

**Personal Journal of the Civil War**  
**Courtney McCarter, Auburndale High School**

**I. Lesson Plan Summary**

- a. Students will be creating a personal journal that details their journey through the Civil War. They will include experiences during events that cause the war, life in the time of battle, their impressions of the Emancipation Proclamation, and their opinions on the 3 Reconstruction plans. There will be a minimum of 12 journal entries.
- b. Objectives:
  - SS.A.1.4.3
  - SS.A.1.4.4
  - SS.A.4.4.6
  - SS.C.1.4.4
- c. U.S. History Event/ Time Period: The Civil War.
- d. High School 11<sup>th</sup> Grade American History
- e. Students will need a textbook, notes, and notebook paper.
- f. Lesson Time: Part of 7 90 Minute Periods, approximately 2 weeks.

**II. Lesson Procedures**

- a. Before beginning the unit on the Civil War, inform students that they will be keeping a journal during the 2 week period of the unit.
- b. Hand out the student assignment page and go over with the students.
- c. Have students decide if they are going to be northerners or southerners.
- d. Each day allow students time at the end of your daily lesson to reflect back and make an entry into their journals.

**III. See above.**

**IV. Assessment**

Students will be graded on their journal entries' accuracy. A rubric for the lesson has been attached. Collect journals, read through, and provide feedback on the entries.

## Civil War Personal Journal Activity

You will be creating a journal as though you live during the Civil War. You will be given time during each class period to add information to your journal. The final journal must be typed using Times New Roman 12 point font. The journal requirements are listed below, and you will also be given the grading rubric. Please turn this rubric in with your final journal product.

1. Decide if you are going to be a Northerner (Unionist) or a Southerner (Confederate).
2. Review the causes of the Civil War.
  - a. Choose at least 3 to include in your journal.
  - b. You need to have at least 3 journal entries for this section.
3. Review the main battles of the Civil War.
  - a. Include 4 battles to include in your journal.
  - b. For each battle you must have: where they took place, who was involved, and the outcome.
  - c. You must have at least 4 journal entries for this section.
4. Review the Emancipation Proclamation
  - a. Include how you feel about the Emancipation Proclamation.
  - b. You must have at least 1 journal entry for this section.
5. Review the 3 plans for Reconstruction.
  - a. Discuss how you feel about the 3 plans in your journal.
  - b. You must have at least 3 entries in your journal.
6. Final Entry
  - a. Include a final entry that explains your overall feeling regarding the civil war. This entry should take place during the end of the war, and include your feelings t