

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Hr: \_\_\_\_\_

**8th Grade U.S. History**

**Chapter 17 Homework Packet  
Reconstruction**

# RECONSTRUCTION



**Requirements:**

- All margin questions must be answered in complete thoughts and sentences.
- Chapter Summary must be completed to the best of your ability.
- Students must make at least three marginal annotations or “mental moves” per page. Marginal annotations should be purposeful and can take the form of any of the following:

**Predicting:**

I predict that...  
In the next part I think...

**Visualizing:**

I picture...  
I can see...

**Questioning:**

A question I have is...  
Could this mean...

**Making Connections:**

This is like...  
This reminds me of...

**Identifying a Problem:**

I got confused when...  
I'm not sure of...

**Fixing Problems:**

I'll reread this part...  
I'll read on and check back...

**Summarizing:**

The big idea is...  
I think the point is...

## Reconstruction

### Section 1



#### MAIN IDEAS

1. President Lincoln and Congress differed in their views as Reconstruction began.
2. The end of the Civil War meant freedom for African Americans in the South.
3. President Johnson's plan began the process of Reconstruction.

### Key Terms and People

**Reconstruction** a period of reuniting and rebuilding the South following the end of the Civil War

**Ten Percent Plan** Lincoln's Reconstruction plan, which required that 10 percent of voters in a state pledge loyalty to the United States before that state could rejoin the Union

**Thirteenth Amendment** the amendment that made slavery illegal throughout the United States

**Freedmen's Bureau** an organization established by Congress to provide relief for all the South's poor people

**Andrew Johnson** vice president who became president upon Lincoln's death

### Academic Vocabulary

**procedure** a series of steps taken to accomplish a task

### Section Summary

#### RECONSTRUCTION BEGINS

As soon as the Civil War ended, Reconstruction began. Reconstruction was the process of reuniting the nation and rebuilding the southern states.

President Lincoln proposed that southerners be offered amnesty, or an official pardon. Southerners had to swear an oath of loyalty to the United States and accept the ban on slavery. When 10 percent of the voters in any state took the oath, that state could be accepted back into the Union. This was called the **Ten Percent Plan**.

Some supported the Wade-Davis Bill instead. The **procedure** of the Wade-Davis Bill asked southerners to ban slavery. However, under this bill, most of

What did the Ten Percent Plan and the Wade-Davis Bill have in common?

---

---

---

---

Section 1, *continued*

---

the people of a state would have to take the pledge before the state could rejoin the Union. Also, only southerners who swore they had never supported the Confederacy could run for office. Lincoln vetoed it.

**FREEDOM FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS**

In 1865 the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution officially outlawed slavery in the nation. Former slaves reacted to freedom in many ways. They legalized their marriages, searched for relatives who had been sold, took last names, and moved to new places.

To help the South's poor and freedpeople Congress created the Freedmen's Bureau in 1865. One of its roles was to build more schools. Some freedpeople also established their own schools. Although some southerners violently resisted the idea of educating African Americans, freedpeople of all ages attended classes.

What part of the Constitution granted freedom to all slaves?

---

---

Why would southerners oppose the education of African Americans?

---

---

---

**PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S RECONSTRUCTION PLAN**

On April 14, 1865, President Lincoln was shot while attending the theater. He died the next morning. Vice President Andrew Johnson became the next president. Johnson's Reconstruction plan included a way to restructure southern state governments. States that followed the steps were to be readmitted to the Union.

Most of the southern states followed Johnson's plan, but Congress refused to accept them back into the Union. Many of the elected representatives of the "new" states had been Confederate leaders. Clearly there were still problems to be solved.

Why did Congress refuse to accept the southern states back into the Union?

---

---

---

**CHALLENGE ACTIVITY**

**Critical Thinking: Write to Defend** You are a citizen from a southern state. Write a letter to Congress defending your right to choose your state's representatives.

