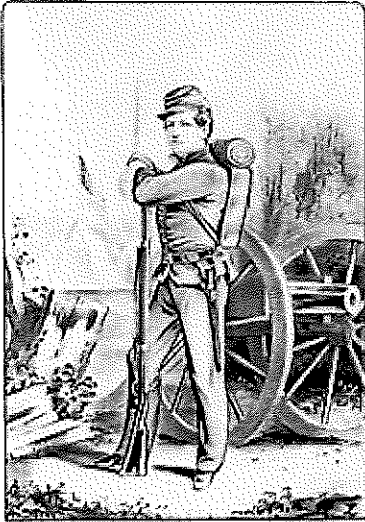


Read the following passage and answer questions 1 through 13.

The Life of a Civil War Soldier



- 1 Albert Pike, an American lawyer, journalist, and soldier once said, "What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal."
- 2 The Civil War was a dreadful time for many Americans. However, the soldiers were affected the most. They did whatever they could to get through the cold, hot, sickness, and starving times. Life as a Civil War soldier was not an easy one. Most soldiers were young. The average age of a soldier was 25 years old. Soldiers had to leave their homes and families not knowing if they would return. Being killed during a battle was not their only concern. A shortage of food and shelter was a problem. Also diseases took the lives of many soldiers. The long hours spent training and marching did not make it any easier for them.
- 3 Soldiers during the Civil War only had a few supplies with them since they had to walk everywhere they went. They only carried their necessities. Some of the items needed were weapons, water, and sleeping gear. It was also common for soldiers to have writing supplies. These would play a big role in their lives for the next few years.
- 4 Although mail was slow, soldiers spent time writing and reading letters from home. They also got packages. Some of the items sent were socks, shirts, food, soap, and combs. Soldiers looked forward to getting mail from their families. It was a celebration. They liked to read their mail aloud to the other soldiers. This helped them get through the hardships. Soldiers also helped each other during difficult times.

- 5 When summer and fall came, soldiers would sit around their tents and fires. They told jokes and stories. At least one person knew how to play a banjo, guitar, or fiddle. The sound of music would spread around the camp like wildfire. It wasn't always the best noise, but it lifted their spirits. A favorite song sang was "Home, Sweet Home" because they couldn't wait to go home.
- 6 During the winter, soldiers would enjoy a snowball fight. Any other time, they joined in on races. They would race cockroaches, razorback hogs, and men in wheelbarrows. Also baseball was a popular game to play. When they weren't playing games, they spent time alone. Soldiers also did chores and daily jobs. However, most of their time was spent getting ready for the next battle.
- 7 These men were proud to fight for their cause. They fought for what they believed in. Their sacrifice should not go unnoticed.

1 **A student makes a list of notes about the article.**

How Soldiers Spent Their Time During the Civil War	
	• Writing and reading letters from home
	• Singing songs
	• Telling stories
	• Joining in a variety of races
	• Playing baseball
	• Preparing for battle
	• _____

Based on the article, which of these belongs on the blank line?

- A Helping make food
- B Putting up tents in the campsite
- C Completing chores
- D Buying important items

2 **Read this sentence.**

Some of the items sent were socks, shirts, food, soap, and combs.

Why would family members of the soldiers most likely send these items?

- A The soldiers did not have access to these items during the war.
- B It helped the soldiers stay busy during the war.
- C It helped the soldiers make friends with other soldiers.
- D The soldiers burned the items in order to stay warm.

3 **Which prediction is confirmed by reading the title of the article?**

- A The article is about different types of soldiers throughout the years.
- B The article is about people who enjoy learning about history.
- C The article is about family members of soldiers.
- D The article is about events that took place in the past.

4 **Which two words from the article are opposites?**

- A sound, noise
- B alone, most
- C easy, difficult
- D common, popular

5 **Read this dictionary entry.**

cause (kawz) *n.* **1.** The producer of an effect. **2.** A movement or principle supported or defended. **3.** The matter over which a person goes to court. **4.** A matter or question to be decided.

Which meaning of cause is used in paragraph 7?

- A 4
- B 2
- C 3
- D 1

- 6 **What is the best summary of paragraph 3?**
- A Soldiers had to choose which items they had to leave at home.
 - B Soldiers had a few important items with them.
 - C Soldiers had many things they had to carry.
 - D Soldiers had long distances to walk every day.

- 7 **Read this sentence from paragraph 7.**

Their sacrifice should not go unnoticed.

In which word does un- mean the same as it does in unnoticed?

- A uniform
 - B understand
 - C unity
 - D uncertain
- 8 **In paragraph 2, the word shortage means —**
- A spoiled items
 - B preparation of materials
 - C not enough of something
 - D not having important things
- 9 **According to the article, the following caused the deaths of many soldiers EXCEPT —**
- A diseases
 - B weather conditions
 - C long hours training
 - D starvation

- 10 **Read these sentences from paragraph 3.**

They only carried their necessities. Some of the items needed were weapons, water, and sleeping gear.

Another word for necessities as it is used in this sentence is —

- A suitcases
- B essentials
- C belongings
- D uniforms

11 **Which of these would be the best heading for paragraph 5?**

- A Learning to Play an Instrument
- B Songs of Tears
- C Soldiers Marching to a Beat
- D Making a Joyful Noise

12 **Which question is answered by looking at the picture in the article?**

- A In which city are the soldiers camped out?
- B What type of weapons were used?
- C How many soldiers died?
- D What type of food did the soldiers eat?

13 **Directions:** Write your answer in the space provided.

Read this diary entry from a Civil War soldier.

7th of the month. About a dozen of our men taken to the hospital, among them one of my company. Don't expect to see the poor fellow again. One of the guards said to-day that they only take them to the hospital to get ready for burial, and advised us all to stay where we are if we had any one to care for us, as at the hospital the doctors are all young fellows who have no experience and only practice on the prisoners. The old doctors are with the army tending to their own men.

How is the information in the passage and the diary different?