

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

As the first president of the United States, George Washington took on the difficult task of leading a country through its earliest development. He would appoint the first Supreme Court justices and the first Cabinet. He established traditions for working with Congress, and developed the first American foreign policy.

President Abraham Lincoln had a completely different challenge to his presidency over eighty years later. His presidency was consumed with the Civil War. His foremost goal was to keep the Union intact.

Washington was president at the beginning of the country; Lincoln was president when it was about to rip in half. Whose job do you think was more challenging: Washington's or Lincoln's? Why? What specific issues or responsibilities would have been the hardest?

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**Answers: Student's choice**

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