# Juneteenth

In 2021, the U.S. government officially made Juneteenth a federal holiday. However, people have been celebrating this important day, on June 19, for much longer.

"Juneteenth" is a combination of the words "June" and "nineteenth." This was the day in 1865 when Union troops got to Galveston, Texas. They were there to tell enslaved people they were free.

In 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation declared that enslaved people in Confederate states were free. However, it took more than two years for those enslaved in Texas to be informed of this news. Even still, some enslavers refused to free the people they enslaved until forced to do so.

*In 2021, the U.S. government officially made Juneteenth a federal holiday.* Which word below is most likely a synonym for the underlined word?

**a.** national        **b.** old

**c.** local          **d.** unique

2. Juneteenth marks the day Union troops got to what city to announce that enslaved people were free?        _____

3. True or false: Slavery in the United States ended with the Emancipation Proclamation.        _____

4. This passage refers to "Union troops" and "Confederate states." Read the definitions below and write **Union** or **Confederate** on the line next to the correct definition.

_____ : relating to the group of states that separated from the United States between 1860 and 1865

_____ : relating to the group of states that supported the U.S. government in the American Civil War

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below and write **Union** or **Confederate** on the line next to the correct definition.

_____**Confederate**_____ : relating to the group of states that separated from the United States between 1860 and 1865

_____**Union**_____ : relating to the group of states that supported the U.S. government in the American Civil War