

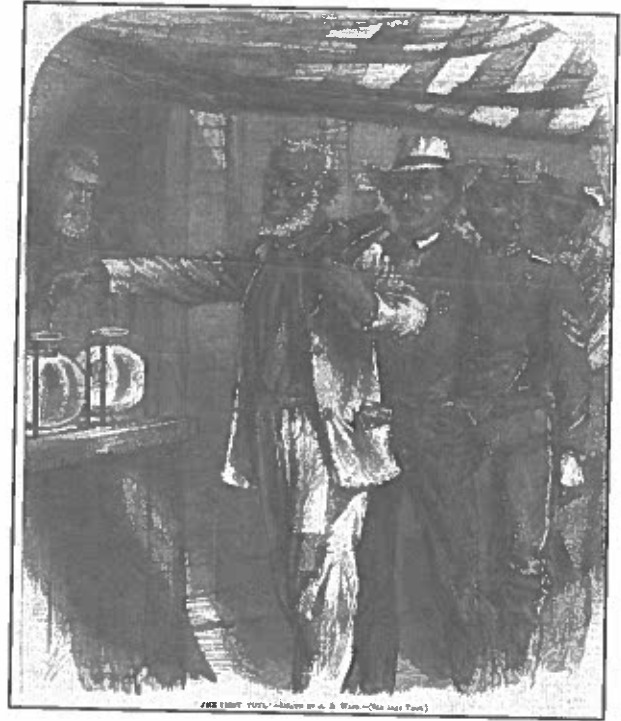
CHAPTER 10

Reconstruction

10.1 The Politics of Reconstruction 10.2 The Effects of Reconstruction

Reconstruction is the period of American history from the end of the Civil War in 1865 to 1877. During Reconstruction, the U.S. government established the conditions that the South would have to meet in order to be allowed to rejoin the Union.

There were many challenges facing the postwar South. These challenges included rebuilding the South's economy, providing for African Americans freed by the end of slavery, and setting up new state governments that would be loyal to the United States. When Reconstruction ended, these goals had been only partly achieved.



Analyzing Visuals

This image from *Harper's Weekly*, November 16, 1867, shows newly freed African Americans exercising their right to vote during the Reconstruction era.

Describe the people voting in this image. Who do these men represent?

Comparing and Contrasting

8.9C, 8.29B, 8.29C

The decades after the Civil War were a time of great change for African Americans in the South. After overcoming slavery to gain freedom, equality, rights, and political power, they saw many of those gains disappear as Reconstruction ended and white southern Democrats returned to power. Study the chart below to compare and contrast the lives of African Americans in the South before, during, and after Reconstruction.

Hopes and Disappointments		
Before Reconstruction	During Reconstruction	After Reconstruction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held in slavery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain freedom and citizenship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Crow laws restrict rights and freedoms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forced labor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free to work for wages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharecropping creates poverty and debt
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No freedom of movement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can move and live anywhere 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharecropping ties workers to land
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No political power 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gain right to vote and hold office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to vote is restricted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No representation in government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote and hold elective office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White southern leaders regain political control

Reconstruction

8.9 History. The student understands the effects of Reconstruction on the political, economic, and social life of the nation.

8.9(C) explain the economic, political, and social problems during Reconstruction and evaluate their impact on different groups

Connected Knowledge and Skills 8.16, 8.19, 8.23

8.16(A) summarize the purposes for and process of amending the U.S. Constitution

8.16(B) describe the impact of 19th-century amendments, including the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments, on life in the United States

8.19(A) define and give examples of unalienable rights

important words for concept development				
standard	words new to grade level	previously introduced words		social studies terms
8.9(C)	cycle of debt* sharecropping*	crop failures* currency value* economic problems	impact political problems social problems	Reconstruction* Black Codes*
8.16(A)	amending processes of... purposes for...			U.S. Constitution Fourteenth Amendment* Black Codes*
8.16(B)		impact of... permanent freedom* voting rights*		19th Century Amendments 13th Amendment/ Thirteenth Amendment* 14th Amendment 15th Amendment/ Fifteenth Amendment* United States
8.19(A)	unalienable rights:* life, liberty, pursuit of happiness			
related vocabulary from supporting standards	legislative reform reconstructed	election impact of... racial minorities* reform		Civil Rights Act of 1866* Radical Reconstruction Congress Hiram Rhodes Revels* U.S. Senate* Homestead Act Dawes Act Morrill Act national identity

other words related to the content

guaranteeing*

Diagnostic Test

Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

- 1 Which of the following was the most lasting legacy of the Freedmen's Bureau in the South? (8.9A)
- A Establishing job training and economic support for the poor
 - B Setting up public schools to serve African Americans
 - C Redistributing former Confederate lands to freed African Americans to start farms
 - D Ensuring the Emancipation Proclamation was enforced in former Confederate states
-
- 2 Congress tried to permanently protect civil rights for all African Americans by passing — (8.16B)
- F the black codes
 - G the Civil Rights Act of 1866
 - H the Fourteenth Amendment
 - J the Fifteenth Amendment
-
- 3 Which group had the least amount of power in the South during Radical Reconstruction? (8.9A)
- A African Americans
 - B U.S. army officers
 - C Carpetbaggers
 - D White Democrats
-

When the South seceded from the Union at the start of the Civil War, two Mississippi senators, including Jefferson Davis, abandoned their positions. Their seats remained vacant until 1870. The state legislature then elected African American leader Hiram Rhodes Revels to fill one of these seats.

