

## Music of The Civil War

**Directions:** Listen to the following songs and follow along with the lyrics. Then answer the corresponding questions.

### Song #1: The Battle Cry of Freedom

#### Union version lyrics:

**Verse 1:** Yes we'll rally round the flag, boys, we'll rally once again, Shouting the battle cry of freedom, We will rally from the hillside, we'll gather from the plain, Shouting the battle cry of freedom!

**Chorus:** The Union forever! Hurrah, boys, hurrah!  
Down with the traitor, up with the star;  
While we rally round the flag, boys, rally once again, Shouting the battle cry of freedom!

**Verse 2:** We are springing to the call with a million freemen more, Shouting the battle cry of freedom! And we'll fill our vacant ranks of our brothers gone before, Shouting the battle cry of freedom!

**Chorus:** Repeat

**Verse 3:** We will welcome to our numbers the loyal, true and brave, Shouting the battle cry of freedom! And although he may be poor, he shall never be a slave, Shouting the battle cry of freedom!

**Chorus:** Repeat

#### Confederate version lyrics:

**Verse 1:** Our flag is proudly floating on the land and on the main, Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom! Beneath it oft we've conquered, and we'll conquer oft again! Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom!

**Chorus:** Our Dixie forever! She's never at a loss!  
Down with the eagle and up with the cross!  
We'll rally 'round the bonny flag, we'll rally once again, Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom!

**Verse 2:** Our gallant boys have marched to the rolling of the drums. Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom! And the leaders in charge cry out, "Come, boys, come!" Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom!

**Chorus:** Repeat

**Verse 3:** They have laid down their lives on the bloody battle field. Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom! Their motto is resistance -- "To tyrants we'll not yield!" Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom!

**Chorus:** Repeat

### Questions for Song #1

1. In the first stanzas of the two versions of the song, what seems to be the main difference between them?
2. What does the Southern version mean by "Down with the Eagle, And up with the cross."
3. Summarize the meaning of the third stanza of the Northern version of the song, which begins, "we will welcome to our numbers..."
4. How do you think the Southern version of the song symbolizes the Confederate cause?
5. How do you think the Northern version of the song symbolizes the Union cause?

## Song #2: Union Dixie vs. Dixie Land

### Union Dixie

**Verse 1:** Away down South in the land of traitors,  
Rattlesnakes and alligators,  
Right away, come away, right away, come away.  
Where cotton's king and men are chattels,  
Union boys will win the battles,  
Right away, come away, right away, come away.

**Chorus:** Then we'll all go down to Dixie,  
Away, away,  
Each Dixie boy must understand  
That he must mind his Uncle Sam,  
Away, away,  
And we'll all go down to Dixie.  
Away, away,  
And we'll all go down to Dixie.

**Verse 2:** I wish I was in Baltimore,  
I'd make Secession traitors roar,  
Right away, come away, right away, come away.  
We'll put the traitors all to rout.  
I'll bet my boots we'll whip them out,  
Right away, come away, right away, come away.

**Chorus:** Repeat

**Verse 3:** Oh, may our Stars and Stripes still wave  
Forever o'er the free and brave,  
Right away, come away, right away, come away.  
And let our motto ever be --  
"For Union and for Liberty!"  
Right away, come away, right away, come away.

**Chorus:** Repeat

### Dixie Land

**Verse 1:** I wish I was in the land of cotton,  
Old times there are not forgotten;  
Look away! Look away! Look away! Dixie Land.  
In Dixie's Land where I was born in,  
Early on one frosty mornin',  
Look away! Look away! Look away! Dixie Land.

**Chorus:** I wish I was in Dixie, Hooray! Hooray!  
In Dixie's Land I'll take my stand  
to live and die in Dixie.  
Away, away, away down south in Dixie.  
Away, away, away down south in Dixie.

**Verse 2:** Old Missus marry "Will the weaver,"  
Willium was a gay deceiver;  
Look away! Look away! Look away! Dixie Land.  
And when he put his arm around 'er,  
He smiled as fierce as a forty-pounder,  
Look away! Look away! Look away! Dixie Land.

**Chorus:** Repeat

**Verse 3:** His face was sharp as a butcher's  
cleaver  
But that did not seem to grieve 'er  
Look away! Look away! Look away! Dixie Land.  
Ole Missus acted the foolish part  
She died for a man that broke her heart  
Look away! Look away! Look away! Dixie Land.

**Chorus:** Repeat

## Questions for song #2

6. While the Confederate States of America did not have an official "national anthem" (even the North did not recognize the "Star Spangled Banner" as the nation's anthem until 1931), "Dixie's Land" (or "Dixie") was truly a "national song". What aspects of the song might make it significant in regard to the Confederate cause?
7. How does the song "Union Dixie" (in the first stanza) describe the South?
8. While the first verse and chorus of "Dixie" are well known, the rest of the song is not. Frequently, the tune is used without lyrics. Why do you think the rest of the song is obscure?
9. How could the song, "Union Dixie" be used to rally troops as a school fight song might rally the student body or athletes? Give at least three examples.
10. "Dixie" is still a well-known song in the 21st Century, while the "Union Dixie" has generally been forgotten. Speculate why this is so.