

Hunter's Raid Battle for Lynchburg

Lesson Title	Hunter's Raid; Battle for Lynchburg
Subjects	U.S. History, Virginia & U.S. History
Topics	Civil War, Battle of Lynchburg, & Reconstruction
Grade levels	5-12
Time Requirements	One 50 minute class period

Objective

This activity is a differentiated way to teach Civil War History to visual and auditory learners. This lesson covers the Battle of Lynchburg, Civil War, and a little about Sandusky. The main objective is to teach students about the connection between Lynchburg's local history and the Civil War.

Materials

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Hunter's Raid DVD (abbreviated version) | 3. Hunter's Raid Activity |
| 2. Hunter's Raid Lesson Plan | 4. Hunter's Raid Answer Key |

Overview of Tasks

The students will watch the abbreviated (18 minutes long) version of The Hunter's Raid Documentary then complete the corresponding activity. The DVD will talk about the Civil War, Battle of Lynchburg, and Historic Sandusky.

SOLs covered:

Civil War and Reconstruction: 1860 to 1877

VUS.7 The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Civil War and Reconstruction Era and their importance as major turning points in American history by

- a) evaluating the multiple causes of the Civil War, including the role of the institution of slavery as a principal cause of the conflict;
- b) identifying the major events and the roles of key leaders of the Civil War Era, with emphasis on Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, and Frederick Douglass;
- c) analyzing the significance of the Emancipation Proclamation and the principles outlined in Lincoln's Gettysburg Address;
- d) examining the political and economic impact of the war and Reconstruction, including the adoption of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States;
- e) examining the social impact of the war on African Americans, the common soldier, and the home front, with emphasis on Virginia;

