

Name _____

Battle of Gettysburg

July 1-3, 1863 was the battle of Gettysburg. It was a very important battle in the war for the North. General Robert E. Lee was convinced that he could overtake the Union soldiers. On the first day, he sent the Union army retreating through the town of Gettysburg. The second day, the Union soldiers had a chance to dig in and prepare. They fought hard and had many casualties, but the Union lines held. The third day, Lee thought he could overtake the North. He sent in General Pickett with 12,500 men. They were to go on a direct charge in the middle of the Union line. However, Pickett's men were defeated with over half of them injured or killed. Lee retreated. The battle of Gettysburg was one of the deadliest battles in the war. There were about 46,000 injuries and 8,000 deaths. The Union army was exhausted and unable to pursue Lee and the Confederate soldiers. Lincoln believed that if their army had pursued the Confederate army, they could have won the war that day.

On November 19, 1863, President Lincoln attended a dedication of the Soldier's National Cemetery in Gettysburg. On this day, he gave his famous two minute speech. Today it is considered one of the greatest speeches ever given.

Highlight the text to prove your answers.

1. Why was the Battle of Gettysburg the turning point in the war? _____

2. How long did the Battle of Gettysburg last?

3. Who won the Battle of Gettysburg?

How do you know? State evidence from the passage.