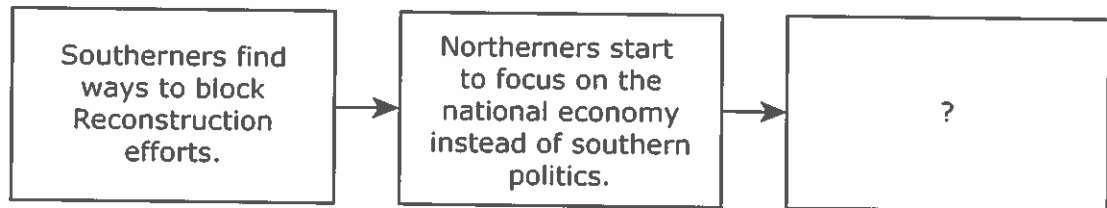
- 4 Based on the text above, how did Reconstruction governments differ from earlier governments in the South? (8.9B, 8.29A)
- F They included Republicans as well as Democrats.
 - G They supported Jefferson Davis's political agenda.
 - H They included African Americans as well as whites.
 - J They successfully eliminated racial discrimination.

Causes of ?

- Lack of money in the South
- Absence of a credit system
- Formerly enslaved people need work
- Planters need workers

- 5 Which of the following would best complete the title of the list above? (8.9C, 8.29C)
- A The Disenfranchisement of White Southerners
 - B Radical Reconstruction
 - C The Creation of Military Districts
 - D The Rise of the Sharecropping System

The End of Reconstruction



- 6 Which of the following best completes the diagram above? (8.9C, 8.29B)
- F Democrats gain control of southern legislatures for many decades.
 - G The federal government rebuilds economic prosperity in the South.
 - H African Americans dominate many southern legislatures for decades.
 - J Republicans adopt more radical positions on southern political issues.

- 7 Which of the following events marked the end of Reconstruction? (8.1B)
- A Rutherford B. Hayes became president in 1877.
 - B President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated in 1865.
 - C Georgia was the last state to rejoin the Union in 1870.
 - D Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1875.

LESSON 10.1

The Politics of Reconstruction

What was Reconstruction and why did it take place?

8.1A, 8.9C, 8.10C, 8.11B, 8.23C

Most of the battles during the Civil War took place in the South. Many farms, railroads, cities, and towns had been damaged or destroyed in the fighting. The South's economy was in ruins as a result. All this damage had to be repaired.

In addition, the southern states had left the Union. Their governments were still in the hands of rebel leaders after the war. The southern states had to be brought back into the Union in order to restore the nation, but under what conditions?

Finally, some four million African Americans were free as a result of the **Thirteenth Amendment**. Questions remained, however. Were they citizens? What rights did they have? Now that they had freedom, where would they go and how would they support themselves?

The effort to rebuild the South and reorganize its governments, economy, and society was called **Reconstruction**. Reconstruction took place in two phases between 1865 and 1877. At first, the president had control of Reconstruction, but then Congress took over.

In March 1865, near the end of the war, Congress established the Freedmen's Bureau. Its primary mission was to help the freedmen—as the newly freed African Americans were called—transition to freedom. The bureau provided food, clothing, and shelter. It helped find work and negotiate contracts for freedmen. The bureau also established schools for the freedmen, the creation of which had an impact that lasted for future generations. The Freedmen's Bureau, however, was never intended

Thirteenth Amendment amendment to the U.S. Constitution that bans slavery in the United States, ratified in December 1865

Reconstruction the U.S. government's program to rebuild the South after the Civil War and to return the southern states to the Union

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Diagnostic Test Item

8.9A

- 1 Which of the following was the most lasting legacy of the Freedmen's Bureau in the South?
- A Establishing job training and economic support programs
 - B Setting up public schools to serve African Americans
 - C Redistributing former Confederate lands to freed African Americans to start farms
 - D Ensuring the Emancipation Proclamation was enforced in former Confederate states

Explanation

- A is incorrect. The Freedmen's Bureau attempted to establish greater economic security for freed African Americans, but it did not set up general job training or economic support programs.
- B is correct. One of the Freedmen's Bureau's greatest accomplishments was setting up an education system for African Americans in the South.
- C is incorrect. Many freed slaves hoped to receive "forty acres and a mule" to set up farms, but in practice nearly all lands confiscated during the war were returned to the original owners.
- D is incorrect. The Freedmen's Bureau was formed after the Thirteenth Amendment ended slavery in the United States; the Emancipation Proclamation was no longer valid.

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to be a permanent agency. Questions remained about the future status of African Americans in the post-Civil War South.

Presidential Reconstruction Before his death, President Lincoln had created a plan for readmitting the states that had joined the Confederacy. Lincoln's plan called for pardons for all southerners (except certain leaders) who took a loyalty oath and allowed states to organize a new government when ten percent of voters in the 1860 election had taken an oath of loyalty to the United States.

