

# THE PERIODIC TABLE OF THE PRESIDENTS™

## The Gettysburg Address

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### Introduction:

Abraham Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address on November 19, 1863 at a ceremony dedicating the battlefield cemetery. Today, Lincoln's speech is one of the most famous in American history. Nevertheless, Lincoln emphasized that his words could not compare to the sacrifice the soldiers made on the battlefield.

The Battle of Gettysburg took place four months earlier, from July 1 to July 3, 1863. In one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War, Union forces under General George Meade turned back the Confederate army. General Robert E. Lee gave up his northern assault and retreated to Virginia. Gettysburg was the final turning point of the war.

### Questions:

1. When was the Battle of Gettysburg?
2. Who was the Confederate general in the Battle of Gettysburg?
3. Which side won the Battle of Gettysburg?
4. When did Lincoln deliver the Gettysburg Address?
5. What does "four score and seven years ago" mean?
6. Why did Lincoln quote the Declaration of Independence in the opening paragraph of this speech?
7. Lincoln dedicated a portion of the battlefield as a "final resting place." What does that mean?
8. What did Lincoln mean by, "The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here"?
9. How long did it take Lincoln to deliver the Gettysburg Address?
10. What sentence in the speech do you think is the most meaningful? Why?