

Reconstruction Unit Vocabulary

Vocabulary Terms	Key People and Organizations	Major Events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● black codes: laws passed in the south that discriminated against Freedmen, including laws on curfews, laws regulating work and pay, and other restrictions placed on the freedoms of African Americans ● carpetbaggers: an insulting word for Northerners who moved to the South after the war. Those who opposed reconstruction believed carpetbaggers came to get rich or gain political power ● convict leasing: the practice of leasing inmates to perform forced labor for individuals or private companies ● discrimination: unfairly treating a person or groups of people differently from other people based on characteristics such as race, age or gender ● emancipation: the freeing of enslaved people by the authority that held them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Edmund Davis: appointed Governor during Reconstruction under martial law and later elected Governor, serving from 1870-1874 ● Freedmen’s Bureau: an agency set up in 1865 to assist formerly enslaved people in obtaining relief, land, jobs, fair treatment, and education ● Ulysses S. Grant: 18th President of the U.S. elected in 1868, he campaigned on his Civil War experience as commanding general of the Union forces ● Andrew Johnson: 17th President of the U.S., he assumed this role after the assassination of Lincoln, serving 1865-1869 ● Abraham Lincoln: 16th President of the U.S., serving during the Civil War. He emancipated enslaved people, and was assassinated in 1865. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 13th Amendment: officially abolished slavery in all parts of the U.S. after the Civil War ● 14th Amendment: granted U.S. citizenship to all formerly enslaved people ● 15th Amendment: gave voting rights to all African American men ● Juneteenth: a holiday celebrated on June 19th to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved people in the US. First celebrated in Texas in 1865, Juneteenth became a federal holiday in 2021 and is now celebrated across the U.S.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● freedmen: a person freed from enslavement ● loyalty oath: a promise or oath required of all who fought or aided the Confederacy, promising to never fight against the U.S. ● martial law: military rule imposed on citizens instead of civil law and government. The South was placed under martial law after the Civil War ● poll tax: a voting qualification under the 15th Amendment that required a person to pay a tax in order to register to vote ● reconstruction: the post-Civil War period from 1865-1876. The U.S. readmitted the southern state to the Union, rebuilding the nation after the Civil War ● scalawags: insulting name for white southerners who supported reconstruction efforts ● sharecropping: a system of agriculture in which a landowner allowed a tenant farmer to use land in exchange for a share of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ku Klux Klan: a secret terrorist organization in the U.S. made up of white people who are opposed to people of other races 	

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