

# Civil War Reconnaissance Mission Topics

## Topics for Enlisted Men:

### African-Americans in the Civil War

- Massachusetts 54<sup>th</sup>
- Fort Pillow Massacre
- Racism in the ranks
- 'Contraband'

### Battlefield Medicine

- Treatment of wounds
- Challenges to nurses and doctors on the battlefield
- Common Diseases
- Survival Statistics for diseases and wounds
- Clara Barton
- Red Cross

### Battlefield Preservation & Monuments

- Arlington National Cemetery
- Battlefield Preservation today
- Civil War Monuments (National & States)
- National Parks as Battlefields

### Battlefield Tactics

- Virginia Military Institute/ West Point / US Naval Academy
- Tactics used throughout the war
- Innovation

### Calvary

- Tactics
- Equipment
- Advantages/ Disadvantages
- Famous Commanders

### Civil War Cinema

### Civil War Culture (Poetry/Music/Artwork)

### Civil War Myths and Mysteries

### Civil War Photography

- Matthew Brady
- Ethics of photographing battlefields
- Photography advances and technology

# Civil War Reconnaissance Mission Topics

## Espionage

- Secret Service
- Signal Corps
- Spies
- Codes
- Thomas Jordan, Lafayette Baker, & Allen Pinkerton

## Naval Warfare

- blockades
- Naval Plans (Anaconda Plan)
- Monitor & Merrimack,
- Mines/Torpedoes
- Types of ships
- Naval Commanders

## News Coverage

- Forms of news coverage
- Controversy
- Publications

## Northern Generals

- Ambrose Burnside, Irvin McDowell, George Meade, Joseph Hooker
- Basic Background
- Training & Education
- Major Battles
- Life after the war
- Notable Accomplishments/ Major Mistakes

## Outfitting an Army

- Tredegar Iron Works
- Springfield Armory
- Uniforms
- US Sanitary Commission
- Feeding Soldiers
- New York Draft Riots

## Prisoner of War Camps

- Famous camps in the North and South
- Conditions of camps
- Soldier morale and reactions to camps
- POW Commanders after the war

## Soldier's Life

- Daily Life
- Entertainment
- Punishments
- Drilling
- Combat Experiences

# Civil War Reconnaissance Mission Topics

## Southern Generals

- Stonewall Jackson, P.G.T. Beauregard, J.E.B. Stewart, Joseph E. Johnston, James Longstreet
- Basic Background
- Training & Education
- Major Battles
- Life after the war
- Notable Accomplishments/ Major Mistakes

## Technological Advances

- Map Making
- Military Balloons
- Pontoon Bridges
- Railroad
- Signal Corps
- Telegraph

## The Economics of War

- Costs of equipping an army
- Union & Confederate Assets
- Raising money for the war
- Civilian Costs

## The Hunley

- Submarines
- Finding the Hunley
- Battle(s)

## Weaponry

- Artillery
- Minie Ball
- Repeating Rifles
- Innovations

## Women in the Civil War

- Nurses
- Spies
- In Battle
- On the home front

*Any Topic Approved By the Commanders in Chief*

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## Topics for the Generals:

### General Grant:

Ulysses S. Grant

- Basic Background
- Training & Education
- Major Battles
- Personality
- Life after the war
- Notable Accomplishments/ Major Mistakes

Lincoln

- Basic Background
- Education
- Political Beliefs
- Notable Accomplishments/ Major Mistakes
- Suspension of Habeas Corpus/ Executive Orders

### General Lee:

Robert E. Lee

- Basic Background
- Training & Education
- Personality
- Major Battles
- Life after the war
- Notable Accomplishments/ Major Mistakes

Emancipation Proclamation

- Description
- Importance / Significance
- Shortcomings
- 5 W's

### General McClellan:

George B. McClellan

- Basic Background
- Training & Education
- Personality
- Major Battles
- Life after the war
- Notable Accomplishments/ Major Mistakes

Gettysburg Address

- Description
- 5 W's
- Famous Phrases
- Importance Today