## Reconstruction

### Section 2



#### MAIN IDEAS

1. Black Codes led to opposition to President Johnson's plan for Reconstruction.
2. The Fourteenth Amendment ensured citizenship for African Americans.
3. Radical Republicans in Congress took charge of Reconstruction.
4. The Fifteenth Amendment gave African Americans the right to vote.

### Key Terms and People

**Black Codes** southern laws that greatly limited the freedom of African Americans

**Radical Republicans** Republicans who wanted more federal control in Reconstruction

**Civil Rights Act of 1866** act giving African Americans the same legal rights as whites

**Fourteenth Amendment** amendment guaranteeing citizens equal protection of laws

**Reconstruction Acts** laws passed to protect African American rights

**impeachment** process of bringing charges of wrongdoing against a public official

**Fifteenth Amendment** amendment guaranteeing suffrage to African American men

### Academic Vocabulary

**principle** basic belief, rule, or law

### Section Summary

#### OPPOSITION TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON

Almost as soon as the southern states created new legislatures, those legislatures went to work passing **Black Codes**. The Black Codes were laws that greatly limited the freedom of African Americans. In fact, the codes created working conditions that resembled slavery for African Americans. Many African Americans organized to protest against the codes.

The Black Codes angered many Republicans who believed the South was returning to its old ways. One group, known as the **Radical Republicans**, wanted the federal government to step in. They wanted more federal control over Reconstruction to make sure southern leaders did not remain loyal to the old Confederate **principles**. One Radical Republican leader was Pennsylvania's Thaddeus

Why were the Black Codes passed?

---

---

---

---

Section 2, *continued*

---

Stevens. Stevens and others pushed for racial equality. They also branded Johnson's Reconstruction plan a failure.

Why did Radical Republicans believe President Johnson's Reconstruction plan was a failure?

---

---

---

### FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT

In 1866 Congress proposed a bill to give more power to the Freedmen's Bureau. President Johnson vetoed it. He did not believe Congress could pass new laws until the southern states were represented in Congress.

Why did President Johnson veto the Civil Rights Act of 1866?

---

---

---

Then Congress proposed the **Civil Rights Act of 1866**. It guaranteed African Americans the same legal rights as whites. Johnson vetoed this, too. Congress overrode the veto. It also proposed the **Fourteenth Amendment** to secure these protections.

### CONGRESS TAKES CONTROL OF RECONSTRUCTION

After the 1866 elections, Republicans held a two-thirds majority in both the House and Senate. As a result, Congress passed several **Reconstruction Acts**. It also passed a law limiting the president's powers to remove cabinet members without Senate approval. When President Johnson broke that law by firing his secretary of war, Congress reacted by impeaching the president. The **impeachment** fell short by one vote. Johnson remained president, though he had little authority or influence.

### FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT

Republicans believed that African Americans would support the Reconstruction plan. To gain their votes, Republicans in Congress proposed the **Fifteenth Amendment**, which guaranteed African American men the right to vote. This amendment went into effect in 1870.

After the Fifteenth Amendment was ratified, which Americans still could not vote?

---

---

### CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

**Critical Thinking: Research to Discover** In the library or on the Internet, read the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments. Write a sentence paraphrasing each amendment.

## Reconstruction

### Section 3



#### MAIN IDEAS

1. Reconstruction governments helped reform the South.
2. The Ku Klux Klan was organized as African Americans moved into positions of power.
3. As Reconstruction ended, the rights of African Americans were restricted.
4. Southern business leaders relied on industry to rebuild the South.

## Key Terms and People

**Hiram Revels** first African American senator

**Ku Klux Klan** secret society that used violence to oppress African Americans

**Compromise of 1877** agreement in which Democrats accepted Hayes's election to the presidency in exchange for removing federal troops from the South

**poll tax** special tax people had to pay before they could vote

**segregation** forced separation of whites and African Americans in public places

**Jim Crow laws** laws that enforced segregation

**Plessy v. Ferguson** Supreme Court ruling that upheld segregation

**sharecropping** system in which farm laborers kept some of the crop

## Section Summary

### RECONSTRUCTION GOVERNMENTS

After the Civil War, some northern Republicans moved to the South. They were not trusted by southerners who thought the Republicans had come to profit from Reconstruction. African Americans used their new right to vote to elect more than 600 African Americans, including the first black senator, **Hiram Revels**. Together they worked to rebuild the war-damaged South.

