		Notes						
Lesson Title	Lesson #6: Salvation Through Sanitation							
and number: Know Understand Do	After this lesson, students will  Know:  The motivations for the creation of the Western Sanitary Commission in St. Louis during the Civil War.  The ways in which the Western Sanitary Commission assisted the soldiers and citizens of the United States during and following the war.  Understand:  How the actions of St. Louis citizens benefited the United States as a whole during the Civil War.							
	The importance of sanitation during the course of warfare.      Do:     Distinguish ways in which the Western Sanitary Commission assisted the citizens and soldiers of the United States during the Civil War in the format of a document based question essay.							
Vocabulary	Sanitation, Commission,							
Technology integration	No Technology is required for this lesson.							
Preparation:	Prior to beginning this lesson, the teacher will need to make class copies of the primary source documents that will be used for analysis. Teachers will also need to make a copy of the Document Analysis Sheet, including the Pre-Writing Work Up, for each individual student. Finally, the teacher will need to place students in complementary groups of three or four students who will work together on the document analysis.							
Equipment:	None Required							
Materials:	<ul> <li>Salvation Through Sanitation Primary         Source Documents (Class copies-see         below)</li> <li>Document analysis sheet (1 per student)</li> </ul>							
Resources:	<ul> <li>Western Sanitary Commission Papers,         Missouri Historical Society Archives, St.         Louis, Missouri</li> <li>Movers and Shakers, Scalawags and         Suffragettes by Carol Ferring Shepley</li> </ul>							
Teachers Students								
pose the question does the word 's you?" Allow stud answer as a ground answers on the light should then ask	board. Teachers							

the course of a war and allow the class		
opportunity for discussion.		
After students have completed their	Students should follow	
discussion the teacher should use the St	along and take notes on	
Louis, the Civil War and a Cemete		
powerpoint to present to students the	James Yeatman and	
background of St. Louis men, James Yea		
and William Greenleaf Elliot who both pla		
a role in serving soldiers and citizens of S		
Louis through the Western Sanitary	presentation.	
Commission during the Civil War.		
3. After presenting students with the	Students will be analyzing primary	
	, , ,	
background information, the teacher	source documents regarding	
should inform students that they will be	the actions and activities of the	
examining the impact of the Western	Western Sanitary Commission	
Sanitary Commission by answering a	using a document analysis	
Document Based Question, using	sheet. Information gathered	
documents from the Western Sanitary	during this analysis will be used	
Commission files. The teacher should	in constructing a five paragraph	
pose this question to students: "How	essay to answer the Document	
did sanitation save soldiers and	Based Question, " <b>How did</b>	
citizens during the Civil War?	sanitation save soldiers	
Students will use the information they	and citizens during the	
gain in their document analysis to	Civil War?"	
construct a five paragraph essay that		
answers the Document Based		
Question.		
4. Students should be placed in	Students should work together in	
complementary groups, each student	groups to analyze the eight	
being given a class copy of the	primary source documents	
Sanitation Documents and an	provided while answering the	
individual copy of the Document	document analysis questions	
Analysis Sheet. Instruct students to	on the accompanying sheet.	
work together in their groups to	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
analyze each of the eight documents		
and answer the accompanying analysis		
questions.		
5. After students have completed the	Students should use the	
document analysis, instruct students to	information they have gathered	
complete the Pre-writing Work Up	from the document analysis to	
sheet using the document analysis	complete the Prewriting Work-	
they have completed. Inform students	Up prior to writing their five	
that this outline will assist them in	paragraph essay.	
	paragrapii cəsay.	
writing their final essay.	Students should begin writing	
6.After each student completes his or her		
outline, direct students to begin writing	their five paragraph essay	
their five paragraph essay to answer	which answers the document	
the document based question using	based question using	
their outlines and evidence that they	supporting evidence from the	
have gathered from the documents.	document analysis.	





Directions: Analyze each of the documents below regarding the activities of the Western Sanitary Commission during the Civil War using the document analysis sheet provided by your teacher. Use your analysis of these documents to answer the question, "How did sanitation serve St. Louis during the Civil War?"

#### Document #1:

With a view to the health and comfort of the Volunteer Troops in and near the City of St. Louis, a Sanitary Commission is hereby appointed to consist of five gentlemen, who will serve voluntarily and be removable at pleasure. Its general object shall be to carry out, under the properly constituted military authorities and in compliance with their orders such sanitary regulations and reforms as the well-being of the soldiers may demand.