Andrew Johnson became president after Lincoln's death. His approach to Reconstruction was similar to Lincoln's plan. He pardoned all southerners who took a loyalty oath (with some exceptions). The states that had joined the Confederacy had to hold conventions to rescind, or repeal, their ordinances of secession and ratify the Thirteenth Amendment. By the end of 1865, all but one state had met these criteria, and Johnson declared that they were readmitted to the Union.

Congress disagreed. Many Republicans felt that this plan was not harsh enough. These Republicans were called Radical Republicans. They wanted to punish the South for starting the war and help the newly freed African Americans. They were also angry that many former Confederate leaders were voted into office, meaning they still had political power. Finally, Radical Republicans condemned the actions being taken by the new southern governments.

Black Codes In 1865 and 1866, the southern states passed laws called black codes to keep the freedmen under white control. These codes forbade African Americans from freely moving from one place to another, forced them to sign annual labor contracts, and forced children into apprenticeships working for former slaveholders.

The black codes emboldened white citizens to act against the freedmen on their own. The Ku Klux Klan and similar groups formed. They used violence and threats of violence to terrorize African Americans and crush challenges to white supremacy. Many members of Congress saw these developments as evidence that white southerners were essentially attempting to reestablish slavery.

Did You Know?

Lincoln's second vice president, Andrew Johnson, was a southerner and a Democrat. This caused Republicans to distrust his handling of Reconstruction when he became president. In 1868, the Republican-controlled House of Representatives impeached Johnson, but he was acquitted in the Senate by one vote. Although he was not removed from office, the Republicans had enough seats in Congress to override any presidential veto, so Johnson had little political power.

Did You Know?

Among other things, the black codes made it illegal for African Americans to be unemployed, to gather in groups, to travel without permits, and to own guns.

Diagnostic Test Item

8.16B

2 Congress tried to permanently protect civil rights for all African Americans by passing —

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| F the black codes | H the Fourteenth Amendment |
| G the Civil Rights Act of 1866 | J the Fifteenth Amendment |

Explanation

- F** is incorrect. The black codes were laws passed by white southern state governments to keep newly freed slaves in a slave-like condition.
- G** is incorrect. The Civil Rights Act of 1866 granted rights, but as it was only a law, not an amendment to the Constitution, it did not guarantee that African American rights would be permanently protected.
- H** is correct. The Fourteenth Amendment permanently extended a number of civil rights to African Americans.
- J** is incorrect. The Fifteenth Amendment granted voting rights to African American males. It did not address other civil rights, nor did it extend rights to African American women.

How did Radical Reconstruction affect the South?

8.1A, 8.9A, 8.9C, 8.16B, 8.23C

Radical Reconstruction a Reconstruction program run by Radical Republicans in Congress that made great and drastic changes in the South

Fourteenth Amendment amendment to the U.S. Constitution that makes anyone born in the United States a citizen and grants them equal protection of the laws, ratified in July 1868

Fifteenth Amendment amendment to the U.S. Constitution that says the right to vote cannot be denied because of a person's race, ratified in February 1870

Congress responded by passing the Civil Rights Act of 1866. This law gave citizenship to all persons born in the United States (except American Indians, who were citizens of their own nations). It also stated that all citizens were entitled to the same civil rights. When President Johnson vetoed the law, which made it void, Congress voted to override the veto. That meant the law took effect after all. At that point, Republicans in Congress took control of Reconstruction. This was the beginning of **Radical Reconstruction**.

The Fourteenth Amendment The Radical Republicans next wanted to make sure that the rights established by the Civil Rights Act could never be repealed or overturned by the Supreme Court. In 1866, Congress passed the **Fourteenth Amendment**, which granted citizenship to all persons born in the United States (except American Indians). It also guaranteed all persons “equal protection of the laws.”

In 1867 and 1868, Congress passed a series of laws collectively known as the Reconstruction Acts. The Reconstruction Acts were Congress's plan for Reconstruction. The 1867 law divided the former Confederate states (except Tennessee, which had already been readmitted as a state) into military districts and stationed U.S. army troops in the South. Army commanders were allowed to remove any elected official who did not cooperate with Reconstruction. The army also registered African Americans to vote. Former Confederate leaders were barred from voting or holding political office.

The Reconstruction Acts also set new conditions that the southern states had to meet in order to be allowed back into the Union. To qualify for readmission, states had to

- hold a constitutional convention to write a new state constitution that guaranteed African American men the right to vote;
- form new state governments elected by all male citizens, including African Americans;
- ratify the Fourteenth Amendment.

By 1868, seven southern states had met these requirements and were readmitted to the Union.

The Fifteenth Amendment To ensure that African American men would have the right to vote, Congress passed the **Fifteenth Amendment** in 1869. The amendment barred denying the right to vote on the grounds of “race, color, or previous condition of servitude.” At the time, the amendment granted voting rights only to African American men, however. The four remaining states that had yet to be readmitted to the Union—Virginia, Mississippi, Texas, and Georgia— were now required to ratify the Fifteenth Amendment, as well as meet the previous criteria. In 1870, the Fifteenth Amendment was added to the Constitution, and the last remaining states were readmitted to the Union.

