Lincoln
Winfield Hancock	NY newspaper reporter	Matthew Brady
James Longstreet	Charleston <i>Mercury</i> reporter	George Pickett
William T. Sherman	John Bell Hood	George A. Custer
JEB Stuart	Mary Todd Lincoln	Harriet Tubman
William Seward	Frederick Douglass	John Buford
Lewis Armistead	Sojourner Truth	Clara Barton
Mother Bickerdyke	Pauline Cushman	Rose Greenhow

Project Parameters:

- One daily focus event will be published by teachers on the Happy, Hutch, and Moix blog.
- Students will create a blog posting on their character blogs in response to the focus event each day.
- Students will read all blogs and leave comments on at least two other character blogs each day.
- Students may, in character, respond to comments left on their own blogs.
- The project will run for 10 class days, or two weeks.
- All posts and responses have to be in character.
- All posts will show research links or sources.
- All responses to posts will reflect knowledge of the event as well as an accurate historical understanding of the character's relationship to/understanding of the event.
- All comments will be appropriate for the audience.
- Posts and comments/responses must reflect the use of 8-10 different sources over the ten day period.
- Only 4-5 of those may be internet sources.

Potential Research resources (but do not confine yourself only to these):

Library of Congress

Washington and Lee University

West Point Military Academy

University of Virginia

Shelby Foote's series of books on the Civil War

The War of Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (120 vols.) in the reference section of our library

Civil War Journal

Civil War Times magazine

Various biographies or autobiographies

Civil War Soldiers in our book room

Newspaper archives

Ken Burns' film *The Civil War*