The American Pageant Chapter 20 Reading Guide

**Vocabulary**

Fort Sumter

Border States

West Virginia

Trent Affair

Alabama

Laird Rams

Dominion of Canada

Writ of habeas corpus

New York draft riots

Morrill Tariff Act

Greenbacks

National Banking System

Homestead Act

U.S. Sanitary Commission

**Reading Questions**

1. In his first inaugural address, Lincoln says “physically speaking, we cannot separate” in regard to Southern secession. What are the issues/problems with Southern secession?

2. What does Lincoln do about Fort Sumter, a Union arsenal in Charleston harbor? How does the South respond?

3. After the fall of Fort Sumter, what does Lincoln ask for from the states?

4. After Lincoln’s action, what four states then secede from the United States, and what becomes the Confederate capital?

5. Why are the border states so important in the American Civil war?

6. What methods does Lincoln use to keep the border states in the United States?

7. What is the “Butternut region”?

8. What advantages did the South have at the beginning of the Civil War?

9. What was the South’s biggest weakness during the war? (Hint…this was also the North’s biggest strength.) Make sure to note the examples about this weakness from your textbook.

10. What other advantages does the North have in the Civil War?

11. What was the main weakness for the North going into the Civil War?

12. What are the major reasons that the Confederacy does not get the help it expected from Britain?

13. What were the significance of the *Trent* affair and the *Alabama* crisis? (Make sure to understand what occurred in each incident as well.)

14. How is the Laird rams issue resolved between Britain and the Union?

15. What does France try to do during the American Civil War, and how is this resolved?

16. How are Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln different as presidents of the Confederacy and the Union?

17. During the course of the Civil War, how did Lincoln increase the power of presidency by ignoring portions of the Constitution?

18. When did the Union and Confederacy begin the process of conscription? What was the response to conscription in the North?

19. How was the implementation of the draft unfair in both the North and the South?

20. Describe the measures Congress took to deal with the economic stresses of war? (Make sure to note specific examples such as the Morrill Tariff Act, printing of paper money, borrowing, and National Banking System)

21. How did the South try to deal with financial stresses, much less successfully?

22. How did merchants thrive from the expansion of industry in the North during the Civil War?

23. What opportunities did women get during the Civil War? (Again, note specific women and their roles)