

**Study questions for James Lee McDonough's *Shiloh: In Hell Before Night*.**  
Answers are due on **Tuesday, May 30.**

Preface

1. What other two battles ultimately determined the outcome of the war in the west?
2. If the Union had lost the battle of Shiloh, which two U.S. officers' careers might have ended?
3. Name the author and title of another book about Shiloh.

Chapter One

1. Pittsburg Landing was named for whom?
2. Soldiers referred to combat by what phrase?
3. What two forts did U.S. Grant's soldiers capture in February 1862?
4. Who was Louisiana's Episcopal bishop?
5. Where was "the most strategically important town west of Chattanooga?"
6. Who had a reputation for being unreasonably strict?
7. What was the attitude of U.S. troops prior to the battle?
8. How old was Johnny Clem at the time of the battle?
9. What were the two common models of rifled muskets?
10. How many kinds of ammunition did Sherman's division alone require?

Chapter Two

1. Whom did Jefferson Davis call "the great pillar of the Confederacy?"
2. What nickname did Grant earn at Fort Donelson?
3. Just prior to the battle, how much confidence was there in the leadership of Albert Sidney Johnston?
4. Which two rivers created a highway for rapid advance into the South?
5. Who was Grant's immediate superior officer?
6. Who commanded the Department of the Ohio?
7. Whose division was encamped at Crump's Landing?
8. Who decided to stage Union operations out of Savannah?
9. What was the Union Army's ultimate objective?
10. Who commanded the Union Sixth Division?

Chapter Three

1. Who was the "prime mover," the man who pushed the campaign to Shiloh?
2. The Confederate Army bore what name?
3. Who was called "Napoleon in Gray?"

4. On March 2, Beauregard urged Johnston to bring his army to what place?
5. Beauregard believed the Confederates had to attack before Union armies under which two generals concentrated?
6. Whose Confederate corps led the attack?
7. How many men were in Bragg's corps?
8. On April 3, Johnston defined the objective of the Confederate Army as what?
9. To what part of the battlefield did Beauregard funnel most of the Confederate troops?

#### Chapter Four

1. What were the weather conditions during the days just prior to the battle?
2. What CSA officer opposed the offensive?
3. In regard to question 2, why?
4. Who said, "I would fight them if they were a million"?
5. Who finally committed the Confederate Army to the attack?
6. What set of orders served as a model for the Confederate orders on April 6?

#### Chapter Five

1. Which colonel in Prentiss's division warned the general of an impending attack?
2. At 0600, what unit was ordered forward to support the Union troops under attack?
3. The most inexperienced Union troops were located on what portion of the battlefield?
4. U.S. Grant's headquarters was located where and how far from Pittsburg Landing?
5. According to Thomas Livermore, approximately how many soldiers were in each army on April 6?
6. How many times did the 6<sup>th</sup> Mississippi charge against Buckland's and Hildebrand's brigades?
7. In what area of the battlefield did the Confederates have their best opportunity for victory?

#### Chapter Six

1. What part of Gen. Sherman's body was wounded during the battle?
2. Whose division tried to plug the gap between Sherman's and Prentiss's divisions?
3. At what time did Sherman's and McClelland's divisions begin a full retreat?
4. In which of his commanders did Grant have more confidence than any other?
5. At noon, about how long was the Union line?

#### Chapter Seven

1. Whose Union division occupied the center of the Hornet's Nest?
2. How many *documented* unsuccessful charges did Confederate troops make against the Hornet's Nest?
3. True or False: Gen. Bragg organized coordinated attacks against the Hornet's Nest.

4. What was the maximum number of Confederate troops who assaulted the Hornet's Nest at one time?
5. How many times did Gibson's Brigade charge the Hornet's Nest?
6. How many of Bragg's four regimental commanders supported his decision for repeated frontal assaults against the Hornet's Nest?
7. Approximately what time did the last Confederate infantry assault on the Hornet's Nest occur?
8. On the map on page 147, who commands the Union right flank?

#### Chapter Eight

1. Which regiment did Gen. Johnston lead in an attack against Union troops in the vicinity of the Peach Orchard?
2. Approximately what time were both flanks of the Union Army falling back toward Pittsburg Landing?
3. According to McDonough, where was the most logical destination for Lew Wallace's division?
4. According to McDonough, what is the most likely explanation for Wallace's problems on the battle's first day?
5. How long did Ruggle's batteries fire at the Hornet's Nest?
6. What time did Prentiss surrender the Hornets' Nest?
7. The ability of Prentiss and the Union troops to hold out at the Hornets' Nest accomplished what?

#### Chapter Nine

1. What Confederate officer changed his account of the battle after the war?
2. Who was in charge of placing Union cannon to defend the landing?
3. On the map on page 172, what geographic feature did Confederate troops on the right have to cross to reach the Union lines?
4. At what time did the first of Buell's troops arrive?
5. What was the tone of Beauregard's message on the night of April 6?

#### Chapter Ten

1. During the night, how often did Union gunboats fire their guns?
2. Where did Grant spend that night?
3. Which cavalry commander arrived around midnight?
4. Forrest told which officer of the arriving Union forces?

#### Chapter Eleven

1. How many men did Grant have on April 7? Beauregard?
2. How many men did Pat Cleburne have on Monday morning?
3. Whose Union division was on the far right of the Union line?
4. What turned the battle against the Confederates?
5. The Confederates had been driven back to the Hamburg-Purdy Road by what time of day?

6. Approximately what time did Beauregard order the retreat?
7. Who led the cavalry charge against Union forces at Fallen Timbers?
8. Besides Grant, which future president walked the battlefield in the days immediately following the engagement?

#### Chapter Twelve

1. Initially, the battle was seen as a victory for which side?
2. Who described the battle as, “one of the most important that has ever occurred on this continent”?
3. Who took over command of the Union Army on April 11?
4. When did Union troops occupy Corinth?
5. What did New Orleans writer George Washington Cable write about Shiloh?