

## Collaborative Strategy Scenario

**Name:** Elephant Group

Peter DePaola  
Sandra Napp  
Ramona Johnson

**Strategy:** Concept Mapping - Hierarchy

**Content:** Plotting the events that are significant to the Civil War

**Title:** Introduction to the Civil War

**Time Required:** One hour if learners have access to multiple computers

**Target Audience:** 20 fifth grade students

**Goal of Activity:** To state the causes of the Civil War and identify significant battles and events of the Civil War.

**Purpose of Script:** Demonstrate the use of concept mapping, organizing and recalling historical facts.

**Learning Outcomes, Gagne's Taxonomy:** Defined concepts, intellectual skills

**Learning Outcomes, HEO Taxonomy:** Knowledge, comprehension, application

**Learner Characteristics:** Average 5<sup>th</sup> grade students

**Entry Skills:** Ability to use a computer and search websites

**Setting:** Classroom equipped with computers

**Media:** Computers with access to Internet, overhead projector

**Process:**

1. The instructor initiates a discussion on the Civil War to ascertain the students' prior knowledge. The instructor asks students to state the causes of the Civil War and to name any famous battles and events.

2. Discuss student's answers and list on chalkboard or overhead projector.
3. Instructor demonstrates a concept map by using an overhead projector. The main concept of the Civil War will be outlined using three branches. The three branches are labeled: Cause of War, Famous Battles, and Famous Events.
4. Instructor demonstrates how to branch off from the three main topics by using student answers listed on chalkboard and explains to learners that they will research information on the three branches of the concept map to produce a completed concept map.
5. The instructor lists the following websites for students to access and research:  
<http://sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/warweb.html>  
[http://members.tripod.com/~greatamericanhistory/gr02006.htm#\[IXB\]](http://members.tripod.com/~greatamericanhistory/gr02006.htm#[IXB])  
<http://members.aol.com/jfepperson/causes.html>
6. The learners are to work in pairs and research the causes of the Civil War and find at least three famous battles and three famous events with dates.
7. The learners are to construct a concept map with the information found on the Websites.
8. Students are to present their completed concept map to the class.

**Strategy Assessment:** Did the learner complete the task and produce a concept map in the format demonstrated?

Did the learner explain their concept map?

Did the learner identify and state the information requested?

**Authors:** Sandra Napp, Peter DePaola, and Ramona Johnson

**References:** *The American Civil War Homepage*

<http://sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/warweb.html>

*Outline of the Civil War From Great American History*

[http://members.tripod.com/~greatamericanhistory/gr02006.htm#\[IXB\]](http://members.tripod.com/~greatamericanhistory/gr02006.htm#[IXB])

*Causes of the Civil War*

<http://members.aol.com/jfepperson/causes.html>