

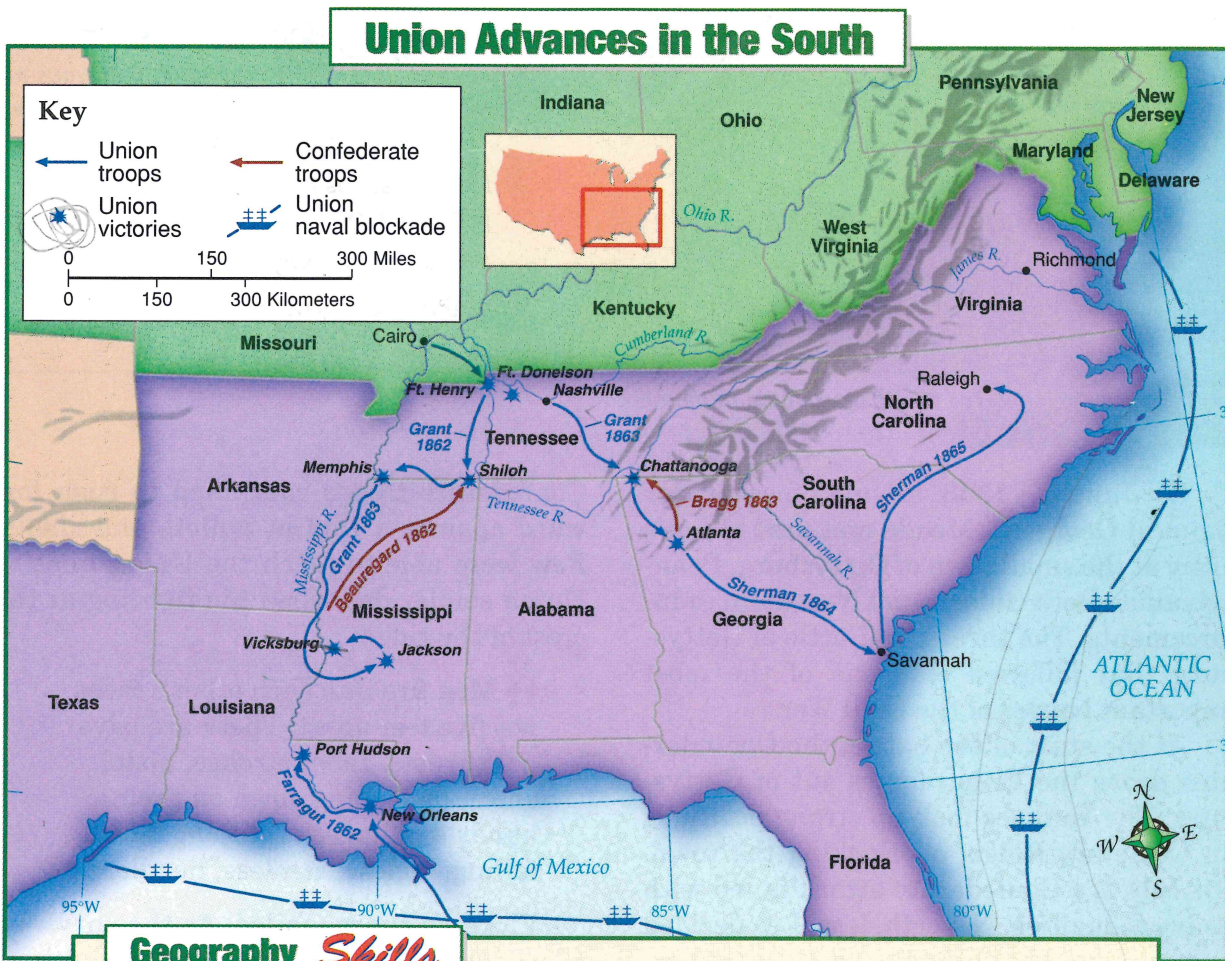
The Gettysburg Address

The Battle of Gettysburg left more than 40,000 dead or wounded. When the soldiers who died there were buried, their graves stretched as far as the eye could see. On November 19, 1863, northerners held a ceremony to dedicate this cemetery.

President Lincoln attended the ceremony, but he was not the main speaker. At the time, his popularity was quite low. Lincoln sat with his hands folded as another speaker talked for two hours. When it was his turn, the President rose and spoke for about three minutes.

In his **Gettysburg Address**, Lincoln said that the Civil War was a test of whether or not a democratic nation could survive. He reminded Americans that their nation was founded on the belief that “all men are created equal.” Looking out at the thousands of graves, Lincoln told the audience:

“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, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”



Geography Skills

As the Civil War dragged on, Union armies advanced deeper and deeper into the South. General Sherman marched his troops through Georgia and the Carolinas.

- 1. Location** On the map, locate: (a) Vicksburg, (b) Atlanta, (c) Savannah.
- 2. Place** What three Confederate states were cut off from the rest of the Confederacy after Union forces gained control of the Mississippi River?
- 3. Critical Thinking** Based on the map, why would the South be hurt more than the North—no matter who won the war?