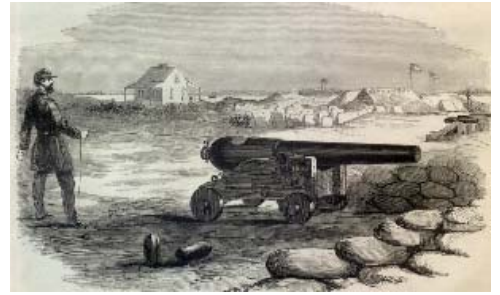


- Key Events of the Civil War | SOL USI. 9e



Major battles and events:

- The firing on Fort Sumter, S.C., **began** the war.
- The first Battle of **Manassas** (Bull Run) was the **first** major battle.
- The signing of the **Emancipation Proclamation** made “freeing the slaves” the new focus of the war. Many freed slaves joined the Union army.
- The Battle of **Vicksburg** divided the South; the North controlled the **Mississippi** River.
- The Battle of **Gettysburg** was the turning point of the war; the North **repelled** Lee’s invasion.
- Lee’s **surrender** to Grant at **Appomattox Courthouse** in 1865 ended the war.

Influences of location and topography

- The Union **blockade** of southern ports (e.g., Savannah, Charleston, New Orleans)
- Control of the **Mississippi** River (e.g., Vicksburg)
- Battle locations influenced by the struggle to capture **capital** cities (e.g., Richmond, Washington, D.C.)
- Control of the **high** ground (e.g., Gettysburg)

Essential Understanding: Location and topography were critical elements influencing important developments in the Civil War, including major battles.