

Beginnings of the Civil War

News Article

7th Grade Social Studies—due Friday 4/17

Task: Your goal for this week is to create an informative news article about the beginnings of the Civil War. Thus far, you have received direct instruction from me, as well as watched a number of videos about the lead up to the war. Using that information, you are to:

- Write an informative news article of *at least 3 paragraphs* on the beginning of the Civil War. You could write about a particular event leading up to the war, multiple events leading up to the war, or one of the first battles we have learned about. Consider your five “Ws” of journalism when writing (who, what, where, when, and why). Note that there are three paragraphs, and three days in our schedule this week. I would space out your work appropriately, but do not wait to complete until the last minute.
- Use the video resources uploaded on my website, as well as your notes from the last couple of weeks, to guide you in this process. The videos that you can watch are the gray buttons/tabs below the notes on the e-Learning tab of my website. If they are not working on your Chromebook, consider using a personal device, or restart your Chromebook and log back in.
- Consider reading some soldiers’ diaries or other firsthand accounts to include “eyewitness testimony” in your article. Essentially, pretend you are interviewing a soldier from the battle, or other eyewitnesses to provide firsthand knowledge to your audience(s).
- Include images, graphs, charts, or other pictures from the battles or other incidences to enhance the article so readers can understand what happened.

Rubric/Grading Criteria

- Headline— 1 point
- 3 paragraphs (minimum)— 3 points
- 1 image/picture (minimum)— 1 point
- Spelling and Grammar— 1 point

6 points total

- 6 points=100%
- 5 points=93%
- 4 points=85%
- 3 points=77%
- 2 points=70%
- 1 or 0 points=50%