

Name _____

Nation In Change Answer Key

Responses will vary. Suggested ideas include:

Before the Civil War	After Lincoln's Speech (Hopes for the Future)
The nation was divided into North and South	The nation should come together again
Slavery existed in many states	Freedom should be protected for everyone
People disagreed about rights and equality	All people should be treated equally
Many soldiers were fighting and dying	Their sacrifice should lead to a better country
The country was unsure if it could stay united	Democracy should remain strong and last

Teacher's Guide

- Brainstorm together on an anchor chart before independent writing
- Provide pictures or vocabulary cards (e.g., "union," "freedom," "slavery," "equality")
- Read a kid-friendly summary of the Gettysburg Address beforehand

Differentiation

- Allow drawing or bullet points for emerging writers
- Support English learners with sentence starters:
 - Before: "The country was..."
 - After: "Lincoln wanted the country to..."
- Challenge advanced students to add *why* each change mattered

Extensions

- Write a short paragraph about how the United States changed because of the Civil War
- Create a timeline showing key events leading to and following the speech