Abraham Lincoln’s “The Gettysburg Address”

**01. LISTENING ACTIVITY – Full Speech – Gettysburg Address**

***Instructions:* Listen to the following part of Lincoln’s speech. Listen carefully to the pronunciation, intonation, and pausing.**

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

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate -- we cannot consecrate -- we cannot 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. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. 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 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.

**02. SPEAKING ACTIVITY – Mimicking the Phrases – Gettysburg Address**

***Instructions:* Listen to the speech excerpt this time divided into phrases to repeat. Listen carefully for the silent blanks where you can repeat the previous phrase. Listen carefully for the pronunciation, intonation, and pausing to mimic the original phrases. Finally, listen and compare your recording with the original.**

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

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, / testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. / We are met on a great battle-field of that war. / We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. / It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. /

But, in a larger sense, / we cannot dedicate -- / we cannot consecrate -- / we cannot 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. / It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. / 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 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.

**03. SPEAKING ACTIVITY – Filling in the Gaps – Gettysburg Address**

***Instructions:* This time listen to the speech for gaps. Listen carefully for the gaps or silent areas where you fill in with the bolded and underlined phrase. Listen carefully for pronunciation, intonation, and pausing of the words. Finally, listen to the recording with your voice and the original together.**

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

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation **so conceived and so dedicated**, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, **as a final resting place** for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, **we cannot dedicate** -- **we cannot consecrate** -- **we cannot 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. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so **nobly advanced**. 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 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.

**04. FULL SPEECH RECORDING ACTIVITY**

***Instructions:* Use Audacity to record the entire speech below. Then listen to your recording.**

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

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate -- we cannot consecrate -- we cannot 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. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. 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 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.