Diagnostic Test Item

8.16B

- 3** Which group had the least amount of power in the South during Radical Reconstruction?
- A** African Americans
 - B** U.S. army officers
 - C** Carpetbaggers
 - D** White Democrats

Explanation

- A** is incorrect. With their new voting rights, African Americans voted and elected representatives, white and African American, who represented their interests.
- B** is incorrect. Army commanders had the power to remove elected officials who did not cooperate with Reconstruction.
- C** is incorrect. Carpetbaggers had the support of the army and of Radical Republicans.
- D** is correct. Radical Reconstruction stripped political power from the white Democrats who had controlled southern state governments before and during the Civil War.

How did Radical Reconstruction change southern state governments?

8.1A, 8.9A, 8.9B, 8.9C, 8.10C, 8.16B, 8.21A

Radical Reconstruction brought huge changes to local and state government in the South. Former Confederate military officers and political leaders, who were usually white Democrats, were denied the right to vote. At the same time, African Americans could exercise the right to vote for the first time. Since the Republican Party was the party that ended slavery, African Americans developed a strong loyalty to the party. The governments established under Reconstruction were dominated by Republicans.

The new Republican state governments represented three main groups: southern whites who supported the Republican Reconstruction program, African Americans, and northerners who moved to the South to take part in Reconstruction. Opponents of Reconstruction derogatorily (insultingly) called the white southerners who supported Reconstruction **scalawags**, an old Scots-Irish term referring to diseased or worthless cattle. They referred to the northerners as **carpetbaggers**, a reference to the cheap, carpet-covered suitcases some northerners brought with them. The new governments were kept in power by the troops placed in the South under the Reconstruction Acts.

New Constitutions and Governments The new state constitutions written during Reconstruction gave freedmen the right to vote. As a result, hundreds of African Americans ran for office, were elected, and served in southern state legislatures during Radical Reconstruction. Hundreds more held other state and local offices. Sixteen African Americans were elected to Congress. They included **Hiram Revels** of Mississippi, who was the first African American to serve in the U.S. Senate.

scalawags insulting name given to southern whites who worked with the Republican Reconstruction governments

carpetbaggers insulting name given to northerners who came to the South to take part in Reconstruction

Hiram Revels minister who moved south to found African American churches and schools; became the first African American elected to the U.S. Senate

Effects of Reconstruction Governments The Republican state governments brought great changes to the South. They built thousands of miles of new roads and railroads. They also built many hospitals and started the first public school systems in the South. To pay for these improvements, they raised taxes on plantation owners. In every state, the black codes restricting the rights of freedmen were repealed.

The Reconstruction governments also encouraged the growth of industries in the South. Many southern cities grew as a result. The South remained, however, a largely rural and agricultural region.

Reconstruction Declines African American voters helped white carpetbaggers and scalawags stay in power during Radical Reconstruction. These officeholders were almost always Republicans. But in the early 1870s, northerners' support for Radical Reconstruction declined. This allowed the old Democratic leaders from the Civil War days to come back to power. These leaders called themselves Redeemers, because they were trying to redeem, or win back, control from the Republicans.

Diagnostic Test Item

8.8B, 8.29A

When the South seceded from the Union at the start of the Civil War, two Mississippi senators, including Jefferson Davis, abandoned their positions. Their seats remained vacant until 1870. The state legislature then elected African American leader Hiram Rhodes Revels to fill one of these seats.

- 4 Based on the text above, how did Reconstruction governments differ from earlier governments in the South?
- F They included Republicans as well as Democrats.
 - G They supported Jefferson Davis's political agenda.
 - H They included African Americans as well as whites.
 - J They successfully eliminated racial discrimination.

Explanation

- F is incorrect. Although Reconstruction governments did include Republicans and Democrats, party affiliation is not discussed in the text.
- G is incorrect. Hiram Revels did not support former Confederate president Jefferson Davis's political ideals, and the text does not suggest that Reconstruction governments supported Davis's agenda.
- H is correct. This text gives an example of an event in which a Reconstruction government elected an African American leader to fill the former position of a white politician. This example supports the idea that Reconstruction governments actively included African Americans.
- J is incorrect. Reconstruction governments did try to weaken racial discrimination, and selecting African Americans to fill political positions may have helped to achieve this goal. However, this text does not suggest that Revels's election as a senator ended discrimination for all time.

Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

- Radical Reconstruction of the South
- Freed slaves becoming citizens
- Equal rights for African Americans

- 1 Which group was established primarily to oppose the changes listed above? *(8.9C, 8.29C)*
- A Southern Democrats
 B Ku Klux Klan
 C Freedmen's Bureau
 D Republican Party
-
- 2 How did the United States formally abolish slavery? *(8.9A)*
- F By issuing the Emancipation Proclamation
 G By enforcing Radical Reconstruction efforts
 H By securing a Union victory in the Civil War
 J By ratifying the Thirteenth Amendment
-

The First Vote



- 3 This illustration was first printed in 1867. The purpose of the image was most likely to — *(8.16B, 8.29A)*
- A illustrate the effects of the Emancipation Proclamation
 B protest the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment
 C celebrate the new rights of freed African Americans
 D gain public support for the establishment of black codes

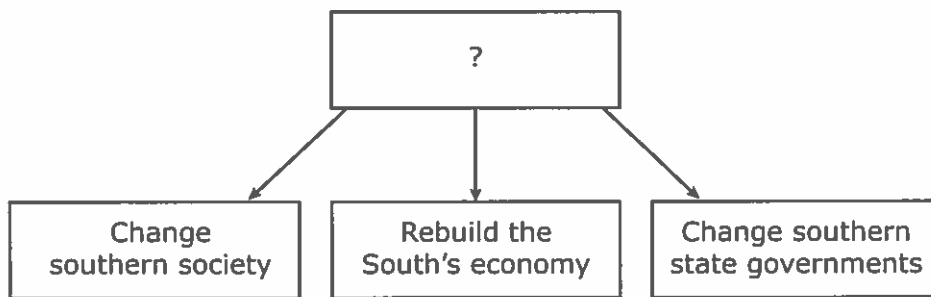
- 4 Which of the following groups benefitted least from the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1866? (8.9A)

- F Radical Republicans
- G Freed slaves
- H American Indians
- J Free blacks in the North

Test-Taking Tip

When you read a question, carefully look to see if any of the words are qualifiers. In this item, the word *least* is a qualifier and is important to finding the correct answer.

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- 5 Which of the following best completes the diagram above? (8.9A, 8.29C)

- A Civil War
- B Emancipation Proclamation
- C Radical Reconstruction
- D Lincoln's Plan for Reconstruction

- 6 Which of the following best explains the purpose of the Fifteenth Amendment? (8.1A)

- F To expand suffrage to women
- G To grant citizenship to former slaves
- H To give all African Americans the ability to vote in public elections
- J To bar race from being used to prevent political participation

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LESSON 10.2

The Effects of Reconstruction

What economic, social, and political problems existed during Reconstruction?

8.1A, 8.9C, 8.10C, 8.21A, 8.23C

Economic Problems The end of slavery deprived southern planters of an important labor force. Plantation owners had no enslaved laborers to work their land. Meanwhile, the freedmen had no jobs, homes, or means of support. With fields empty or crops destroyed, plantation owners had little money to hire freedmen to work on their plantations. At the same time, most freedmen had little education and few work skills except farming—and they owned no land to farm.

Social and Political Problems The war destroyed the South's old social structure and system of government. Plantation owners had long been at the top of society and controlled state governments. Now formerly enslaved persons not only had freedom, they had legal equality and political power. This situation upset not only former slaveholders (a minority of the white population), but poor southern whites who resented that African Americans were no longer at the bottom of society.

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Diagnostic Test Item

8.9C, 8.29C

Causes of ?

- Lack of money in the South
- Absence of a credit system
- Formerly enslaved people need work
- Planters need workers

5 Which of the following would best complete the title of the list above?

- A The Disenfranchisement of White Southerners
- B Radical Reconstruction
- C The Creation of Military Districts
- D The Rise of the Sharecropping System

Explanation

- A is incorrect. Although many white southerners were disenfranchised during Reconstruction, that was because they had actively aided the Confederacy, not for the reasons listed.
- B is incorrect. Although these conditions existed under Radical Reconstruction, they were not causes of it.
- C is incorrect. Southern states were under military occupation during Reconstruction. However, this military occupation was not a system that developed specifically as a result of the economic factors shown above.
- D is correct. A system of sharecropping developed in response to economic conditions in the South following the Civil War.

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How did these problems affect groups in the South?

8.1A, 8.9C, 8.9D, 8.10C, 8.11A, 8.11B, 8.23C

Homestead Act

law passed by Congress in 1862 to encourage settlement of the West by giving settlers free land for farming

sharecropping a system in which farmers work land owned by someone else and pay the landowner rent in the form of a share of the crop

Economic Impacts Some African Americans used their new freedom to move to the North and find jobs. Others moved to the West and gained farmland through the **Homestead Act**. The vast majority of freedmen, however, stayed on plantations and worked for plantation owners. Without cash or access to credit, most African Americans could not afford to become landowners.

A system called **sharecropping** developed. Under this system, plantations were broken up into smaller plots of land that were rented to tenant farmers, most of whom were sharecroppers. Sharecroppers were different from other tenant farmers in that they paid their rent in the form of a share of the crop they harvested, rather than paying rent in cash. In exchange for that share of the crop, landowners provided the land, tools, seeds, animals, and barns to the sharecroppers.

Both African Americans and poor whites worked as sharecroppers. Most sharecroppers lived in poverty. Since they often needed more supplies than their landlords provided, they had to buy those items on credit at stores with high interest rates. If debts were not repaid, shop owners could claim part of a sharecropper's harvest as repayment. Since this was in addition to the share of the crop paid to the landowner, sharecroppers often fell into a cycle of debt from which they could not escape.

