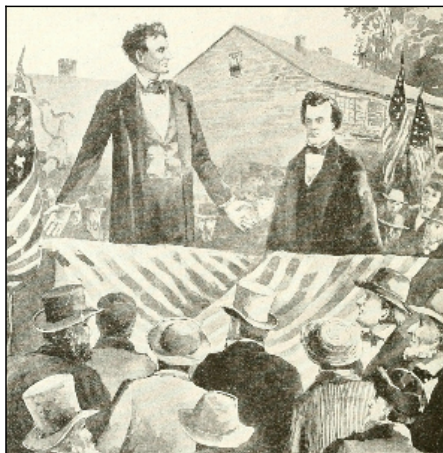
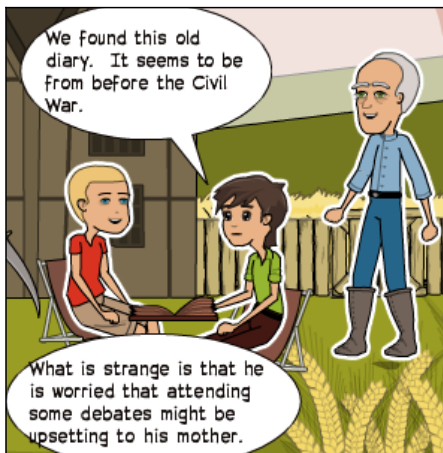


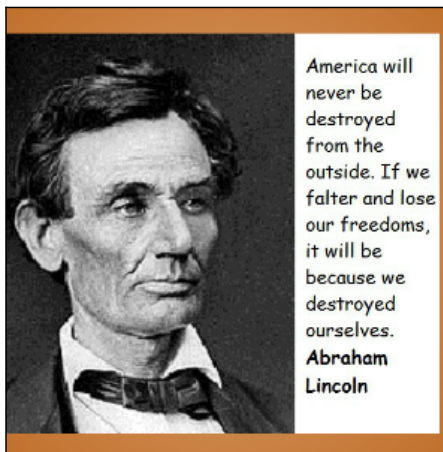
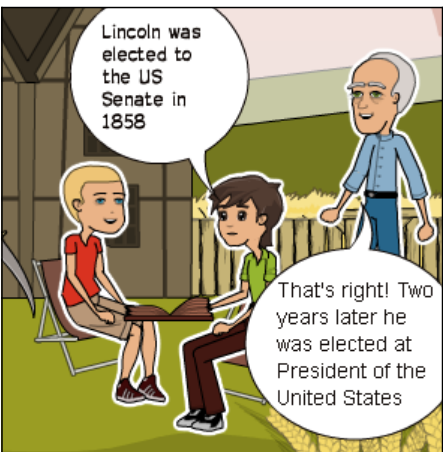
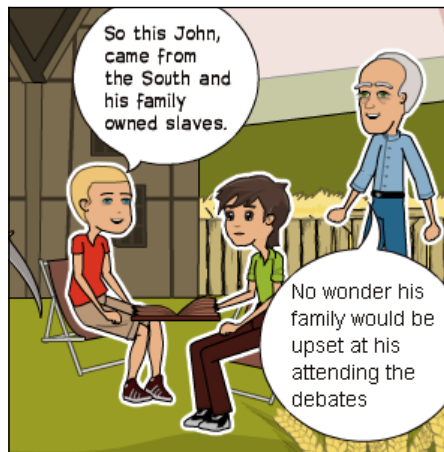
*March 21, 1858*  
*I wrote mother today and told her some of what I have been seeing since being at the University. I didn't want to tell half -truths but I did not want to alarm her either. I have attended several of the Lincoln - Douglas Debates. I am so impressed with this man named Lincoln.*



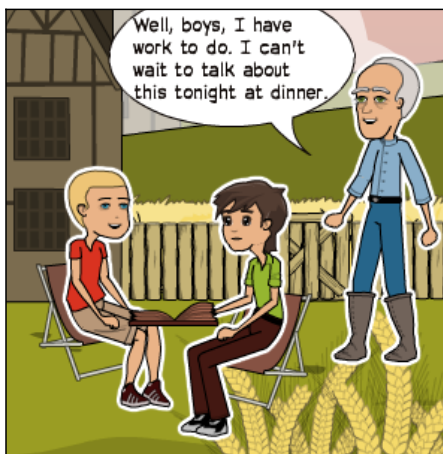


*Sept. 10, 1857*  
*I left home today. I am still surprised that Father allowed me to attend a University in the North. Father's feeling about Northerners is getting worse. He is very distrustful of anyone who is not from the South.*

*My brother Jed is also very upset. I heard him complaining to Father that I was leaving him to do the work. However, he does not work. All he does is gives orders to Father's slaves. He has always felt that mother and I were too kind to them.*



**"A house divided against itself cannot stand." I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved — I do not expect the house to fall — but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing or all the other."**  
**Abraham Lincoln**



*Jan, 12, 1859*  
*Today I had to break the news to my family that I am staying in the North now that I have completed my schooling. I am aware that this news will be very hard on my dear mother. I am confident in my decision though. I could never return to a life where my family owns slaves now that I have witnessed their freedom first hand.*

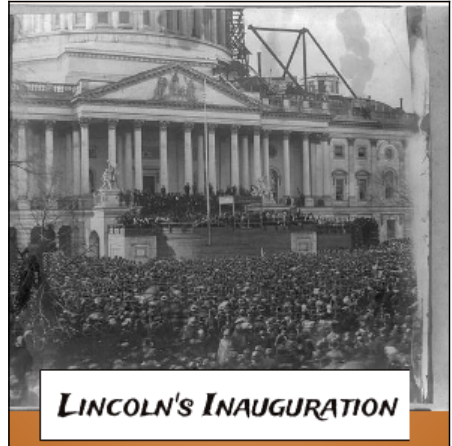
Feb, 1 1859  
 I have taken a job as a political reporter. I am excited and anxious to follow this man Lincoln. He is a humble man, very easy mannered. He keeps to himself a great deal, but I find that conversations with him are educational.