The commission shall have authority <u>under the direction of the Medical Director</u> to select and furnish suitable buildings for army and brigade hospitals in such places and in such manner as circumstances require. It will attend to the selection and appointment of women nurses, under the authority and by the directions of D.L. Dix, General Superintendent of the Nurses of Military Hospitals in the United States. It will cooperate with the surgeons of the several hospitals in providing male nurses and in whatever manner practicable and by their consent.

It shall have the authority to visit the different camps, to consult with the commanding officers, and the colonels and other officers of the several regiments, with regard to the Sanitary and general conditions of the troops and aid them in providing proper means for the preservation of health and prevention of sickness, by supply of wholesome and well cooked food, by good systems of drainage and other practicable methods. It will obtain from the community at large, such additional means of increasing the comfort and promoting the moral and social welfare of the men, in camps and hospitals, as may be needed and cannot be furnished by the government regulations. It will from time to time report directly to the commander in chief of the department, the condition of the camps and hospitals, with such suggestions as can properly be made by a Sanitary Board.

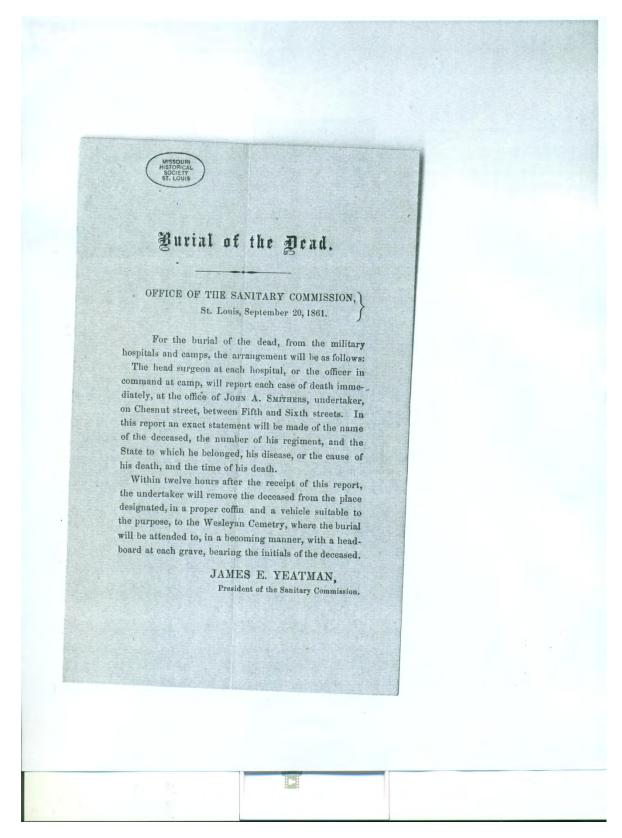
This Commission is not intended in any way to interfere with the medical staff or other officers in the army but to cooperate with them and aid them in the discharge of their present arduous and extraordinary duties. It will be treated by all officers in the army, both regular and volunteer, in this department with the respect due to the humane and patriotic motives of its members, and to the authority of the Commander in Chief.

This Sanitary Commission will for the present consist of James Yeatman, Esquire, C.S. Greeley, Esquire, W. B. Johnson, M.D., George Partridge, Esquire, and the Reverend William Greenleaf Eliot.

## Friemont

Major General. Command.

Document #2:



Office of the Vanitary Com? The Sandary Commission respectfully recommend that Twelve of " Irwin's Union bamp Gots" be immediately supplied to every Regiment in the Western Department. These Cots" were made with straps, and serve the purpose of Stretchers. They weigh but twenty pounds, and cost \$3.75 each, and are intended for Camp use, for the sick & wounded Clames & Featuran Prest Santing Cour " to file may en lang

ead-Quarters of the Brmg. Washington Dec 16. 1862 Special Orders No 397 Extract Special Order 150 from Head Quanters of the Western Department (St Sovis) by authority of Major General Fremont establishing a Sanitary Commission (Hestern) is hereby approved and continued, with the privilege to said bommission of extending its labors to the camps and hospitals of any of the Western armies, under the direction of ast Surgh Gent bolonel R. C. Wood, or the Senior Medical officer of the Western Dept. The commission will consist of the original members appointed. James 6. Veatman, lo. S. Greeley, J. B. Johnson, George Partridge N. G. Gloot, wenter otherwise ordered. By order of the secty of War (Signed) E. A Journsend



#### ARTICLES SENT TO

## GEN'L. GRANT'S ARMY

DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE,

BY THE

# WESTERN SANITARY COMMISSION.

Statement of articles sent by the Western Sanitary Commission to the army of Maj. General Grant at Vickeburg, during the month of June.

