Introduction:

1. What happened over the summer that made General Robert E. Lee decide to invade Union soil in early September?
2. Why was McClellan confident and ready to rush to fight the Confederate army?

Opening Action & Dunker Church:

1. Where does Lee choose to set up a defensive position? Why?
2. What three places did most of the opening action center around?
3. Throughout the battle, the cornfield changed hands six times. In the end, why did the Union fail to follow up on its advantage?

Sunken Road:

1. What advantage in experience did the Confederates have over the Union soldiers?
2. What mistakes are made by the commanding officers? How does this affect the battle?
3. What nickname is given to the Sunken Lane? Why?

Burnside’s Bridge:

1. Where is Lee most vulnerable? Who is ordered to target that area?
2. Why is it so difficult for Burnside’s men to cross the bridge at Antietam Creek? How many assaults does it take for Burnside to take the bridge?
3. What happens to the Confederates?

Final Attack:

1. Why does Lee have time to reorganize before the final attack?
2. Who arrives to reinforce Lee’s army? What does this do?
3. Why does Lee have the opportunity to slip back into Virginia the next day?

Conclusion:

1. Who won the battle?
2. What happens to McClellan after Antietam? Why?
3. What role does photography play in this battle?
4. What does Lincoln do with the victory at Antietam?



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