America: Pathways to the Present

Chapter 5 Reconstruction (1865–1877)

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Chapter 5: Reconstruction (1865–1877)

Section 1: Presidential Reconstruction

Section 2: Congressional Reconstruction

Section 3: Birth of the "New South"

Section 4: The End of Reconstruction

Presidential Reconstruction

Chapter 5, Section 1

- What condition was the South in following the Civil War?
- How were Lincoln's and Johnson's Reconstruction plans similar?
- How did the newly freed slaves begin to rebuild their lives?













The War's Aftermath

Chapter 5, Section 1

- Human toll of the Civil War: The North lost 364,000 soldiers.
 The South lost 260,000 soldiers.
- Between 1865 and 1877, the federal government carried out a program to repair the damage to the South and restore the southern states to the Union. This program was known as Reconstruction.
- Black Southerners were starting out their new lives in a poor region with slow economic activity.
- Plantation owners lost slave labor worth \$3 billion.
- Poor white Southerners could not find work because of new job competition from freedmen.
- The war had destroyed two thirds of the South's shipping industry and about 9,000 miles of railroad.







Reconstruction Plans

Chapter 5, Section 1

Lincoln's plan

- Denied pardons to officers and anyone who had killed African American war prisoners.
- Permitted each state to create a new constitution after 10 percent of voters took an oath of allegiance.
- Offered pardons to Southerners who swore allegiance.
- States could then hold elections and rejoin the Union.

- Each state
 could create a new
 constitution without
 Lincoln's 10 percent
 allegiance
 requirement.
- States had to void secession, abolish slavery, and repudiate the Confederate debt.
- Although it officially denied pardons to all Confederate leaders, Johnson often issued pardons to those who asked him personally.

Johnson's plan



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Chapter 5, Section 1

- A group called the Radical Republicans felt that the Civil War had been fought over the moral issue of slavery. The Radicals insisted that the main goal of Reconstruction should be a restructuring of society to guarantee black people true equality.
- The Radical Republicans viewed Lincoln's plan as too lenient.
- In July, 1864, Congress passed a stricter Reconstruction plan, the Wade-Davis Act. Among its provisions, it required ex-Confederate men to take an oath of past and future loyalty and to swear that they had never willingly borne arms against the United States. Lincoln let the bill die in a pocket veto.













The Taste of Freedom

Chapter 5, Section 1

- Freedom of movement: Enslaved people often walked away from plantations upon hearing that the Union army was near.
- Freedom to own land: Proposals to give white-owned land to freed people got little support from the government.
 Unofficial land redistribution did take place, however.
- Freedom to worship: African Americans formed their own churches and started mutual aid societies, debating clubs, drama societies, and trade associations.
- Freedom to learn: Between 1865 and 1870, black educators founded 30 African American colleges.
- Congress created the Freedmen's Bureau to help black Southerners adjust to freedom. This was the first major relief agency in United States history.













What was the main difference between the Reconstruction plans of Lincoln and Johnson?

- (A) Johnson's plan denied pardons to Confederate military and government officials.
- (B) Lincoln's plan gave voting rights to African Americans.
- (C) Johnson's plan allowed southern states to hold conventions without the 10 percent allegiance clause.
- (D) Lincoln's plan offered land to freed African Americans.

What was the first major federally funded relief agency in the United States?

- (A) The Red Cross
- (B) The Freedmen's Bureau
- (C) The United Hospital System
- (D) The Agency for Public Schooling

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Congressional Reconstruction

Chapter 5, Section 2

- How were black codes and the Fourteenth Amendment related?
- How did Congress's Reconstruction plan differ from Johnson's plan?
- What was the significance of the Fifteenth Amendment?
- Who supported the Republican governments of the South?













Black Codes

Chapter 5, Section 2

- As southern states were restored to the Union, they began to enact black codes, laws that restricted freedmen's rights. The black codes established virtual slavery with provisions such as these:
 - Curfews: Generally, black people could not gather after sunset.
 - Vagrancy laws: Freedmen convicted of vagrancy- that is, not working- could be fined, whipped, or sold for a year's labor.
 - Labor contracts: Freedmen had to sign agreements in January for a year of work. Those who quit in the middle of a contract often lost all the wages they had earned.
 - Land restrictions: Freed people could rent land or homes only in rural areas. This restriction forced them to live on plantations.



