**The Battle of Gettysburg:**

**A Photo Documentary**

**Background**

While photographs of earlier conflicts do exist, the American Civil War is considered the first major conflict to be extensively photographed. Not only did intrepid photographers venture onto the fields of battle, but those very images were then widely displayed and sold in ever larger quantities nationwide.

Photographers such as Mathew Brady, Alexander Gardner, and Timothy O'Sullivan found enthusiastic audiences for their images as America's interests were piqued by the shockingly realistic medium. For the first time in history, citizens on the home front could view the actual carnage of faraway battlefields. Civil War photographs stripped away much of the Victorian-era romance around warfare.

Photography during the Civil War, especially for those who ventured out to the battlefields with their cameras, was a difficult and time consuming process. Photographers had to carry all of their heavy equipment, including their darkroom, by wagon. They also had to be prepared to process cumbersome light-sensitive images in cramped wagons.

**Directions**

Your job is to become a Civil War photographer and create a visual documentation of the Battle of Gettysburg. Photographs of the Civil War show camp life, routines, war preparations, the moments just prior to battle, and the aftermath of battle. Your photograph collection should include the following:

* A brief introduction, in paragraph format, explaining what your collection is about.
  + Where were the images taken?
  + What aspects of war do the images depict?
  + What were the effects of this particular battle, the Battle of Gettysburg?
* A minimum of 7 photographs depicting the Battle of Gettysburg
* Descriptive and specific captions of each image (include people, meeting details, dates, and more!)

