

The Civil War

Lesson 2 Early Years of the War

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Why does conflict develop?

Terms to Know

tributary a stream or smaller river that feeds into a larger river

abandon to leave behind or give up

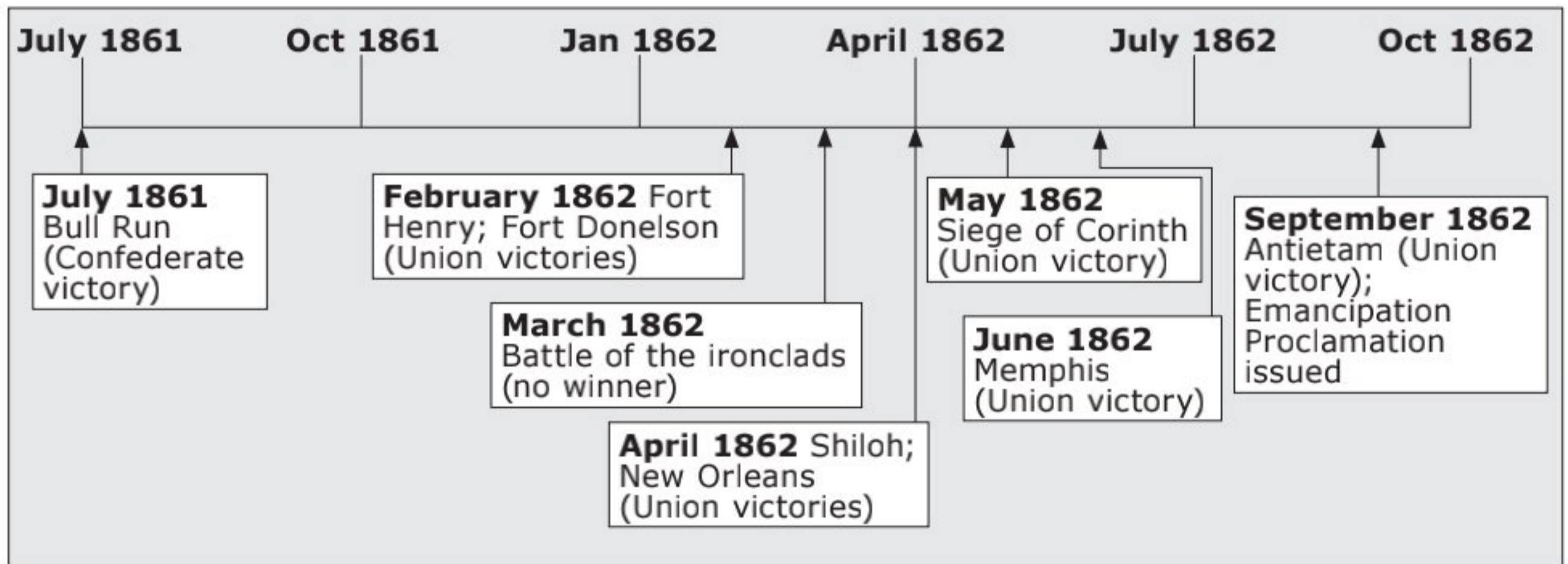
ironclad a warship equipped with iron plating for protection

reinforce to make stronger

casualty a soldier who is killed, wounded, captured, or missing in battle

Emancipation Proclamation the decree issued by President Lincoln freeing enslaved people in those parts of the Confederacy still in rebellion on January 1, 1863

When did it happen?



What do you know?

In the first column, answer the questions based on what you know before you study. After this lesson, complete the last column.

Now...		Later...
	What was important about April 25, 1862?	
	What happened at Antietam?	

The Civil War

Lesson 2 Early Years of the War, *Continued*

War on Land and at Sea

Guiding Question *What was the outcome of the first major battle of the war?*

The first big battle of the Civil War took place on July 21, 1861. It happened in northern Virginia near a small river called Bull Run. About 30,000 Union soldiers attacked a smaller Confederate force. People came from nearby Washington, D.C., to watch the battle.

At first, the Yankees pushed the Confederates back. But General Thomas Jackson inspired the Rebels to keep fighting. He held his position "like a stone wall," so people called him "Stonewall" Jackson. The Confederates forced Union troops to retreat. The watching crowd ran away.

The Battle of Bull Run shocked Northerners. They now realized the war would be long and hard. President Lincoln named a new general to head the Union army of the East. The general was George B. McClellan. Lincoln also called for more people to join the army and the navy.

The Union did better in the West. The Union wanted to control the Mississippi River and its **tributaries** (TRIH•byuh•tehr•eez). Tributaries are smaller rivers that flow into a larger river. This would stop Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas from shipping supplies to the rest of the Confederacy. Union forces would move farther into the South.

The battle for the rivers began in February 1862. General Ulysses S. Grant and General Andrew Foote led the attacks. They attacked Fort Henry on the Tennessee River and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland River. They captured both forts. Grant was now a hero in the North.

The Union had set up a blockade of Confederate ports. Southerners had a secret weapon. It was a warship called the *Merrimack* that the Union had **abandoned**, or left behind. The Confederates rebuilt it as an **ironclad**, a ship protected by iron plates. They renamed it the *Virginia*.

On March 8, 1862, the *Virginia* attacked Union ships in Chesapeake Bay. The North fired shells at it, but they just bounced off. Northern leaders were afraid of the *Virginia*. Then, the North got an ironclad ship of its own. It was called the *Monitor*. On March 9, the two ships met in battle. The ships could not sink each other, so neither side won. Still, the stirring battle raised the spirits of both the North and the South.

In early April 1862, General Grant led about 40,000 soldiers toward Corinth, Mississippi, a key railroad junction.

Explaining

1. What was surprising about the battle at Bull Run?

Marking the Text

2. Read the text at the left. Then circle the names of the forts captured by the Union, enabling the Union to control the Mississippi River's tributaries.

Defining

3. What are *tributaries*?

Drawing Conclusions

4. Why did the battle of the ironclad ships raise spirits on both sides?