Why were African Americans elected if overall they were in the minority?

---



---



---



---

### KU KLUX KLAN

Many southerners opposed Reconstruction. In 1866 a group of them created the secret and violent **Ku Klux Klan**. Its targets were African Americans, Republicans, and public officials. The Klan spread throughout the South until the federal government

Circle the groups of Americans that were targeted by the Ku Klux Klan.

Section 3, *continued*

---

stepped in and passed laws that made Klan activities illegal. Violence, however, continued.

### RECONSTRUCTION ENDS

The General Amnesty Act of 1872 allowed most former Confederates to serve in public office. Soon many Democratic ex-Confederates were elected. Republicans also lost power as a consequence of Grant's problem-plagued presidency and the Panic of 1873. In 1876 the Hayes-Tilden presidential race was so close it took the **Compromise of 1877** to make sure Democrats would accept Hayes's election.

Southern Democrats, called Redeemers, worked to limit African American rights. The methods they used included **poll taxes**, legal **segregation**, and **Jim Crow laws**. They even got help from the Supreme Court, which ruled in *Plessy v. Ferguson* that segregation was legal.

African Americans found their rights restricted in other ways, too. Most African Americans could not afford to buy land, so many began **sharecropping**, or sharing the crop with landowners. Often only the landowner profited, while sharecroppers lived in debt.

### REBUILDING SOUTHERN INDUSTRY

The South's economy depended on cotton profits, which went up and down. In the "New South" movement, southern leaders turned to industry to strengthen the economy. Mills and factories were built. The new industries thrived and helped the southern economy grow stronger.

Why did southern Republicans lose power during the 1870s?

---

---

---

---

How was the economy of the "Old South" different from the economy of the "New South"?

---

---

---

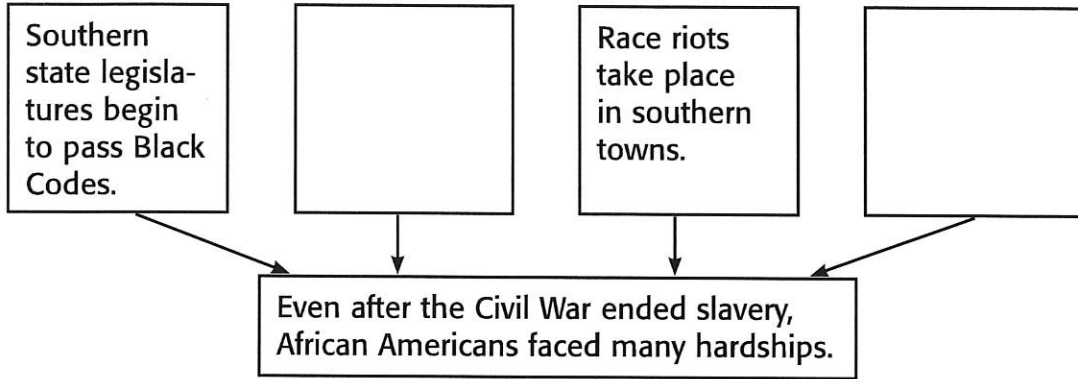
### CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

**Critical Thinking: Write to Put in Sequence** Write a paragraph explaining how the General Amnesty Act eventually led to the Compromise of 1877.

## Reconstruction

---

### CHAPTER SUMMARY



### COMPREHENSION AND CRITICAL THINKING

As you read the section summaries, complete the boxes above and answer the questions below.

- 1. Summarize** Describe four things that made post-war life difficult for African Americans.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

- 2. Make Inferences** At which level of government did African Americans find the least discrimination during Reconstruction? Explain your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---