

CLASS SET--RESPOND TO QUESTIONS IN YOUR NOTEBOOK

<p>Lincoln's First Inaugural Address [MODIFIED] March 4 1861</p>	<p>Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address [MODIFIED] March 4 1865</p>
<p>In compliance with a custom as old as the Government itself, I appear before you to address you briefly and to take in your presence the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States to be taken by the President before he enters on the execution of this office."</p>	<p>At this second appearing to take the oath of the Presidential office there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then a statement somewhat in detail of a course to be pursued seemed fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years, during which public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point... little that is new could be presented.</p>
<p>1. Describe Lincoln's TONE in each passage. What might explain this change in tone?</p>	
<p>Concern seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the election of a Republican Administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection....</p> <p>I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so.</p>	<p>One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was somehow the cause of the war... It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces... Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil is lost, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said "the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."</p>

2. According to the First Inaugural Address, what are the Southern states concerned about? How does Lincoln attempt to reassure them?
3. How does Lincoln's explanation of the cause of the war in the Second Inaugural Address conflict with the reassurance he offers in the First Inaugural Address?

In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assail [disturb] you. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the Government, while I shall have the most solemn one to "preserve, protect, and defend it."

On the occasion corresponding to this four years ago all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All dreaded it, all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to saving the Union without war, insurgent agents were in the city seeking to *destroy* it without war—seeking to dissolve the Union and divide effects by negotiation. Neither party desired war, but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish, and the war came.

4. Who does Lincoln blame for the war? What does he say about his duty? How does his **TONE** change between the first address and the second?

We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

5. What vision for the future does Lincoln give in his First Inaugural Address?
6. What vision for post-Civil War America does Lincoln give in his Second Inaugural Address?