Reading Maps to Learn about the Meuse-Argonne Offensive

Part A:

Playing a Role:

- If you were a German commander, what would your next goal be? How would you explain your positions to the Kaiser?
- If you were an Allied Commander and were able to direct the newly arriving Americans, what region would you end them to? Why?
- Does this map tell you everything you need to know as a commanding officer of the army? What else would you need to know, and where could you find it?
Part B: Each of these maps gives different information about fighting in the Meuse-Argonne in early November. Study the three maps and answer the questions below:

1. What appears to be the goal of American forces at this time? ____________________________________________________________

2. Why would Sedan be an important point to reach? ______________________________________________________________

3. In what direction were Allied troops moving at this time? __________________________________________________________

4. Did Germans move more troops towards the front line or away from it during the M-A Offensive? _____________________

5. About how many miles of ground did the First Army gain between November 1st and November 11th? __________________

6. Was the town of Sedan ever re-captured by the Allies? _____________________________________________________________

7. Did Allied forces ever cross the Meuse River? _________________________________________________________________

8. What was the terrain like during the final 10 days of fighting? __________________________________________________________

Synthesize: How would you describe fighting during the last 10 days of the war, based on the maps? Why do you think American forces were able to cover so much ground during this time? What does this indicate about the progress of the war once the Americans became involved?