

Vocabulary Quiz *Grade Level*

Unit 9: Reconstruction

Name: Date: Period:

Part I: Key Terms

Directions: Match the vocabulary term with its correct definition

Reconstruction	Sharecropper	Amendment
Ratify	Franchise	Martial Law
		Redemption

1.	An edit to the constitution that adds new information, meant to improve the document. For example: To add information that grants rights to people who had been denied rights before.
2.	The ability to vote. After the emancipation of the enslaved people, the Fifteenth Amendment granted and protected their right to vote, while some high-ranking ex-Confederates lost their right to vote due to their rebellion.
3.	An action taken by the government which removes political power from the civil government and places that power in the hands of the military. After the Civil War, the U.S. Congress placed the South under military control.
4.	Poor farmers in the South, including the former slaves, often worked as farmers who rented their land and equipment from landowners. This type of work was difficult and often kept the renters in a cycle of debt.
5.	The period of time after the Civil War during which the U.S. government worked to rebuild the South and reunite the country. There were opposing points of view regarding how the South should be rebuilt, which led to political disputes.
6.	To officially approve a government document or law. One of the requirements of the Southern states after the Civil War was that the state governments had to officially approve the 13 th , 14 th , and 15 th amendments.
7.	In the 1870s, ex-Confederates began to regain political control of Southern state governments, and they began a process to fix or correct what they believed were the problems created in Southern governments under U.S. military control.

Part II: Fill in the Blank

Directions: Use the vocabulary terms to fill in the blanks on the following statements.

Reconstruction	Sharecroppers	Amendments
Ratify	Enfranchised	Martial Law
		Redeemers

1. The Fifteenth amendment _____ freed Black men by protecting their right to vote in the Constitution.
2. Poor white farmers and newly freed Black Southerners often worked as _____ after the Civil War. They rented land and equipment from landowners, paying their rent with a portion of their crops.
3. There were many opposing views on how to rebuild the South after the Civil War. Some wanted the _____ of the Southern states to be lenient on the ex-Confederates while others thought they should be punished and have their rights restricted.
4. During Reconstruction, the U.S. Congress placed the Southern states under _____, which disbanded Southern state governments and placed them under military control.
5. In order to make the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments official, three fourths of the U.S. states were required to _____ the amendments. Some states, like Texas, initially refused to ratify some or all of them.
6. _____ were ex-Confederates who worked to regain control of their state governments and then reverse the policies that had been implemented by the state governments while they were under Federal military control.
7. After the Civil War, the U.S. Congress passed three new _____ to the Constitution which officially abolished slavery, granted citizenship rights to the newly freed people and anyone born in the U.S., and granted voting rights to the Freedmen.

Part III: Comprehension Questions

1. Use the primary source quote below to answer the question that follows.

“Gen. Reynolds has reported officially that Texas is ready for a fair election, but had he reflected over the fact, that a large portion of the people of Texas, who are constitutionally citizens of the United States and of this State, are disfranchised by reason of a law of Congress, he might not have made the report concerning a fair election.”

– The Daily Ranchero. (Brownsville, Tex.) Thursday, July 29, 1869.
The Portal to Texas History

Which statement best summarizes the author’s point of view on holding an election in Texas during Reconstruction?

- a. The author believed that the government should proceed with a free and fair election in order to allow Redeemers to regain power.
 - b. The author believes that any election would not be fair because many Texans were unable to vote.
 - c. The author believed that some Texans should not hold the right to vote, and elections should not be held if all men could vote.
 - d. The author believed that Congress should disfranchise certain individuals in Texas before holding a free and fair election.
2. Read the excerpt about the Fourteenth Amendment, then choose TWO responses that are true of the article.

“The Southern Leaders and the Constitutional Amendment.”

“The feature of the Constitutional Amendment to which the South most emphatically objects, is that which excludes from office the prominent actors in the rebellion.”

– The McKinney Messenger, Friday, November 16, 1866. The Portal to Texas History.

- a. Many Southerners were against the Fourteenth Amendment.
- b. The Fourteenth Amendment prevented ex-Confederates from government positions.
- c. Many Southerners were eager to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment.
- d. The Fourteenth Amendment primarily related to voting rights of the Freedmen in the South.
- e. The Fourteenth Amendment would enfranchise ex-Confederates who had rebelled against the U.S. government.