

**Reconstruction**

name:

Slavery & the Civil War

Unit 1A

**Key Idea:**

Presidential and Congressional plans for Reconstruction differ and impacted the process of rebuilding the nation and addressing civil rights in the post-Civil War era.

A) Rewrite the Key Idea as an investigative question.

Read the text below. As you read, annotate using your Close Reading Skills (on the back of Binder Page C). Answer the questions as you read. **No Annotation, No Grade!**

Reconstruction refers to the period following the Civil War of rebuilding the United States. Although the military conflict had ended, Reconstruction was in many ways still a war. This important struggle was waged by radical northerners who wanted to punish the South and Southerners who desperately wanted to preserve their way of life.

Slavery, in practical terms, died with the end of the Civil War. Three Constitutional amendments altered the nature of African American rights. The Thirteenth Amendment formally abolished slavery in all states and territories. The Fourteenth Amendment prohibited states from depriving any male citizen of equal protection under the law, regardless of race. The Fifteenth Amendment granted the right to vote to African-American males. Ratification of these amendments became a requirement for Southern states to be readmitted into the Union. Although these measures were positive steps toward racial equality, their enforcement proved extremely difficult.

1) What was Reconstruction?

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2) What was the Southerners "way of life"?

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Describe the 3 Civil War Amendments

13<sup>th</sup> Amendment

14<sup>th</sup> Amendment

15<sup>th</sup> Amendment

**Presidential Reconstruction**

The period of Presidential Reconstruction lasted from 1865 to 1867. Andrew Johnson, as Lincoln's successor, proposed a very lenient policy toward the South.

Johnson believed the Southern states should decide the course that was best for them. He also felt that African Americans were unable to manage their own lives. He certainly did not think that African Americans deserved to vote. At one point in 1866 he told a group of blacks visiting the White House that they should emigrate to another country.

He also gave amnesty and pardoned most Southern whites. He returned all property, except, of course, their slaves, to former Confederates who pledged loyalty to the Union and agreed to support the 13th Amendment. Confederate officials and owners of large taxable estates were required to apply individually for a Presidential pardon. Many former Confederate leaders were soon returned to power. And some even sought to regain their Congressional seniority.

Johnson's vision of Reconstruction had proved remarkably lenient. Very few Confederate leaders were prosecuted. By 1866, 7,000 Presidential pardons had been granted. Brutal beatings of African Americans were frequent. Still-powerful whites sought to subjugate

freed slaves via harsh laws that came to be known as the Black Codes. Some states required written evidence of employment for the coming year or else the freed slaves would be required to work on plantations. In South Carolina, African Americans had to pay a special tax if they were not farmers or servants. They were not even allowed to hunt or fish in some areas. Blacks were unable to own guns — and even had their dogs taxed. African Americans were barred from orphanages, parks, schools and other public facilities. The Freedman's Bureau, a federal agency created to help the transition from slavery to emancipation, was thwarted in its attempts to provide for the welfare of the newly emancipated. All of these rules resulted in the majority of freed slaves remaining dependent on the plantation for work.

Describe Presidential Reconstruction by answering the "5 Ws +1"

Who?	What?	Where?	When?	Why?	How?

### Congressional Reconstruction

Many in the North were infuriated that the South would be returning their former Confederate leaders to power. They were also alarmed by Southern adoption of Black Codes that sought to maintain white supremacy. Recently freed blacks found the postwar South very similar to the prewar South.

The Congressional elections of 1866 brought Radical Republicans to power. The Radical Republicans believed blacks were entitled to the same political rights and opportunities as whites. They also believed that the Confederate leaders should be punished for their roles in the Civil War, and to prevent the ruling class from continuing in power. Leaders like Pennsylvania Representative Thaddeus Stevens and Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner vigorously opposed Andrew Johnson's lenient policies. A great political battle was about to unfold.

The Radicals felt that extraordinary times called for direct intervention in state affairs and laws designed to protect the emancipated blacks. In 1866, this activist Congress also introduced a bill to extend the life of the Freedmen's Bureau and began work on a Civil Rights Bill. President Johnson stood in opposition. He vetoed the Freedmen's Bureau Bill, claiming that it would bloat the size of government. He vetoed the Civil Rights Bill rejecting that blacks have the "same rights of property and person" as whites.

The Republicans went on to introduce the Reconstruction Act of 1867. This removed the right to vote and seek office by "leading rebels." It also divided the South into five military districts and outlined how the new governments would be designed. Protected by the US Army, blacks, including those who had recently been freed, received the right to vote, hold political offices, and become judges and police chiefs. They held positions that formerly belonged to Southern Democrats. At the heart of their beliefs was the notion that blacks must be given a chance to compete in a free-labor economy. Many in the South were aghast.

