

# Gettysburg Address

November 19, 1863

Directions: Read excerpts from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and answer the questions following each passage.

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth, upon this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

*Using the excerpt—*

1. How long is "four score and seven years"? \_\_\_\_\_ Subtract that number from 1863: \_\_\_\_\_
2. What major event in history is he referring to? \_\_\_\_\_

*Using your background knowledge—*

3. What document used the phrase "all men are created equal"? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who wrote that document? \_\_\_\_\_

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate, we can not consecrate—we can not hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

*Using the excerpt—*

5. Define consecrate: \_\_\_\_\_
6. What "ground" is he referring to? Where is he giving this speech? \_\_\_\_\_

It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

7. What is the "task" he refers to in the first line of the excerpt? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Define vain: \_\_\_\_\_
9. What do you think he meant when he said that the nation shall have a "new birth of freedom"? Explain:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_