

Finding Your Voice: Thesis Creator

First, let's list the topics we cover in class. List them all below. Try not to use your notes, just brainstorm:

- Sherman's March
- Secession
- Burning of Atlanta
- Battles - BR, Ant., Chick/Chatt, etc.

Next, keep a list of your thoughts. They can be random or specific. *I can't believe the Russians did that!* Or *wars always seem to be fought by poor people.* Or *Lincoln-Emancipation Proclamation.* Try to write "notes" rather than paragraphs. Your "notes" may be sentences, but try to "spit out" your thoughts rather than perfect them.

- lost property, personal belongings, food, animals
- women on plantations - terrified?
- Atlanta people knowing Sherman is coming?
- Faith in Gov. Brown?
- Remnant slaves

Next, What is Your PROMPT/TOPIC? Write it below...ALL of it...WORD FOR WORD

Prompt: How did the Civil War affect Georgia's Citizens?

Next: Figure out how your notes relate to the prompt and, MOST IMPORTANTLY, figure out your opinion. Use the chart below:

Fact/Note/Lecture Item	My opinion/interpretation
• Virginia / MD Battles	→ Georgians not worried - women OK at home probably - early days of the war and morale is high - most likely normal life for all except maybe the shift from cotton to food.
• TN Battles / N. GA, too	→ Getting closer Fear, anxiety, evacuations, and hiding of property?
• ATL and March	→ Fear, questioning the war's goals? A new reality with free slaves and lawlessness
• After	→ Lost fathers, brothers, etc. destruction and recovery - long process

THESIS STATEMENT (address the prompt, explain your position, outline main points):

When war broke out, most Georgians were unaffected, but as the fighting got closer to the state its citizens' suffering increased.