3,090 Hosp shirts.
3,000 Hosp shirts.
1,200 She elix.
1,200 She elix.
2,200 Fillow elips.
2,301 Socks.
2,300 Fillow elips.
2,301 Socks.
2,300 Fillow elips.
2,301 Socks.
2,300 Bs. Dried peaches.
2,400 Bs. Dried peaches.
2,400 Bs. Dried email fruit.
2,517 Bs. Dried email fruit.
2,517 Bs. Dried email fruit.
2,518 Bs. Dried email fruit.
2,500 Bs. McCkett.
2,508 Bs. Ccd fish.

Whole number of articles, 114,697 W. CRAFCH,

Sten keeper, Wes'ern Sanitary Commission. £ T. Louis, July 2 1863.



## Rooms of Western Sanitary Commission,

St. Louis, April 2, 1862.

The Western Sanitary Commission, with the approbation of the Medical Director and of the Commanding General of the Department of the Mississippi, offer to the Employees of the Military Hospitals in the district of St. Louis, the following Premiums, to be paid in gold, on the Fourth day of July, 1862, amounting in all to \$300.

- 1. To the Head Steward of whichever one of the large Hospitals shall have been kept in the best condition, all things considered, and in which the comfort of the patients shall have been uniformly best cared for, in every way, through a term of three months, the sum of TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS.
- 2. To the Head Steward of the best of the smaller Hospitals, as above estimated, the sum of FIFTEEN DOLLARS.
- 3. To the best Assistant Steward in every large Hospital, who shall be the most punctual, attentive and diligent in the performance of his duties, the sum of TEN DOLLARS.
- 4. To the best Assistant Steward, estimated as above, in all the small Hospitals, the sum of Eight Dollars.
- 5. To the best Ward Master in each of the large Hospitals, whose ward shall have been uniformly kept in the best and most perfect order, as to cleanliness of beds and bedding, the comfort of the patients, and in all other respects, the sum of TEN DOLLARS.
- 6. To the best Ward Master in each of the small Hospitals, estimated as above, the sum of
- 7. To the best twenty Nurses, in all the Hospitals, who shall remain in service through the three months, and who shall have proved themselves the most kind, faithful and attentive, in the discharge of all their duties to the sick, FIVE DOLLARS EACH.
- 8. To the best Culinary Department, in all the Hospitals,—that is, for the best and cleanest kitchen, the best and most wholesome cookery, with the smallest waste, the sum of TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS, the same to be divided between the Head Cook and Assistants, in the Hospital to which the prize shall be awarded, in such proportions as may seem just.
  - 9. To the second best Kitchen, &c., estimated as above, the sum of fifteen dollars.
- 10. To every female nurse who shall remain in the service for three months, and shall have given full satisfaction, a certificate shall be awarded, with special vote of thanks.
- 11. To the Best Hospital, all things considered, a public expression of thanks shall be given, with the approval of the Medical Director and of the General commanding.

To secure the just award of these premiums and testimonials, the SANITARY COMMISSION will make weekly, or more frequent, visits of inspection to every Hospital under direction of the Head Surgeon, and in consultation with him, and a careful record of each visit and its results will be kept.

A MONTHLY INSPECTION will also be made, with the same view, by order of the General commanding.

In offering these premiums, the "Western Sanitary Commission" are actuated by the desire to assist the medical staff in making the military hospitals of the "Department of the Mississippi," the most perfect in the United States. If the plan proves to work well, and its extension to other Hospitals in the Department should be desired, it will be extended as soon as practicable.

By order of the Commission,

JAMES E. YEATMAN, President.

NOTE.—If anything should be wanted for the comfort of patients, or in the proper arrangement of any Hospital, which does not come within the Regulation supply, nor is attainable by the "Hospital fund," it will be supplied by the "Commission," upon requisition of the Head Surgeon. The usual supplies of Hospital Clothing and Stores will continue to be made by the "Commission,' so far as in their power, but only upon requisition of the Head Surgeon, or Surgeons in charge in each Hospital.



