Directions: Complete the strengths and weaknesses by matching the description below to the section on your handout. Write in the description in the appropriate area of your handout, then rank whether it’s “a strength” or “a weakness”, 0 (weak) – 3 (strong).

12 Million overall
32% were slaves
1.2 Million white men ages 15-40

Controlled 30% of the nation’s economy
Some states resisted taxation
High Inflation- paper money worthless

Extensive rail system
Could move soldiers & supplies wherever needed.

65% of the nation’s farmland devoted to food production.
Could keep citizens and soldiers better fed.

Knew the land well.
Were fighting to defend their homes.

35% of the nation’s farmland devoted to food production.
Southern soldiers lacked food.
Southern cities had bread riots.

Had few warships
Could not break the North’s naval blockade.

Most skilled officers joined the Confederate army.
Southern soldiers were better trained and familiar with horses and guns.

Large cities with factories
More workers to make weapons, ammunition, uniforms, etc.
Produced 5,000 rifles a day

31 Million overall
4 Million men ages 15-40

Used income tax to raise money
7% of the nation’s iron and steel

Lincoln acted with confidence.
Prevented border states from seceding.
Had a talent for managing men.

Union had the established Navy
Used the “Anaconda Plan” to create a blockade disrupting the South’s trade

Few factories and workers.
Confederate soldiers lacked clothing and supplies.

Most battles were fought in the South.
Were not familiar with the land.

Jefferson Davis didn’t have Lincoln’s energy & authority. Struggled to get the full support of all 11 Confederate states.

Produced 300 rifles a day.

Had access to 28% of the nation’s railroads

Strong banking system
Controlled 70% of the nation’s wealth

93% of the Nation’s Iron and Steel

Few experienced officers
Most soldiers were from cities and lacked training.