Name:

WORKSHEET

Chapter 12: The Civil War and West Virginia's Statehood Movement Section 2: The Final Days of the War and a New Day for West Virginia **Civil War Firsts**

Directions: The Civil War is often called the first "modern" war. There were several inventions connected with it, in addition to changes in military methods and in social, political, and economic conduct. Examine the chart carefully and answer the questions that follow on a separate sheet of paper.

Naval Warfare Firsts

- A successful submarine
- A "snorkel" breathing device
- Naval torpedoes (mines)
- Ironclad navy vessels
- Revolving gun turrets
- United States Navy admiral

Weapons Firsts

- Flame throwers
- Use of periscope for trench warfare
- Practical machine gun
- Repeating rifles
- Mobile artillery on railroad cars
- Land mine fields
- Telescopic sights for rifles
- Antiaircraft fire

Medical Firsts

- Organized medical and nursing corps
- Hospital ships
- Army Ambulance Corps
- Widespread use of anesthetics to treat the wounded
- Widespread use of rails for hospital trains

Military Firsts

- Organized use of black troops in combat
- Widespread use of railroads to transport men and supplies
- Organized signal service
- Visual signaling by flags and torches during combat

- Military reconnaissance from manned balloons
- Bugle call "Taps"
- Commissioned army chaplains
- Armed services draft system
- Servicemen voting in the field for a national election
- Black U.S. Army officer (Major M. R. Delany)
- Medal of Honor
- Press correspondents on battlefields
- Field trenches on a grand scale
- Blackouts and camouflage for aerial observation
- Use of military telegraph
- Organized aerial psychological warfare (Kites used to drop Lincoln's Amnesty Proclamation behind southern lines)

Economic Firsts

- Income tax
- Tobacco tax
- Union printed fake Confederate currency

Other Firsts

- First American breadlines
- Formation of U.S. Secret Service
- First U.S. president assassinated
- First photographs taken in battle

- 1. Which items, strategies, or discoveries are obsolete?
- 2. Which items, strategies, or discoveries are still in use today?
- 3. In your opinion, which items do you think were most important during the Civil War? Rank your top five choices. What about today? Would your choices change for modern time? Re-rank your top five choices for today. (They may overlap.)