

HANDOUT

1860-1872 STUDENT HANDOUT

**1864 DOCUMENT #1:
Lincoln's Gettysburg Address**

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon 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 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.

1864 DOCUMENT #2:

Four Newspaper Reports on the Gettysburg Address

1864 doc. #2a

From the *Chicago Tribune*

Saturday, November 21, 1863

FROM GETTYSBURG, PA.
The Consecration of the
Battle Cemetery,
50,000 PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE.

Impressive Exercises of
the Occasion.

Dirge by Hon. D. B. French – Oration by Hon.
Edward Everett.

Dedicatory Address by President Lincoln.
A Grand National
Testimonial to Our
Fallen Braves.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune]

HARRISBURG, NOV. 20, 1863

My dispatch last night concerning the exercises yesterday, by occupation of the wires, was made necessarily brief. I send you my full notes of the most impressive civic occasion of the war.

A great day for the nation, the burial place of her glorious defenders on the crisis of the national safety was splendidly dedicated to valor, to patriotism and to freedom.

....

The conclusion of the President's remarks was followed by immense applause, and three cheers given for him, as also three cheers for the Governors of the States.

1864 doc. #2b

From the *Harrisburg Patriot and Union*

"We pass over the silly remarks of the President; for the credit of the nation we are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them and that they shall no more be repeated or thought of."

1864 doc. #2c

From the *Providence Journal*

"We know not where to look for a more admirable speech than the brief one which the president made at the close of Mr. Everett's oration... Could the most elaborate and splendid be more beautiful, more touching, more inspiring, than those thrilling words of the President? They had in our humble judgment the charm and power of the very highest eloquent."

1864 doc. #2d

From the *Chicago Times*

"Readers will not have failed to observe the exceeding bad taste which characterized the remarks of the President... at the dedication of the soldier's cemetery at Gettysburg. The cheek of every American must tingle with shame as he reads the silly, flat, and dish-watery utterances of the man who has to be pointed out to the intelligent foreigners as the President of the United States."