Name: _____

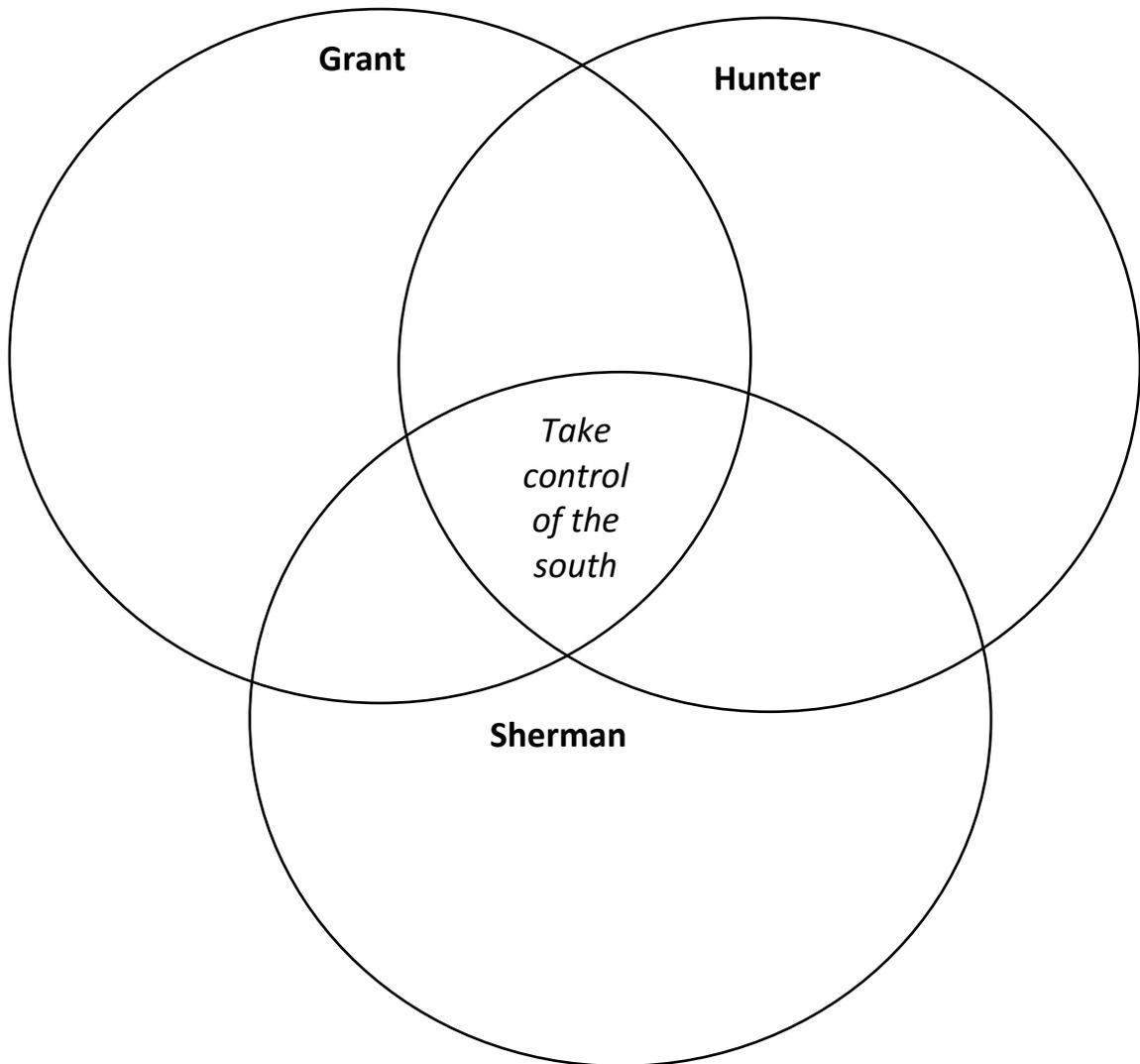
Score =

<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 20 pts
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Hunter's Raid

The Battle for Lynchburg

1. **Fill in the diagram.** Generals Grant, Sherman, and Hunter were given instructions with a common motive which was to take control of the south. Write the specific instruction given to each general in its respective bubble.



2. **Fill in the blank.** General Hunter was declared to be an outlaw because he
 was the first general to _____.

This strategy became known as _____.

3. **Cryptogram.** The following cryptogram or secret coded message, was
 written in a letter from General David Hunter to General Ulysses S. Grant.
 Use the table below to decode the cryptogram. Substitute the letters in the
 cryptogram with the corresponding letters in the second row of the table.
 Some of the message has been decoded for you already.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
L	E	N	Y	M	P	Z	B	X	H	J	G	O	S	Q	C	R	F	T	U	W	I	V	K	D	A

_____ U _____ I _____
 W L K G U F O X K W K R K B W Y P G W A U M
 [_____ I _____] _____
 U I W L K Y J A X Y U J R J M R U I W L K
 _____ I _____ I _____
 G J M J X U M W L K E J F K B Y A N K Y A B
 _____ I _____ U . . . y U
 U I Z Y K J W A F O U Y W J M G K W U P B Q U P
 _____ y _____ U
 J Y K W U O Y U G K K R W U X Q M G L D P Y Z
 _____ I _____ U
 J M R G U F F K M G K W L K Y K A W T U P X R
 _____ U _____ U
 D K U I Z Y K J W N J X P K W U P B W U
 _____ I _____ y _____ U
 Z K W O U B B K B B A U M U I X Q M G L D P Y Z
 _____ I _____ y .
 I U Y J B A M Z X K R J Q



4. Look at Edward Beyer's picture of Lynchburg Virginia circa 1855 above and answer the following questions. Identify where in Lynchburg this picture represents--how do you know?