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The Fourteenth Amendment and the Civil Rights Act

Chapter 5, Section 2

The Civil Rights Act

- Republicans in Congress blamed President Johnson for the southern Democrats' return to Congress.
- To put an end to Johnson's Reconstruction, the Congress tried to bypass the President by making amendments to the Constitution.
- In early 1866 Congress passed the Civil Rights Act which outlawed the black codes.
- Johnson vetoed the measure, but Congress overrode the President's veto.

The Fourteenth Amendment

- Congress decided to build equal rights into the Constitution.
- In June 1866, Congress passed the Fourteenth Amendment, which states:
 - "All persons born or naturalized in the United States...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... of citizens of the United States... nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of the law ..."









SECTION





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Radical Reconstruction

Chapter 5, Section 2

- The congressional Republicans who drafted the Fourteenth Amendment consisted of two major groups. One group was the Radical Republicans. Radicals were small in number but increasingly influential. Most Republicans, however, saw themselves as moderates. In politics, a moderate is someone who supports the mainstream views of the party, not the more extreme positions.
- Moderates and Radicals both opposed Johnson's Reconstruction policies, opposed the spread of the black codes, and favored the expansion of the Republican Party in the South.
- Moderates were not in favor of the Radicals' goal of granting African Americans their civil rights, or many of the personal liberties guaranteed by law, such as voting rights and equal treatment.
- President Johnson continued to oppose equal rights for African Americans. Northern voters responded by sweeping Radical Republicans into Congress.



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Chapter 5, Section 2

Calling for "reform not revenge," Radicals in Congress passed the Reconstruction Act of 1867. These were its key provisions:

- 1. Southern states would be under military rule by northern generals.
- 2. Southern states would have to create new state constitutions.
- 3. States would be required to give the vote to all qualified male voters (including African Americans).
- 4. Supporters of the Confederacy were temporarily barred from voting.
- 5. Southern states were required to guarantee equal rights to all citizens.
- 6. All states were required to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment.
- In 1868, President Johnson was impeached—charged with wrongdoing in the office—by the Radical Republicans in the House of Representatives.
- The Senate tried President Johnson for "high crimes and misdemeanors," but Johnson escaped removal from office by one vote.
- Johnson served the remaining months of his term with no mandate and no real power. In the following election, he was defeated by Ulysses S. Grant.



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The Fifteenth Amendment

Chapter 5, Section 2

- In February 1869, Congress passed the Fifteenth Amendment, granting African American males the right to vote.
- In 1867 and 1868, voters in southern states chose delegates to draft new state constitutions. One quarter of the delegates elected were black.
- The new state constitutions guaranteed civil rights, allowed poor people to hold political office, and set up a system of public schools and orphanages.
- In 1870, southern black men voted in legislative elections for the first time. More than 600 African Americans were elected to state legislatures, Louisiana gained a black governor, and Hiram Revels of Mississippi became the first African American elected to the Senate.













The Republican South

Chapter 5, Section 2

- During Radical Reconstruction, the Republican Party was a mixture of people who had little in common except a desire to prosper in the postwar South. This bloc of voters included freedmen and two other groups: carpetbaggers and scalawags.
 - Northern Republicans who moved to the postwar South became known as carpetbaggers. Southerners gave them this insulting nickname, which referred to a type of cheap suitcase made from carpet scraps. Carpetbaggers were often depicted as greedy men seeking to grab power or make a fast buck.
 - White southern Republicans were seen as traitors and called scalawags. This was originally a Scottish word meaning "scrawny cattle." Some scalawags were former Whigs who had opposed secession. Some were small farmers who resented the planter class. Many scalawags, but not all, were poor.















What did the Fourteenth Amendment Guarantee?

- (A) Voting rights for African Americans
- (B) The rights of white planters to keep their land
- (C) Civil rights for all citizens of the United States
- (D) Congress's right to amend the Constitution

Which one of these was a provision of the Reconstruction Act of 1867?

