

## Teacher's Scavenger Hunt: Life and Limb: The Toll of the Civil War

**Instructions:** View *Life and Limb* ([www.nlm.nih.gov/lifeandlimb/exhibition](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/lifeandlimb/exhibition)) using its website or printouts. Find answers to the following questions and note the exhibition headings under which you found the answers—e.g., *XYZanswer (XYZ exhibition title/heading)*. You may work with a partner.

1. During what years did the Civil War occur? [1861-1865 \(home page of \*Life and Limb: the Toll of American Civil War\*\)](#)
2. What was the name of the organization created by the Federal Government in 1863 to employ disabled veterans for war-related work? [The Invalid Corps \(\*Returning to the Army\*\)](#)
3. *Puck* was a British magazine noted for its satirical treatment of contemporary issues. How did it interpret the motives of disabled veterans in 1882? [Puck ran a front page illustration, titled “The Insatiable Glutton” where a union soldier with many arms is depicted as spooning off and gobbling up government ‘funds,’ viewing disabled veterans as greedily using and leeching off the public funds that they had not earned. \(\*Sacrifices Forgotten\*\)](#)
4. How did new technology such as rifled muskets and the minié ball increase the risk and severity of injury? [The rifled muskets were better as they fired further and more accurately than older weapons. The muskets could be quickly reloaded with the minié ball, a bullet of soft lead invented in the 1840s. This bullet was more destructive than other types of ammunition, and caused extensive damage and increased risk of infection in injury. \(\*Wounds of War\*\)](#)
5. Who or what, according to Confederate surgeon Julian John Chisolm, posed as a great a threat to soldiers as enemy gunfire? [young and inexperienced surgeons who often amputated wounded limbs due to lack of experience or for “experimenting.” \(\*Maimed Men\*\)](#)
6. What is the approximate number of patents for artificial limb designs were issued between 1861 and 1873? [Almost 150 patents \(\*Rebuilding the Body\*\)](#)
7. What was the most common type of surgery performed on wounded soldiers? [Amputations \(\*Maimed Men\*\)](#)
8. Why was the name of the Invalid Corps changed to Veterans Reserve Corps? [To put an end to mocking the “Invalid Corps” by associating it derogatorily to “Inspected-Condemned” or “crippled brigade.” \(\*Returning to the Army\*\)](#)



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Why did many disabled veterans decline to wear a prosthesis? Many didn't collect the money due to the negative attitude toward "charity" and wore empty sleeves or trouser legs pinned up as "honorable scars" for the contributions they made during the war. (*Empty Sleeves*)
  
10. Summarize how the *Life and Limb* exhibition describes the experiences and treatment of wounded soldiers during the U.S. Civil War. Many soldiers were young and poorly trained. After being wounded, soldiers often had to wait a while to receive medical attention due to overwhelming number of casualties. Some disabled soldiers continued to serve in the army in the Invalid Corps, later named as Veterans Reserve Corps. Those soldiers were proud and wanted respect from the others and not charity. However, many years after the end of the Civil War, some in society viewed them as burdens and not heroes whose sacrifices should be valued and supported financially.