

Name _____

A Nation Divided: Reactions to the Emancipation Proclamation

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. (Opinion-based) A student might say they would feel proud because they are fighting for freedom, or confused because they only wanted to save the Union.
2. Some people supported the proclamation because they wanted to end slavery, while others opposed it because they feared job competition or thought it would make the war harder.
3. (Opinion-based) Many enslaved people may have felt hopeful, excited, or afraid because they did not know if freedom would actually come.
4. If Lincoln had not issued the Emancipation Proclamation, the war might have lasted longer, and enslaved people might have remained in bondage for more years.