Land Reforms of the Civil War and Reconstruction Eras

Homestead Act of 1862	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law that provided settlers a free 160 acres of public land if they lived on it and farmed it for five years • Drew large numbers of settlers—including farmers, factory workers, war veterans, and African Americans—to the Great Plains
Morrill Act of 1862	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law that granted large tracts of public lands to states • Profits from the sale of the lands were to be used for establishing public colleges for teaching agricultural techniques and the mechanical arts • Colleges in Texas that owe their origins to the Morrill Act include Texas A&M University and Prairie View A&M University (A&M stands for "agricultural and mechanical")
Dawes Act of 1887	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law that granted 160 acres of reservation land to American Indian families that would take up farming and promised them citizenship after a 25-year period • Intended as a reform to encourage the assimilation of American Indians into U.S. society • Program was largely a failure and resulted in the long-term loss of American Indian lands

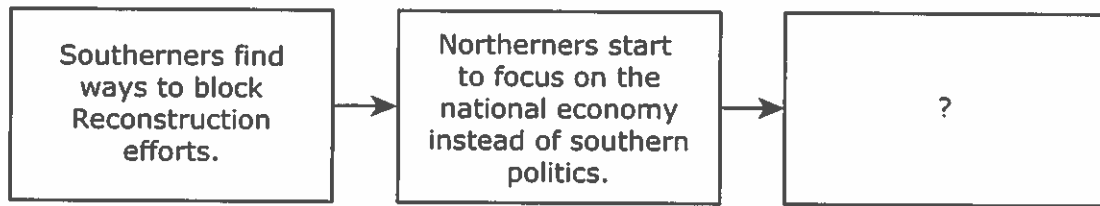
Social and Political Impacts The Freedmen's Bureau opened many schools to educate African American adults and children. It also tried to help freedmen in disputes with white employers over wages and sharecropping. But its job was difficult. Groups like the Ku Klux Klan threatened and used violence against Freedmen's Bureau teachers and other workers. They terrorized other white southerners who supported African American rights, too. These groups also used intimidation and violence to prevent freedmen from exercising their rights—especially the right to vote.

Congress passed laws against the Klan in an effort to stop the violence. The army was not able to stamp out the terrorism, however. Republicans began to lose power in southern states, and white southern Democrats began to win more elections.

Diagnostic Test Item

8.9C, 8.29B

The End of Reconstruction



6 Which of the following best completes the diagram above?

- F Democrats gain control of southern legislatures for many decades.
- G The federal government rebuilds economic prosperity in the South.
- H African Americans dominate many southern legislatures for decades.
- J Republicans adopt more radical positions on southern political issues.

Explanation

- F is correct. After the end of Reconstruction, Democrats controlled southern politics for nearly a century.
- G is incorrect. Although the United States made economic improvements in the years following Reconstruction, the southern economy continued to suffer.
- H is incorrect. African Americans served in many southern legislatures during Reconstruction. After Reconstruction, they did not serve again in southern state legislatures until the 1960s.
- J is incorrect. After the end of Reconstruction, Republicans did not necessarily adopt more radical positions on southern political issues. Instead, many began to focus on other issues, such as the economy.

Many northerners began to grow tired of the issues surrounding Reconstruction. As a result, Republican leaders became less concerned about events in the South. Many northerners also became angry over examples of corruption in the federal government. Some officials were found to have taken money in return for supporting certain government actions. This situation shifted focus away from the problems of the South. Meanwhile, a severe economic crisis, the Panic of 1873, diverted the attention of northerners to national economic issues. All of these factors allowed the Redeemers—white southern Democrats who opposed Reconstruction—to return to power. By 1875, they had regained control of government in most southern states.

These new white governments soon started undoing many of Reconstruction's reforms. They passed laws that kept African Americans from voting for reasons that were not based on race. For example, they made people pay a tax or pass a literacy (reading) test to vote. Since many freedmen were poor and uneducated, they lost their voting rights. By not directly barring African Americans from voting, white southerners did not violate the Fifteenth Amendment.

Many public places in the South, such as restaurants, hotels, and transportation facilities, refused to serve or segregated African Americans. Congress enacted the Civil Rights Act of 1875 to ban such discrimination. The U.S. Supreme Court, however, ruled the law unconstitutional. The Court ruled that the Fourteenth Amendment barred only states from denying persons equal rights. Private

businesses and organizations could legally practice racial discrimination. This 1883 ruling paved the way for Jim Crow laws—laws that required the segregation of the races in public places.

What brought Reconstruction to an end?

8.1A, 8.1B, 8.9C, 8.21A, 8.21C

White southerners were determined to elect a Democrat as president in 1876. The Democratic candidate, Samuel J. Tilden, won the popular vote, but voters do not elect the president directly.

According to the Constitution, the president must win a majority of votes in the Electoral College. In 1876, the results for the Electoral College were in doubt. Electoral College votes from four states—three of them in the South—were disputed. Congress formed a commission to study the problem. The commission decided to give all of the disputed Electoral College votes to the Republican candidate, Rutherford B. Hayes.

Democrats were outraged. Some threatened to put the Democratic candidate in the White House by force. To avoid another possible civil war, Democratic and Republican leaders looked for a compromise. The **Compromise of 1877** allowed the Republican, Rutherford B. Hayes, to become president. In return, Republicans agreed to withdraw the remaining U.S. troops from the South. Without the army's protection, the last Republican state governments collapsed. This brought Reconstruction to an end. Southern whites again took power. For decades to come, the southern states voted almost solidly for the Democratic Party.

