Texas History for Teachers

Reconstruction Guided Notes *Foundations*

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?

*Andrew Johnson' Reconstruction policies will probably be **strict and harsh** / **lenient and relaxed** on the South. I think this might be true because*

(A) *Johnson was a Northerner* **(B)** *Johnson was an abolitionist* **(C)** *Johnson was a Southerner*

(D) *Johnson was an ex-Confederate.*

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?
   a. Permissive and lenient
   b. Strict and controlling
   c. Forceful and oppressive
   ~~d. Hostile and aggressive~~

3. How do you think Northerners reacted to Johnson's policies? Southerners? Choose "Northerner" or "Southerner" and complete the sentence stem below.

Northerners */* ***Southerners*** *probably*

favored */* ***opposed*** *Johnson's policies because*

_____.

THE PORTAL TO TEXAS HISTORY

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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?
   a. Granted voting rights to the Freedmen.
   ~~b. Established martial law in the South.~~
   c. Abolished slavery.
   d. Established a prison system.

5. According to the Thirteenth Amendment, what is ONE circumstance in which forced labor is permitted?
   a. In response to refusing to work
   b. As punishment for being convicted of a crime
   ~~c. As a consequence of attempting to vote in elections.~~
   d. In cases which Congress deemed appropriate

The Freedmen's Bureau

- Established 1865
- Provided support to freed Black Southerners:
  - Medical services
  - Legal support
  - Education
  - Family reunification
  - Protection

6. Which TWO statements below are true of the Freedmen's Bureau?
   a. It was an organization that provided services to Black Southerners.
   b. It prohibited Black Southerners from taking part in society and politics.
   c. It was established to protect and support Black Southerners as they exercised their rights.
   d. It required Black Southerners to work in medical or legal fields.

The Texas Constitution of 1866

- Declared secession void.
- Recognized but did **not** ratify the 13th Amendment.
- Ex-Confederates returned to power.

7. Do you think Northerners in Congress supported or opposed the Texas Constitution of 1866? Why?

*I think Northerners in Congress **supported** /*

***opposed** the Texas Constitution of 1866 because*

_____

_____

THE PORTAL TO TEXAS HISTORY

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. Which TWO statements below are accurate regarding the Black Codes?
   a. Black Codes violated the rights of Black Southerners.
   b. Black Codes were established by the U.S. Congress during Reconstruction.
   c. Black Codes protected the rights of Freedmen from Ex-Confederates.
   d. Black Codes prevented Freedmen from political participation.

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. Which two statements below are most accurate regarding Vagrancy Laws?
   a. Vagrancy Laws officially reinstated slavery in the South.
   ~~b. Vagrancy Laws were established to punish ex-Confederates.~~
   c. Vagrancy Laws were enforced by the Freedmen's Bureau.
   d. Vagrancy Laws allowed forced labor for inability to pay legal fines.
   e. Vagrancy Laws placed strict work requirements on Freedmen.

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. Why did Congress impeach President Johnson, essentially removing his ability to govern successfully?

Congress impeached President Johnson because they believed that ***(A)*** *Johnson was too harsh on the South* ***(B)*** *Johnson was working to reinstate slavery* ***(C)*** *Johnson's policies were too lenient on the South* ***(D)*** *Johnson was too sick to continue serving as president.*

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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. Complete the sentence stem: ***Presidential Reconstruction under President Johnson can be characterized as (A)*** *strict and focused on punishment* ***(B)*** *Permissive and lenient* ***while Congressional Reconstruction can be characterized as (C)*** *strict and focused on punishment* ***(D)*** *Permissive and lenient*

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? a. It states that everyone born in the U.S. is an American citizen. b. It states that Freedmen can apply for citizenship. c. It states that the government can limit rights to non-citizens. ~~d. All of the above.~~ 13. How would this amendment affect the newly freed people? *Because of the Fourteenth Amendment, the newly freed people* _____ _____

THE PORTAL TO TEXAS HISTORY

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 was one significant difference between Presidential Reconstruction and Congressional Reconstruction in Texas?

Under Presidential Reconstruction (A) *political power was concentrated at the state level* ***(B)*** *political power was concentrated at the local level,* ***while under Congressional Reconstruction (C)*** *political power was concentrated at the state level* ***(D)*** *political power was concentrated at the local level,*

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 was one significant effect of Congressional Reconstruction in Texas?

One significant effect of Congressional Reconstruction in Texas was _____

_____

_____

"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"?
    a. Northerners who gained control in Southern state governments.
    b. Ex-Confederates who wanted to regain control of Southern states.
    ~~c. Freedmen who worked to protect the rights of Black Southerners.~~
    d. Federal military leaders of the South under martial law.

THE PORTAL TO TEXAS HISTORY

"Redeemers" in Texas

• The new Constitution of 1876 replaced the Constitution of 1869. - Sul Ross helped author doc • Reduced power of state government, returned power to local governments. • Abolished State Police • Reduced number of courts • Decentralized public schools	17. Which statement is most accurate for the actions Redeemers took when they regained power? a. ~~Redeemers wanted to use the military to regain political control in the south.~~ b. Redeemers supported the expansion of public services like schools and police forces. c. Redeemers wanted a smaller state government and more powerful local governments. d. Redeemers opposed local governments and wanted the state to have the most 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. Which statement provides the best summary of the end of Reconstruction? a. Black Southerners held the majority of political power in the South. b. Ex-Confederates returned to power in the South at the end of Reconstruction. c. Northerners maintained military control of the South. d. Slavery was reinstated and the Reconstruction amendments were repealed.

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 was one significant effect of the Reconstruction era on Texas?
	
	One significant effect of the Reconstruction Era on Texas was _____
	
	_____
	
	_____

THE PORTAL TO TEXAS HISTORY