

Grades 9-12

Applicable History Standards of Learning:
9-11; 10-1, 3, 4, 15; 11-1, 6, 9, 15, 17;
12-5, 6, 10, 13

1. You have been chosen as a short-term research assistant to a well-known novelist of historical fiction. The novel will be set in Richmond and Washington, D.C. during the Civil War. Fictional female characters will be loosely based upon the lives of Elizabeth Van Lew and Elizabeth Keckley. Provide the writer with a comprehensive summary of how these women could interact to save the federal union during wartime. Include ideas about age, ethnicity, socio-economic class, values, education, religion, marital status, clothing, working conditions, job hazards and community involvement indicating how these two

women could work toward a common goal while never interacting.

2. Research conditions faced by Civil War wounded and imprisoned soldiers of both sides in Virginia. Where were they taken? How were they treated? Compare and contrast conditions in both Union and Confederate facilities.
3. Virginia schools remained segregated long after the 1954 Supreme Court decision in the Brown case. Delve into the stance used by Virginia Governors Thomas B. Stanley and J. Lindsay Almond to develop their positions on maintaining segregation. Then study the 1964 Supreme Court decision in Griffen v. County School Board of Prince Edward County to see how segregation was finally defeated in the state.
4. Evaluate the significance of Woodrow Wilson's plan for peace to be upheld in the League of Nations. Through Edith

Wilson, he remained unchanging as debate over the Versailles Treaty escalated in the U.S. Senate. Should Mrs. Wilson have encouraged compromise in spite of her husband's stance? Debate the possible consequences.

5. Research the type of work completed by the Federal Art Project. Compare that with the abstract expressionism adopted by Theresa Pollak. Why did Richmonders consider her work bold at the outset?
6. During the 2000 election cycle PBS gave total programming to the conventions, campaign and election. Discuss the significance of this contribution to public political education how it might be improved for the 2004 election.
7. Thomasina Jordan was an outspoken advocate for Indian affairs before Congress and the General Assembly. Review the changing conditions of Indian tribes in the last 150 years. What should be the role of state and federal governments in helping native Americans attain a comparable lifestyle to average Americans while encouraging them to maintain their heritage?

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