Compromise of 1877

following the hotly disputed election of 1876, Republicans promised funds for internal improvements in the South, the appointment of a southerner to the presidential cabinet, and a policy of noninterference in the South

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Diagnostic Test Item

8.1B

- 7 Which of the following events marked the end of Reconstruction?
- A Rutherford B. Hayes became president in 1877.
 - B President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated in 1865.
 - C Georgia was the last state to rejoin the Union in 1870.
 - D Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1875.

Explanation

- A is correct. The U.S. Congress awarded contested electoral votes to Hayes in the election of 1876. After Hayes took office, he withdrew federal troops from the South, ending Reconstruction.
- B is incorrect. President Lincoln was assassinated in 1865, which is the same year that Reconstruction started. His assassination did not cause northerners to lose their commitment to reform.
- C is incorrect. Although Georgia did become the final Confederate state to rejoin the Union in 1870, the reforms of the Reconstruction era continued for some time after this date.
- D is incorrect. The Civil Rights Act of 1875 was a significant achievement of the Reconstruction era but did not end this time of reform.

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STAAR Practice

8.1A, 8.9C, 8.9D, 8.16B

Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

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- Black codes
- Jim Crow laws
- Use of violence

- 1 Which of the following is the best title for the list above?

(8.9C, 8.29B)

- A Political Conflicts between Republicans and Democrats
- B Federal Laws that Discriminated against African Americans
- C Ways White Supremacy Was Maintained in the South
- D Policies Forever Abolished by Reconstruction

Test-Taking Tip

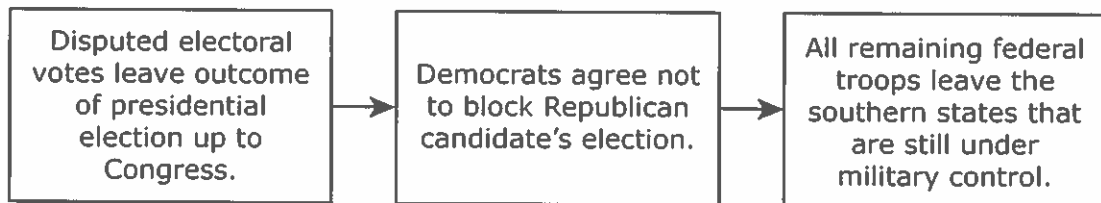
When reading a list, make sure to consider all the points listed. In this question, if you read only the first two points, you might choose the wrong answer.

- 2 Which law helped some freedmen leave the South after the Civil War?

(8.9D)

- F The Civil Rights Act of 1866
- G The Morrill Act
- H The Homestead Act
- J The Dawes Act

The Compromise of 1877



- 3 Why is the event depicted in the diagram above such a significant moment in U.S. history?

- A It was the first time that a presidential election had to be decided by members of Congress.
- B It marked the South's return as an agricultural leader and industrial powerhouse.
- C It created a constitutional crisis because a candidate lost the popular vote and was still elected president.
- D It ended Reconstruction and began an era in which African Americans were disenfranchised.

4 What was a main effect of the Morrill Act of 1862? (8.9D)

- F It led to the establishment of public state colleges.
- G It redistributed land to individuals in the Great Plains.
- H It gave land to settlers who promised to improve it over five years.
- J It protected the property rights of American Indians in the West.

5 What was one main result of the Dawes Act of 1887? (8.9D)

- A It caused most American Indians to become successful as self-sufficient farmers.
- B It established the first American Indian reservations in the West.
- C It successfully protected the traditional property rights of American Indians.
- D It largely failed to assimilate American Indians and resulted in a net loss of American Indian lands.

6 Which of the following is an example of one way the intentions of the Fourteenth Amendment remained unfulfilled after its passage? (8.16B)

- F Many American Indians were forced to leave their ancestral land.
- G The citizenship of African Americans born in the future remained unclear.
- H Some states enacted laws to restrict the rights of African Americans.
- J Many African Americans remained enslaved in the border states.

- Voters were required to pay poll taxes
- Voters were required to take literacy tests
- Voters were punished or threatened with violence
- Voters were required to have a family history of political involvement

7 The list above provides examples of ways that southern states attempted to — (8.16B, 8.29B)

- A avoid fulfilling the Fifteenth Amendment
- B gain political independence from the Union
- C prevent the rise of political corruption
- D establish popular sovereignty

Study Guide and Review

Key Terms of the Reconstruction Era *8.9A, 8.9C, 8.9D, 8.16B*

Enter the appropriate word(s) to complete the statement.

carpetbaggers	Andrew Johnson	Civil Rights Act
Fifteenth Amendment	Reconstruction Acts	scalawags
Freedmen's Bureau	Homestead Act	Radical Republicans

- The _____ stationed federal troops in the South and set the conditions the states had to meet in order to return to the Union.
- The _____ makes it illegal to deny the right to vote based on a person's race or color.
- President _____ was in charge of Reconstruction until Congress took control of it from him.
- The _____ encouraged some African Americans to leave the South.
- The rights and protections of the _____ of 1866 were written into the U.S. Constitution as the Fourteenth Amendment.
- Goals of the _____ were to contain Democrats and provide civil rights and equality for the newly freed African Americans in the South.
- African Americans joined forces with _____ and _____ to control the governments of the southern states during Reconstruction.
- The _____ provided education and other services to the South's newly freed African Americans.