Nov. 6, 1860  
 He did it! Lincoln was elected as the first Republican President of the United States. While he won 40 percent of the popular vote, I doubt that Lincoln feels it is a "United States". There are constant rumors of states planning to secede.

Dec. 20, 1860  
 Most educated men knew it was just a matter of time. South Carolina seceded from the Union today. I have a feeling that they will not be alone.

Feb. 9, 1861  
 Word reached Washington today that South Carolina, along with Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas have formed the Confederate States of America. Jefferson Davis is to serve as president.

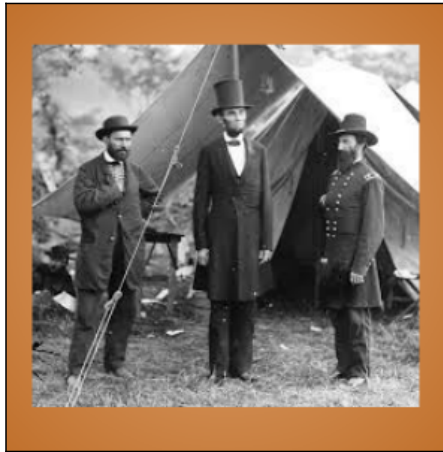
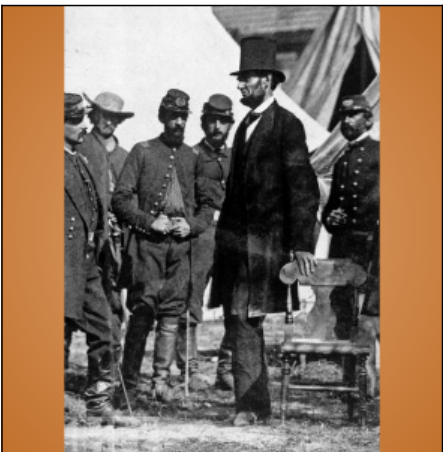
March 4, 1861 - Abraham Lincoln is sworn in as 16th President of the United States of America. Having followed Lincoln as much as I have today is an exciting but somber day





*Feb. 20, 1862  
It is a sad, sad day. President and Mrs. Lincoln's son Willie has died. The loss of his beloved eleven year old son has left the President grief stricken.*

*Nov. 1, 1862  
I have not made an entry in quite some time. I have been busy documenting what I can on each battle. It has been a busy year. President Lincoln has been busy visiting troops and giving speeches, as a reporter, I am never far behind him.*



*Jan. 1, 1863  
President Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation freeing all slaves. This includes those held by Confederates. The Union begins enlisting of black soldiers in the Union Army. The war to preserve the Union now becomes a struggle to end slavery.*

*Nov. 19, 1863  
President Lincoln gives a two minute speech at Gettysburg. He then declares in a National Cemetery.*

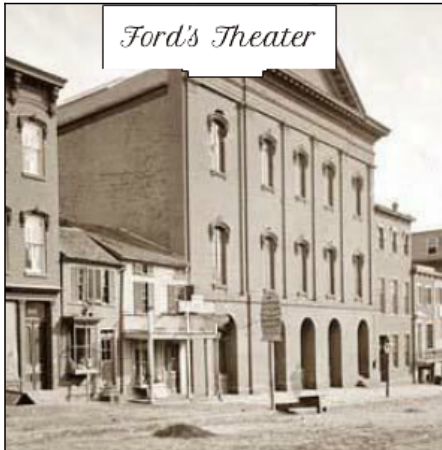
*Nov. 8 1864  
Lincoln is re-elected winning 55 percent of the popular vote. He is not the same man he was four years ago. The war has really aged him.*

*Apr. 9, 1865  
Gen. Robert E. Lee surrenders his Confederate Army to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at the Appomattox Court House in Virginia. After four long years the war is over.*

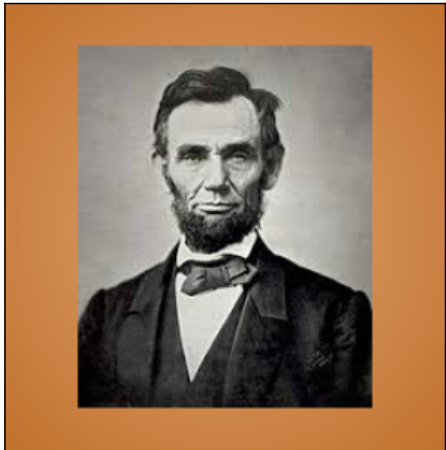




*Apr. 14, 1865  
While attending a play at Ford's Theater with his wife, my admired President Lincoln is shot in the head. He dies the next morning. I am a reporter, but I cannot describe the grief that I feel. He will be laid to rest near Springfield, Illinois*



*May 5, 1865  
While I would like to visit my mother or even correspond with her, I know that I would not be welcome. The remaining Confederate soldiers are surrendering. I've heard it said that over 600,000 Americans have died, over half due to disease. Many are returning home with permanent injuries. I wonder if our country will ever be the same again?*



**Eighth Grade U.S. History**  
Indicator 1: Analyze the U.S historical eras to determine connections and cause/effect relationships in reference to chronology.  
Standard: 8.US. 1.3. Students are able to describe the sources of conflict, key individuals, battles, and political documents of the Civil War period.