Texas History for Teachers

Reconstruction Guided Notes *Advanced*

Unit 9: Reconstruction

Name: Date: Period:

The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln

• Lincoln was elected for a second term as president in November 1864. • Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered April 9, 1865 • Lincoln was assassinated on April 15, 1865. • Vice President Andrew Johnson (a Southerner) was sworn in as president.	1. How do you predict President Andrew Johnson might approach Reconstruction of the South? Explain your answer.

Presidential Reconstruction 1865 - 1867

• Ex-Confederates pardoned - Must take loyalty oath to the U.S. • High-ranking ex-Confederates must personally request pardon from President Johnson • Southern states must - write new constitutions - Ratify the 13th Amendment	2. How would you characterize Johnson's Reconstruction policies? 3. How do you think Northerners reacted to Johnson's policies? Southerners?

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The Thirteenth Amendment

AMENDMENT XIII Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction. Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation	4. What did the Thirteenth Amendment do? 5. According to the Thirteenth Amendment, is there any circumstance in which forced labor is permitted? Explain.

The Freedmen's Bureau

• Established 1865
• Provided support to freed Black Southerners:
  • Medical services
  • Legal support
  • Education
  • Family reunification
  • Protection
	6. What was the Freedmen's Bureau and what was its primary purpose?

The Texas Constitution of 1866

• Declared secession void. • Recognized but did **not** ratify the 13th Amendment. • Ex-Confederates returned to power.	7. How do you think Northerners in the U.S. Congress responded to the Texas Constitution of 1866? Explain.

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The Black Codes

• TX legislature passed laws restricting the rights of Black Texans. • Denied the right to: - Vote - Serve on juries. - Testify against whites. - Attend public schools. - Marry whites.	8. What were the Black Codes and why do you think the Texas legislature created them?

Vagrancy Laws

• Laws regulating and requiring Black Texans to work • Employees could deduct wages for disobedience and wasting time. • Authorities could arrest and fine people for being idle (lazy) or not having a permanent home. • Courts could force people to work if they could not pay the fine.	9. What were Vagrancy Laws and why do you think the Texas legislature passed them?

Response to Presidential Reconstruction

• U.S. Congress was mostly Northern Republicans. • 1868: Congress impeached President Johnson and took over Reconstruction. • Congress Passed "Reconstruction Acts."	10. What does it mean that Congress impeached President Johnson? Why did Congress take this step?

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Congressional Reconstruction
1867 - 1874

Reconstruction Acts Southern states must: • Create new constitutions • Grant voting rights to Black people • End Black Codes • Ratify the 13th and 14th Amendments • Submit to Federal authority under martial law	11. How was Reconstruction different under Congressional control compared to President Johnson's control? Give examples.

Fourteenth Amendment

AMENDMENT XIV Section 1 All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.	12. What does the Fourteenth Amendment say about U.S. Citizenship? 13. How would this amendment affect the newly freed people?

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Texas Under Congressional Reconstruction

• New Constitution of 1869 replaced the Constitution of 1866 • Increased political participation of Black men. • Political power in Texas was now concentrated at the state level in Austin, not the local level. • Increased taxes to pay for education, State Police force, and expansion of the court system.	14. What were some significant differences in the Texas government under Congressional Reconstruction compared to Presidential Reconstruction?

Response to Congressional Reconstruction

• Education expanded • People angry at high taxes • Ex-Confederates worked to regain power in Texas • The Ku Klux Klan: A terrorist organization established in 1865 that used violence and intimidation against Black Texans and their allies.	15. What were some of the significant effects of Congressional Reconstruction in Texas?

"Redeemer" Reconstruction
1874 - 1877

Redeemers were Southern ex-Confederates who wanted to "redeem" Texas from Republican control and return political power to the local governments, rather than the state government.	16. Who were the "Redeemers" and why did they use this term to refer to themselves?

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"Redeemers" in Texas

• The new Constitution of 1876 replaced the Constitution of 1869. - Sul Ross helped author it • Reduced power of state government, returned power to local governments. • Abolished State Police • Reduced number of courts • Decentralized public schools	17. What changes did the "Redeemers" make in the Texas government when they came to power?

The End of Reconstruction, 1877

• Freedmen's Bureau ended in 1870 due to lack of resources • Federal Troops withdrew from Southern states • Martial Law ended • Full political power returned to the states. • Ex-Confederates regained significant control of Southern states like Texas	18. Write a one-sentence summary of the end of Reconstruction.

The Significance of the Reconstruction Era on Texas

• Development of Railroads
• Increase in population
  • 800,000 in 1870
  • 2 million in 1890
• Decentralized Texas government.
• Many poor farmers became **sharecroppers**: renting land to farm, often getting trapped in cycles of debt
	19. What were three significant effects of the Reconstruction era on Texas?

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