8.77 Explain the roles of leaders during the Civil War, including Ulysses S. Grant, Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson and soldiers on both sides of the war, including Tennesseans David Farragut, Nathan Bedford Forrest and William Brownlow. (C,E,H,P,TN)

The Civil War in 4 Minutes
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJA7PV3wAoE

Stonewall Jackson

Pictured Above: Stonewall Jackson was killed by his own troops during battle. The Major that ordered the attack died a few years later, his family claiming because of guilt.

Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was an intensely religious man. A former teacher at Virginia Military Institute, he believed the Southern cause was sacred. He was totally fearless in battle. He would drive troops to the point of total exhaustion, seemingly insensitive to their hardship and suffering.

After Jackson won five battles in one month, an aura of invincibility surrounded him. It lasted until his death, in the spring of 1863, during one of his most dramatic victories, the BATTLE OF CHANCELLORSVILLE.
Biography of Stonewall Jackson

http://www.biography.com/people/stonewall-jackson-9351451

Ulysses S. Grant

The Union had outstanding officers, but for the first three years of the war, the Union Army had five different commanders. As Lincoln grew impatient with each one’s caution or inflexibility, he’d replace him. They simply did not win the decisive battle that Lincoln needed. ULYSSES S. GRANT was chosen as the general who could finish the job. He had fought in the US-Mexican War and won battles at FORT HENRY and FORT DONELSON in Tennessee during the winter of 1862. Grant had also led the Union troops during the pivotal VICKSBURG VICTORY. For his strategy in those battles, he earned the nickname "UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER" GRANT. After he became commander in chief of the Union Army, he doggedly pursued Lee. Grant fought Lee measure for measure and continued to advance, even as Union casualties

Pictured Above: General Sherman, shown here during the Atlanta Campaign is infamous for his tactics during his March to the Sea. His men looted and destroyed civilian homes and businesses throughout the region.

Grant’s most trusted officer, WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN, had fought with Grant earlier in the war. Sherman’s job was to take Atlanta, an action that was a key part of Lincoln’s strategy to conclude the war.

Sherman was a nervous, talkative master strategist, who understood how difficult the war was going to be to win. He felt that the North would have to make life very difficult on civilians in the South in order to weaken the resolve of the Confederate Army. His ruthless and destructive drives across the South — first to Atlanta, then to the sea at Savannah, and finally through South Carolina, are his legacy.

Biography of Ulysses S. Grant

http://www.biography.com/people/ulysses-s-grant-9318285

Jefferson Davis

Jefferson Davis was influenced by his brother during his youth. After Jefferson graduated from West Point, he served in the army. He became a states’ rights Democrat and supported the unrestricted expansion of slavery. In 1861, he resigned from the Senate to serve as the president of the Confederacy.
Jefferson Davis’ accomplishments:

- Mexican War hero
- US Senator - Mississippi
- Secretary of War for President Franklin Pierce
- President of the Confederate States of America during the Civil War (1861-1865)

Davis worked hard on his military strategy for the South. He could not manage to control the Confederate economy. He was not a good judge of character which led to conflicts with his military officers. After the surrender at Appomatox Courthouse Davis was captured and charged with treason but he was never tried.

Biography of Jefferson Davis
http://www.biography.com/people/jefferson-davis-9267899

Robert E. Lee

Pictured Above: Robert E. Lee symbolized the best of the South for many people. He was pardoned for treason by President Johnson after the war.

The battles that caused the loss of so much life in the Civil War were the results of decisions made by the military commanders of the North and the South. Who were these people? Why did they order the kinds of attacks that characterized this war? How could they follow orders that in many cases seemed like sheer suicide? Many of the opposing officers were actually friends, who had been classmates at West Point and having fought at each other’s sides in the US-MEXICAN WAR OF 1848.