Moderate Republicans were appalled at Johnson's racism. They joined with the Radicals to overturn Johnson's Civil Rights Act veto. This marked the first time in history that a major piece of legislation was overturned. The Radicals hoped that the Civil Rights Act would lead to an active federal judiciary with courts enforcing rights. It was the Radical Republicans who impeached President Johnson in 1868. The Senate, by a single vote, failed to convict him, but his power to hinder radical reform was diminished.

The first two years of Congressional Reconstruction saw Southern states rewrite their Constitutions and the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment. Congress seemed fully in control.


Answer these multiple-choice questions (MCQs) after reading "Congressional Reconstruction."

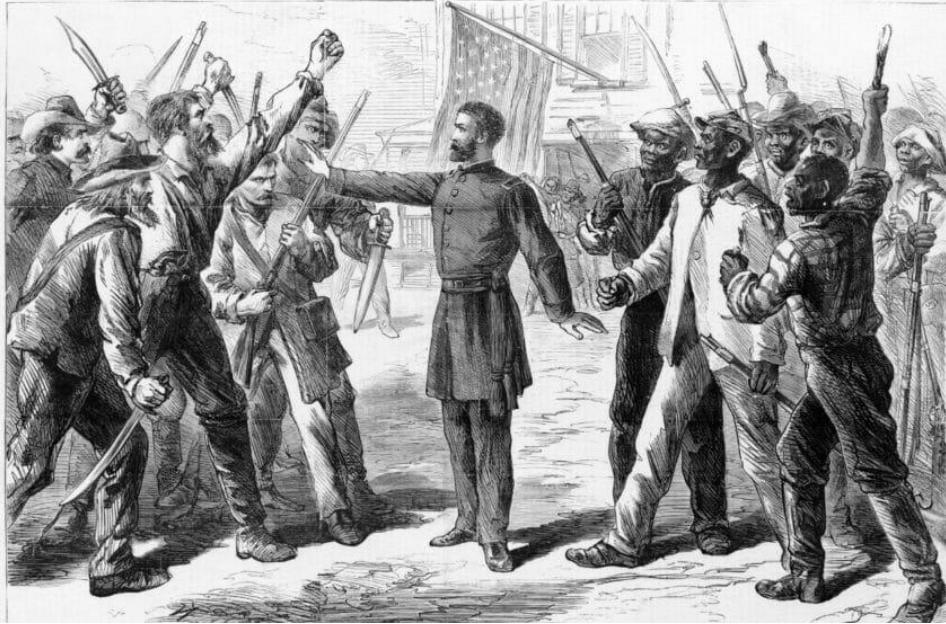
- 1) Why were many in the North infuriated after the Civil War?
  - A) They were angry that the South abolished slavery.
  - B) They were upset that the South adopted Black Codes.
  - C) They were unhappy with the growing federal government.
  - D) They felt the South had been punished enough.
  
- 2) Why did Radical Republicans impeach President Johnson in 1868?
  - A) He tried to extend the Freedmen's Bureau.
  - B) He opposed the Reconstruction Act of 1867.
  - C) He vetoed the Civil Rights Bill.
  - D) He obstructed radical reforms.
  
- 3) Who were the Radical Republicans, and what did they believe?
  - A) They believed the South should be forgiven and restored quickly
  - B) They believed blacks were entitled to the same political rights as whites
  - C) They supported President Johnson's lenient policies
  - D) They wanted to maintain Black Codes in the South
  
- 4) What did the Reconstruction Act of 1867 accomplish?
  - A) It reinstated Confederate leaders into positions of power
  - B) It removed voting rights from blacks
  - C) It divided the South into military districts and gave blacks the right to vote
  - D) It reduced the size of the US Army

Describe Congressional Reconstruction by answering the "5 Ws +1"

Who?	What?	Where?	When?	Why?	How?

Analyze the following cartons using WAVES.

	<p><b>W</b>ords</p>	
	<p><b>A</b>ctions</p>	
	<p><b>V</b>isuals</p>	
	<p><b>E</b>motions</p>	
<p><b>THE CRUEL UNCLE AND THE VETOED BABES IN THE WOOD.</b></p>	<p><b>S</b>ignificance</p>	



W ords

A ctions

V isuals

E motions

S ignificance

**Summary: Rewrite the question made from the Key Idea at the beginning and summarize this worksheet by answering it below. IF YOU DO NOT REWRITE THE QUESTION, I WILL NOT READ YOUR ANSWER.**

Rewrite your Key Idea as a Question:

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