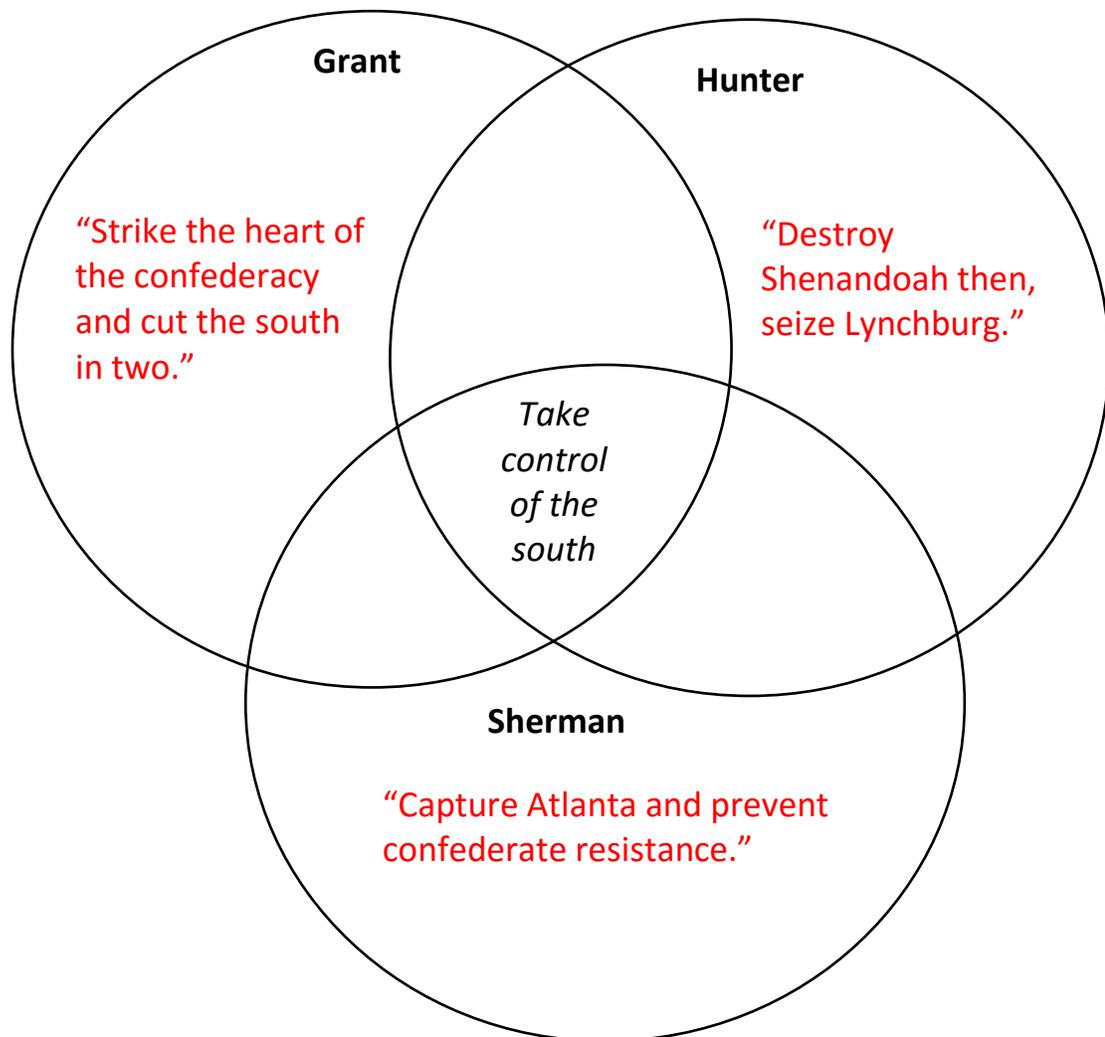
5. Why did General Hunter want to capture Lynchburg? Name 2 ways Lynchburg was an advantage for the confederacy:

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Answer Key

1. **Fill in the diagram.** Generals Grant, Sherman, and Hunter were given instructions with a common motive which was to take control of the south. Write the specific instruction given to each general in its respective bubble. **(3 points)**



2. **Fill in the blank.** General Hunter was declared to be an outlaw because he was the first general to **declare war on civilians (1 point)**. This strategy became known as **total war (1 point)**.
3. **Cryptogram.** The following cryptogram or secret coded message, was written in a letter from General David Hunter to General Ulysses S. Grant. Use the table below to decode the cryptogram. Substitute the letters in the cryptogram with the corresponding letters in the second row of the table. Some of the message has been decoded for you already. **(4 points)**
- "The complete destruction [of the railroad] and of the canal on the James River is of great importance to us...You are to proceed to Lynchburg and commence there. It would be of great value to us to get possession of Lynchburg for a single day."*



4. Look at Edward Beyer's picture of Lynchburg Virginia circa 1855 above and answer the following questions. Identify where in Lynchburg this picture represents **(1 point)**--how you know **(1 point)**? **Downtown Lynchburg near the James River.**
5. Why did General Hunter want to capture Lynchburg? Name 2 ways Lynchburg was an advantage for the confederacy:

General Hunter realized that Lynchburg was one of the wealthiest cities in the nation during the mid-1800s. **(1 point)** Lynchburg was an advantage for the confederacy because of its extensive transportation network was vital for business and trade **(1 point)** and it was the second largest military hospital in the south. **(1 point)**

6. Some of the Civil War soldiers became known for their unique war tactics; what was General Hunter's tactic? He also became infamous for war on civilians or total war. Give 2 examples of how he used his war tactic to declare war on civilians.

General Hunter's war tactic was to set things on fire. **(1 point)** He declared war on civilians by burning a lot of the structures surrounding the Central Virginia railway in Staunton and Lexington **(1 point)** and also burned VMI. **(1 point)**

7. **Short Answer.** Think critically and separate fact from folktale. Did the soldiers actually hear civilians cheering and empty trains running without intermission? Is this a fact or folktale, How do you know?

This is a folktale **(1 point)**. *There are no written accounts about the empty train ploy until after the Civil War. This story was passed down by word of mouth so, this may have been a made up story (for teacher to discuss).*

Throughout the documentary, a narrator has been reading or citing parts of letters written during the Civil War period. However, the narrator did not quote any letters describing the empty train ruse which likely means that a written account could not be found. It is a Lynchburg folktale, we're unsure of whether or not this actually occurred **(2 points)**.