Sequencing the Events of Reconstruction

8.1B, 8.9A, 8.16B, 8.29B

Write the correct year from the time line next to each listed event.



- | | |
|--|---|
| _____ 1. Fourteenth Amendment ratified | _____ 4. Fifteenth Amendment ratified |
| _____ 2. Civil Rights Act passed | _____ 5. Slavery abolished in the United States |
| _____ 3. Reconstruction ends | _____ 6. U.S. troops stationed in the South |

Organizing Information about Reconstruction

8.9A, 8.9C, 8.29B

Match each term with its correct description.

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| A Carpetbaggers | E Sharecroppers |
| B Redeemers | F Civil rights |
| C Tenant farmers | G Scalawags |
| D Freedmen | H Radical Republicans |

- _____ 1. White southerners who supported Reconstruction
- _____ 2. Farmers who worked a landowner's land and received part of the crop they grew instead of wages
- _____ 3. White southerners who worked to take back control of government from Republicans during Reconstruction
- _____ 4. Rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution's Bill of Rights
- _____ 5. Northerners who came to the South to take part in Reconstruction
- _____ 6. African Americans who had once been enslaved
- _____ 7. Farmers who paid rent in cash to a landowner for the land they farmed and could sell the crop they grew
- _____ 8. Northerners who wanted to provide equal rights for African Americans and punish southern leaders for the Civil War

Identifying the Causes and Effects of Problems during Reconstruction

8.9C, 8.29B

Conditions in the South presented huge challenges to northern Republicans, white southerners, and southern African Americans after the Civil War. Read the description of each problem, then describe the actions that were taken to solve it.

Problem	Solution
Newly freed African Americans have no jobs. Plantation owners have no crops to sell, no workers, and no money to hire anyone.	1.
Political leaders who supported secession and slavery remain in control of state governments.	2.
Southern state governments pass black codes and use other means to limit the rights of the newly freed African Americans.	3.

Post Test

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Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

- 1** How did the Fourteenth Amendment guarantee protection for U.S. citizens? (B.9A)
- A** It required state governments to expand suffrage to include women.
 - B** It required states to give all persons due process of the law.
 - C** It required states to extend voting rights to African Americans.
 - D** It required state governments to have diverse representation in Congress.

- 2** How did the Thirteenth Amendment affect African Americans? (B.16B)
- F** It provided them with new political opportunities through suffrage.
 - G** It allowed them to enlist in the U.S. Army.
 - H** It granted them full citizenship rights.
 - J** It removed the threat of continued enslavement.

WHEREAS no legal State governments or adequate protection for life or property now exists in the rebel States . . . and whereas it is necessary that peace and good order should be enforced in said States . . .

Be it enacted . . . That said rebel States shall be divided into military districts and made subject to the military authority of the United States. . .

—*Reconstruction Act of 1867*

- 3** Based on this excerpt, what main problem did the Reconstruction Act of 1867 try to solve? (B.9A, B.29A)
- A** Newly freed African Americans were struggling to become economically independent.
 - B** Former Confederate states were unable to establish new governments acceptable to Congress.
 - C** State governments in the South owed heavy military debts to the federal government.
 - D** Some southerners refused to accept the Confederate loss in the Civil War.

- 4 Hiram Revels's election to the U.S. Senate marked a turning point because — (8.9B)
- F it marked the Democratic Party's rise to power in the South
 - G it began a movement to secure civil rights for racial minorities
 - H it started a period in which African Americans held political power
 - J it initiated a period in which the federal government had more power than state governments

- 5 What resulted from economic problems the South faced after the Civil War? (8.9C)
- A Sharecropping
 - B Black codes
 - C The plantation system
 - D The Reconstruction Acts

During Reconstruction, an officer of the Freedmen's Bureau named Martin R. Delany was concerned about relations between workers and landowners in the South. To regulate these relations, he created a model document setting up a series of terms. Among other terms, the agreement required landowners to pay workers a specific amount of their profit, offer holidays from work, and resolve disputes legally.

- 6 Which of the following best explains why the Freedmen's Bureau would create a document like the one described above? (8.9C, 8.29A)
- F Many landowners suffered from economic disadvantages during Reconstruction.
 - G Many landowners kept formerly enslaved people on their property even after slavery was abolished.
 - H Illiteracy prevented many formerly enslaved people from signing contracts regarding their rights.
 - J Poverty and fear forced many formerly enslaved people to sign unfair labor contracts.
- 7 What was one major characteristic of the Reconstruction Era? (8.1B)
- A Former slaves used terrorism and violence to demand reform.
 - B Northern and southern political leaders began to work together.
 - C African Americans held the majority of southern elective offices.
 - D Most southern African Americans became sharecroppers.