

Four Statements by President Lincoln

Name: _____

First Inaugural Address - March 4, 1861,

"In YOUR hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in MINE, is the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assail YOU. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. YOU have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the government, while *I* shall have the most solemn one to "preserve, protect, and defend it."

Lincoln was talking to the people who wanted to secede from the union and begin the Civil War.

What did Abraham Lincoln promise to do? _____

Do you think keeping this promise is important to him? _____

Gettysburg Address -November 19, 1863

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

The Gettysburg Address was a speech given at the dedication of a Battlefield. It was about the best way to remember soldiers who died in battle.

Four score and seven years = 87 years. What year would it be 87 years ago? _____

What document written 87 years ago is President Lincoln talking about? _____

In what way was this document like a promise? _____

The Emancipation Proclamation

Jan, 1, 1863

By the President of the United States of America:
And by virtue of the power, and for the purpose
aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held
as slaves within said designated States, and parts of
States, are, and henceforward shall be free; and that
the Executive government of the United States,
including the military and naval authorities thereof, will
recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

The Emancipation Proclamation was a document that freed the
slaves.

President Lincoln frees the slaves and promises that the
Executive government of the United States, including
the military and naval authorities thereof, will do what?

Do you think keeping this promise was important to
Lincoln? _____

Does it seem to be an easy promise to keep? _____

Reconstruction Putting the Nation Back Together

March 4, 1865

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with
firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us
strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the
nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the
battle, and for his widow and his orphan - to do all which
may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace, among
ourselves, and with all nations."

- Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address

This was one of Lincoln's last speeches. He knew that the Civil War
would be over soon. On April 4 he went to Richmond to see the
capitol of the Confederacy the day after it was captured. He was
killed on April 16, 1865.

What promises do you think President Lincoln is making in
this speech? _____