## Kend Quarters, State of Missouri, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

St. Louis, July 14 1863.

To whom it may concern!

The bearn here of. elle would Butter. has been appointed by me as special agent, under the auspices of the Western Sanitary Commission, to look after the interests of the Missouri Troops in the army of Gen Grant now at Vicksburgh.

I respectfully request that every facility may be of-- fooded him, ofor the accomplishment of the objects which he has in view, both by Severals commanding the partments. Corps. and Divisions, and by officin in the immediate Command of Missouri Volunteers in the U.S. services.

Very Respectfully J. R. Gamble Lovernor of Missouri



#### LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

ROOMS WESTERN SANITARY COMMISSION, St. Louis, November 6th, 1863.

HIS EXCELLENCY, A. LINCOLN,

President of the United States.

The undersigned, members of the Western Sanitary Commission, most respectfully represent, that the condition of the Freed Negroes in the Mississippi Valley is daily becoming worse, and calls most loudly upon the humane and loyal people of the Northern States for help. There are probably not less than fifty thousand, chiefly women and children, now within our lines, between Cairo and New Orleans, for whom no adequate provision has been made. The majority of them have no shelter but what they call "brush tents," fit for nothing but to protect them from night dews. They are very poorly clad-many of them half naked-and almost destitute of beds and bedding-thousands of them sleeping on the bare ground. The Government supplies them with rations, but many unavoidable delays arise in the distribution, so that frequent instances of great destitution occur. The army rations (beef and crackers) are also a kind of diet they are not used to; they have no facilities of cooking, and are almost ignorant of the use of wheat flour; and even when provisions in abundance are supplied, they are so spoiled in cooking as to be neither catable nor wholesome. Add to these difficulties, the helplessness and improvidence of those who have always been slaves, together with their forlorn and jaded condition when they reach our lines, and we can easily account for the fact that sickness and death prevail to a fearful extent. No language can describe the suffering, destitution and neglect which prevail in some of their "camps." The sick and dying are left uncared for, in many instances, and the dead unburied. It would seem, now, that one-half are doomed to die in the process of freeing the rest.

Our purpose is not to find fault, but to seek for the remedy. Undoubtedly, Congress must take the matter in hand, to mature plans of permanent relief; but, judging from past experience, a good many months will elapse before its final action, and there will still remain a great deal that properly belongs to

private charity, and for which legislation cannot provide.

To meet the present exigency, and to prevent or lessen the sufferings of the coming winter and spring, we offer our humble but active services, asking no reward of any kind, but the opportunity and encouragement to work. Our experience for two and a half years past, in the sanitary cause of the sick and wounded, has taught us the lessons of economy and prudence, and we are too much accustomed to difficulties to be discouraged by them. It may not be unbecoming in us to say, in recommending ourselves for the work proposed, that in the two years from October, 1861, to November, 1863, we have received and expended for the sick and wounded of the Western Army, in stores or money, to the amount of a million and a quarter of dollars, and that the total expenses of distribution, including all salaries and incidental charges, has been but little in excess of one per cent. For the manner in which the work has been done, and the good results accomplished, we refer to Major-Generals Grant, Sherman, Steele, Schofield, Curtis, Fremont, and to the Commander-in-Chief, Major-General Halleck. We also refer to Assistant Surgeon-General, Col. R. C. Wood, and to all members of the Medical Staff of the West, with whom and under whose direction we have always worked.

We now respectfully ask permission and authority to extend our labors to the suffering freed people of the South-West and South. If you will give us your endorsement in the undertaking before the people, we think we can raise large sums of money, and accomplish great good. Nor would it be only a work of philanthrophy, but equally of patriotism, for it would remove an increasing reproach against the Union cause, and by lessening the difficulties of emancipation, would materially aid in crushing the rebellion. At present, hundreds of the blacks would gladly return to slavery, to avoid the hardships of freedom; and if this feeling increases and extends itself among them, all the difficulties of the situation will be increased; while, at the same time, a most effective argument is given to the disloyal against our cause.

