



Name: _____

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1. WILLIAM T SHERMAN - Union general whose march to the sea destroyed Southern Towns and led to the end of the Civil War
2. JOHN WILKES BOOTH - actor who shot President Abraham Lincoln
3. 13TH AMENDMENT - constitutional amendment that outlawed slavery in the United States
4. APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA - location of the surrender of Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Army to Ulysses S. Grant and the Union Army
5. Ford's Theatre - location of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln
6. 1865 - year of Lee's surrender to Grant that ended the Civil War

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Just 701 words long, Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address took only six or seven minutes to deliver, yet contains many of the most memorable phrases in American political oratory. The speech contained neither gloating nor rejoicing. Rather, it offered Lincoln's most profound reflections on the causes and meaning of the war. The "scourge of war," he explained, was best understood as divine punishment for the sin of slavery, a sin in which all Americans, North as well as South, were complicit. It describes a national moral debt that had been created by the "bondsmen's 250 years of unrequited toil," and ends with a call for compassion and reconciliation.

With its biblical allusions, alliteration, repetition, and parallel structure, and its reliance on one-syllable words, the address has the power of a sermon. It incorporates many of the themes of the religious revivals: sin, sacrifice, and redemption. At a White House reception, President Lincoln encountered Frederick Douglass. "I saw you in the crowd today, listening to my inaugural address," the president remarked. "How did you like it?" "Mr. Lincoln," Douglass answered, "that was a sacred effort."

How would you label President Abraham Lincoln.
Choose a word and write it on the
banner below.

