

LINCOLN: A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY

BY
RUSSELL FREEDMAN

Dr. Betty Powers
READING RIGHT
© 2005, 1989

**LINCOLN
A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY**

Synopsis

This nonfiction book tells about Lincoln's life through pictures and words.

It is a personal look at a very public figure.

LINCOLN
A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY
LESSON 1
Chapters 1 - 2

1. During what time period did Lincoln live?
 - A. 1776's - 1840's
 - B. 1880's - 1860's
 - C. 1900's - 1950's

2. Although we often think of Lincoln as the folksy, common president, the author says by the time Lincoln became the president he was actually:
 - A. Logical and well educated
 - B. Wealthy and ambitious
 - C. Humorous and handsome

3. Not only was New Orleans the first real city Lincoln had ever seen it was also the first time he saw:
 - A. Slaves being sold
 - B. Steamboats
 - C. Fancy houses

4. How old was Lincoln when he became of legal age, and free to do what he wanted?
 - A. 18
 - B. 20
 - C. 22

5. What is a debate?

6. How was Lincoln able to become a lawyer even though he had rarely gone to school?

7. When Lincoln's business failed he spent the next fifteen years paying off the \$1,000 debt. What impression did that give you about Lincoln?

8. Lincoln spent a lot of time reading books. Besides enjoyment give another reason why you think he read so much.

LINCOLN
A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY
LESSON 2
Chapters 3 - 4

1. Lincoln at twenty-eight belonged to the Whig political party which believed:

- A. That states should control their own affairs
- B. The national government should guide the nation's future
- C. That slavery should be abolished

2. After Lincoln was married where did they make their home?

- A. Springfield
- B. Washington D. C.
- C. New Salem

3. The abolitionist were a group of people who wanted to end:

- A. Slavery in the North
- B. Slavery in the South
- C. All slavery

4. Lincoln dropped out of politics for a while. What caused him to once again get interested in politics?

- A. A new act of Congress, which allowed slavery to spread.
- B. The election of Stephen Douglas, his old rival, to Congress.
- C. His wife wanted him to be more involved in government.

5. What does "courting," mean?

6. Why do you think the Todd family didn't like Lincoln?

7. Do you think Lincoln was a good lawyer? Why or why not?

8. Tell about two differences between Lincoln and his opponent Stephen Douglas.

LINCOLN
A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY
LESSON 3
Chapter 5

1. What happened during the four months between the time Lincoln was elected and his inauguration?
 - A. His son died
 - B. Seven states had left the union
 - C. The blacks had been freed

2. What event marked the beginning of the Civil War?
 - A. The South firing on Fort Sumter
 - B. The Northern troops fighting at Bull Run
 - C. Lincoln's declaration of war

3. The North had more of all the following except:
 - A. Men
 - B. Military leaders
 - C. Factories
 - D. Railroads

4. What does "emancipation" mean?

5. After the war began Lincoln's first plan about slavery was:

- A. To free the slaves everywhere
- B. To free the slaves by paying their owners
- C. To only free the northern slaves

6. Why do you think people took picnic lunches out to watch the fighting at Bull Run?

7. How do you think Lincoln felt about the southern states that broke away from the United States? Explain why you think that.

LINCOLN
A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY
LESSON 4
Chapter 6

1. List two reasons why some Northerners were against Lincoln.

2. When Lincoln said, "I am a slow walker, but I never walk backwards," what did he mean?
 - A. Lincoln meant he liked to exercise.
 - B. He meant that he took a long time to make up his mind, but then he didn't change it.
 - C. Even though he did things slowly he was still intelligent.

3. What was considered the bloodiest battle in American history?
 - A. Fredricksburg
 - B. Gettysburg
 - C. Chancellorsville

4. What does "evacuated" mean?

5. Do you think Lincoln wanted to start a war when he became president? Explain your answer.

6. Lincoln's *Gettysburg* address has become famous, how did he feel about it? Why did he feel that way?

7. Why do you think Lincoln tried to find reasons to pardon the soldiers who were going to be shot for deserting?

LINCOLN
A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY
LESSON 5
Chapter 7 - In Lincoln's Footsteps

1. Lincoln said his feelings about Southerners were different than many men in Congress. How were their views different?

2. Where was Lincoln when he was shot?

3. After the funeral in Washington D.C., where did they take Lincoln to be buried?
 - A. He was going to be buried in Springfield, Illinois.
 - B. He was taken to Arlington Cemetery.
 - C. He was buried in Washington D.C.

4. What happened to John Wilks Booth, the man who shot the president?
 - A. He was sentenced to life in prison.
 - B. He was tried and then shot by a firing squad.
 - C. He was cornered in a barn and shot.

5. Put the following events in the correct order.
 - _____ The Civil War ended
 - _____ Lincoln was elected for a second term
 - _____ Lincoln was assassinated

6. Why do you think Lincoln didn't seem to worry about the threats that had been made on his life?

7. Tell one thing you learned from reading this book that you didn't know already, and why you thought it was interesting.

8. Describe one characteristic of Lincoln that you admired and tell why you think it was or is important.

LINCOLN
A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY
Answer Key

LESSON 1

1. B
2. B
3. A
4. C
5. A debate is where people discuss or examine a question by presenting and considering arguments on both sides.
6. Lincoln was able to become a lawyer even though he had not attended school very often because at that time lawyers did not necessarily go to school to study law. The only requirement to be a lawyer was to pass the bar examine. Many of the lawyers of Lincoln's day studied in the office of an established lawyer.
7. Answers will vary.
8. Answers will vary. The answers might include the idea that he was curious and wanted to learn new things, he also wanted to learn new skills, or he wanted to improve himself.

LESSON 2

1. B
2. A
3. C
4. A
5. To go courting meant to try and gain the love of a person whom you wanted to marry.
6. Answers may vary but should probably include the fact that the Todds didn't think Lincoln was as important as they were or good enough for their family standing.

7. Lincoln was a good lawyer who tried to learn everything about the cases he handled so that he could represent clients well.
8. There are several differences between Lincoln and Douglas that could be mentioned. Douglas was short, a democrat, dressed in southern plantation style, and was for the continuation of slavery. Lincoln was extremely tall, a Whig turned Republican, dressed in a conservative style, and was against the expansion or ownership of slavery.

LESSON 3

1. B
2. A
3. B
4. Emancipation means to set free.
5. B
6. Answers will vary.
7. Answers will vary.

LESSON 4

1. There were several reasons why the Northerners were against Lincoln. Any two of the following would be acceptable. They were angry about the military draft that Lincoln had started, the fact that the Army could arrest suspected traitors without a trial, his freeing the slaves, that martial law had been declared in some areas, and the enlistment of blacks in the Union Army.
2. B
3. B
4. Evacuated means to remove or withdraw from.
5. Lincoln did not want to start a war when he became president. Answers will vary as to how they came to that conclusion.

6. Lincoln felt that his Gettysburg Address was a failure. He thought that because he had been criticized for the shortness of his speech and no one seemed to think what he had said was of any consequence at the time.

7. Answers will vary.

LESSON 5

1. Lincoln felt his views were different from many of the men in Congress because they were filled with hate and vindictiveness and he was not.

2. Lincoln was shot at Ford's theater while watching a play.

3. A

4. C

5. The correct order was 2, 1, and 3.

6. Answers will vary.

7. Answers will vary.

8. Answers will vary.