We most respectfully leave the subject before you, feeling sure that you will agree with us as to the necessity of prompt and energetic action,

And have the honor to remain,

Your cordial friends and obedient servants,

JAMES E. YEATMAN, GEORGE PARTRIDGE, JOHN B. JOHNSON, CARLOS S. GREELEY, WILLIAM G. ELIOT.

## Salvation Through Sanitation: Document Analysis Sheet

<u>Directions:</u> Use this document analysis sheet as your examine the eight documents provided regarding the actions of the Western Sanitary Commission during the Civil War.

Pre-Thinking	questions:
L 1 C - 1 HIHVIH?	g questions.

- 1. Examine the name, "Western Sanitary Commission." What do you think the commission was "west" of?
- 2. What definition do you give to the term "sanitation"? Why do you think sanitation would be an important issue during a war?
- 3. What does it mean if you have been given a "commission" to do something?
  What do you think was the "commission" of this organization during the Civil
  War?

#### Document 1:

- 1. According to this letter from Major General Friemont, what was the purpose for the creation of the Western Sanitary Commission?
- 2. What responsibilities have been given to the Western Sanitary Commission by Major General Friemont?
- 3. Why do you think a Major General of the army would be so concerned with creating an organization like the Western Sanitary Commission?
- 4. What branch of the military will be working with the Western Sanitation Commission? Why do you think these two groups will be working together?

#### Document #2:

- 1. What action is the Western Sanitary Commission taking according to this document? What is the purpose of this act?
- 2. What conditions or problems during the course of the war led to the need for the Western Sanitary Commission to pass this act?
- 3. How does this act qualify as a "sanitary issue"?

#### Document #3:

- 1. According to this document, what action is the Western Sanitary Commission taking to serve the needs of Union soldiers? Why do you think this is an important need?
- 2. How is this action taken by the Western Sanitary Commission a "sanitary" issue?

#### Document #4:

- 1. According to this document, what has happened to the role of the Western Sanitary Commission?
- 2. What does this extension of the Western Sanitary Commission show you regarding its success in serving the troops of Missouri?

#### Document 5:

- 1. How does this document demonstrate the actions and assistance of the Western Sanitary Commission to the Union Troops under General Grant?
- 2. The Siege of Vicksburg by the Union troops under General Grant is considered a major turning point in the course of the war. How do you think the actions of the

Western Sanitary Commission according to this document assisted in that victory?

#### Document 6:

- 1. What problem of sanitation do you think the Commission was attempting to address by sending out this letter?
- 2. Who or what do you think is the focus of this letter sent out by the Commission?
- 3. How would you describe the strategy used by the Western Sanitary Commission in this letter to address the issue of sanitation? Do you think this was an appropriate strategy?

#### Document 7:

- 1. What name do you recognize at the bottom of the letter? What was the role of this person during the Civil War in Missouri?
- 2. What is the author of this letter saying in regards to the Western Sanitary Commission?
- 3. What does this letter show you about the importance of the Western Sanitary Commission to St. Louis and to the state of Missouri?

#### Document 8:

- 1. What concerns are the members of the Western Sanitary Commission expressing to the President of the United States in this letter?
- 2. Why do the members feel that this concern is of major importance?
- 3. After reading this letter, what can you predict will be a major focus of the Western Sanitary Commission even after the end of the war?

## Prewriting Work-Up

Use the prewriting work-up outline below to lay out your paper before you begin writing. You will need to use at least one document to support your argument in each body paragraph.

### Introductory Paragraph:

- What was the Western Sanitary Commission?
- When was it created?
- Why was it created?
- Who were the founders?
- Thesis Statement: What are three ways in which the Western Sanitary Commission assisted soldiers and society during the Civil War?

## Body Paragraph 1:

•	Way in which the WSC assisted soldiers or society:
•	Document #

•	How does	this document	support your argument?

## Body Paragraph 2:

•	Wav	in	which	the	WSC	assisted	soldiers	or se	ociety

•	Document	#
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•	How	does	this	document	support	your	argument?
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### **Body Paragraph 3:**

_	**7	. 1 1.	41	<b>TT700</b>		1 1	
•	w a v 11	n wnicn	tne	WSC	assisted	soluters	or society:

- Document # \_\_\_\_\_
- How does this document support your argument?

### Conclusion:

- Restate original thesis
- Two opinions/feelings you have regarding the WSC during the Civil War.
- Include an explanation of how the Western Sanitary Commission displayed heroism during the Civil War.