Robert E. Lee was offered the position of commander in chief of the Union Army by President Lincoln before Virginia seceded from the United States. Lee was born into one of the South’s most prominent families, and was the son of a Revolutionary War hero, and graduate of West Point. His wife was the granddaughter of Martha Washington. Lee did not favor either slavery or secession, but joined the Confederate army out of duty to Virginia, which he would not dishonor. Although he was the unquestioned military leader of the South, he was not given charge of the
entire Confederate Army until the war’s outcome had already been decided. He was a brilliant military strategist, continually outsmarting and defeating opponents with armies much larger than his own.

**Biography of Robert E. Lee**


**Tennesseans:**

**David Farragut**

David Farragut, a Tennessean, was a an admiral in the US Navy during the Civil War. He was born near Knoxville, TN but moved to Pennsylvania when he was a boy. He was adopted by naval officer David Porter. Adoption was quite common during this time. Parents would place children with someone who could train them in a career.

During the Civil War, he was assigned to enter the Mississippi River and take New Orleans, a port where the South was receiving supplies from Europe. A year later, Farragut helped General Ulysses S. Grant take Vicksburg and the Mississippi River. Later in the war, Farragut moved on toward Mobile Bay, Alabama and Fort Morgan. He was instructed to attack any ship that came close to Ft. Morgan. Ft. Morgan eventually surrendered. This would be Farragut’s last big career event.

**Pictured Above:** David Farragut

Farragut, TN, near Knoxville was renamed in honor of David Farragut during the 1980s.

[Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture - David Farragut](http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=456)

**Biography of David Farragut**

This is a link to information about David Farragut and his birthplace.

http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/people/david_farragut

Nathan Bedford Forrest

Nathan Bedford Forrest, born in Chapel Hill, TN (Marshall County), and was a Confederate general during the Civil War. Forrest moved to Memphis in 1852 where he worked as a slave trader. By 1860, Forrest became quite wealthy from owning two cotton plantations.

Forrest enlisted in the Confederate Army as a private but was quickly earned a promotion to lieutenant colonel. He was involved in fighting at Ft. Donelson, TN where he refused to surrender and led 700 cavalry on an escape to Nashville, TN. At the Battle of Shiloh, he led a cavalry charge against the Union while he was wounded. He later had many Confederate victories many times relying on guerrilla tactics.

Forrest had a controversial action at the Battle of Fort Pillow, Tennessee in April 1864. He men killed 200 Union soldiers, many who were black and former slaves. Forrest claimed they had resisted. This event became known as the “Fort Pillow Massacre”. Later it was determined Forrest and his men had performed an unjust massacre.

Pictured Above: Nathan Bedford Forrest

After the Civil War, Nathan Bedford Forrest returned to Tennessee. Forrest became associated with Ku Klux Klan (KKK) and was named its first Grand Wizard. The KKK was a secret society that opposed Reconstruction. This group terrorized blacks and others running for office in the south.

Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture - Nathan Bedford Forrest

http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=483
Here is a link to more information about Nathan Bedford Forrest and virtual tours:

http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/people/nathan_forrest

William Brownlow

William Brownlow served as governor of Tennessee from 1865 - 1869. Before becoming governor he was a Methodist preacher and the editor of a newspaper. The newspaper started out as Tennessee Whig and later became the Knoxville Whig. Brownlow was known for his insults in his editorial so he had many subscribers from all over the country.

Brownlow was a slave owner, but supported the Union after the Civil War started. He was imprisoned by the Confederate government and eventually sent up North. Once he reached the north he went on a six month speaking tour. He became a celebrity from telling his tales of his experience in the Confederacy.

In 1895 Brownlow succeeded Andrew Johnson as governor. He opposed President Andrew Johnson’s Reconstruction ideas and sided with Congressional Republicans policies. He influenced the state legislature to ratify the fourteenth amendment which led to Tennessee being accepted back into the Union. It was during Brownlow’s term that the Ku Klux Klan got its start. In 1869 Brownlow was elected to the Tennessee General Assembly where he served one term.

Pictured Above: Tennessee Governor William Brownlow

The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture

http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=150
Here is a link to more information about William Brownlow

http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/people/william_brownlow