- (A) Supporters of the Confederacy were temporarily barred from voting.
- (B) Freed people could rent land or homes only in rural areas.
- (C) Southern land was redistributed to freedmen.
- (D) African Americans were given money for education.

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Birth of the "New South"

Chapter 5, Section 3

- How did farming in the South change after the Civil War?
- How did the growth of cities and industry begin to change the South's economy after the war?
- How was the money designated for Reconstruction projects used?













Sharecropping and the Cycle of Debt

Chapter 5, Section 3

1. Poor whites and freedmen have no jobs, no homes, and no money to buy land.

5. Sharecropper cannot leave the farm as long as he is in debt to the landlord.

2. Poor whites and freedmen sign contracts to work a landlord's acreage in exchange for a part of the crop.

- 4. At harvest time, the sharecropper owes more to the landlord than his share of the crop is worth.
- 3. Landlord keeps track of the money that sharecroppers owe him for housing and food.













Sharecropping and Tenant Farming

Chapter 5, Section 3

Sharecropping

- A family farmed a portion of a planter's land.
- As payment, the family was promised a share of the crop at harvest time.
- After the harvest, some planters evicted the sharecroppers without pay or charged the sharecroppers for housing and other expenses, so that the sharecroppers were in debt at the end of the year.
- Many sharecropping families were in dept to the planters and trapped on the plantation.

Tenant Farming

- Tenant farmers did not own the land they farmed.
- The tenant farmer paid to rent the land and chose which crops to plant and how much to work.
- Tenant farming created a class of wealthy merchants who sold supplies on credit.
- Sharecropping and tenant farming encouraged planters to grow cash crops, such as cotton, tobacco, and sugar cane. The South had to import much of its food.













Cities and Industry

Chapter 5, Section 3

- Southern leaders saw the industrialized northern economy and realized a unique opportunity to build an industrialized economy in the South.
- Atlanta, the city that had been burned to the ground by Sherman's army, began to rebuild and was becoming a major metropolis of the South.
- One problem with the industrialization of the South was that most southern factories handled the earlier, less profitable stages of manufacturing. The items were shipped north to be made into finished products and sold.













Funding Reconstruction

Chapter 5, Section 3

- Rebuilding the South's infrastructure, the public property and services that a society uses, was one giant business opportunity.
- Roads, bridges, canals, railroads, and telegraph lines had to be rebuilt.
- Funds were also needed to expand services to southern citizens. Following the North's example, all southern states created public school systems by 1872.
- Congress, private investors, and heavy taxes paid for Reconstruction. Spending by Reconstruction legislatures added another \$130 million to southern debt.
- Much of this big spending was lost to corruption. The corruption became so widespread that it even reached the White House.







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How was sharecropping different from tenant farming?

- (A) Tenant farmers were promised a share of the crop at harvest time.
- (B) Tenant farmers could not leave the plantation if they owed money to the planter.
- (C) Tenant farmers could choose which crops to plant.
- (D) Planters usually provided housing for the tenant farmers.

Why was industrialization more successful in the North than in the South?

- (A) Southerners did not put emphasis on rebuilding their infrastructure.
- (B) Southern industrial growth came from cotton mills.
- (C) Southern factories handled the earlier, less profitable stages of manufacturing.
- (D) Southern states spent too much money on building public schools.

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The End of Reconstruction

Chapter 5, Section 4

- What tactics did the Ku Klux Klan use to spread terror throughout the South?
- Why did Reconstruction end?
- What were the major successes and failures of Reconstruction?













Spreading Terror

Chapter 5, Section 4

The Ku Klux Klan

- The Klan sought to eliminate the Republican Party in the South by intimidating voters.
- They wanted to keep African Americans as submissive laborers.
- They planted burning crosses on the lawns of their victims and tortured, kidnapped, or murdered them.
- Prosperous African
 Americans, carpetbaggers,
 and scalawags became their victims.

The Federal Response

- In 1870 and 1871, Congress passed a series of anti-Klan laws.
- The Enforcement Act of 1870 banned the use of terror, force, or bribery to prevent people from voting.
- Other laws banned the KKK and used the military to protect voters and voting places.
- As federal troops withdrew from the South, black suffrage all but ended.







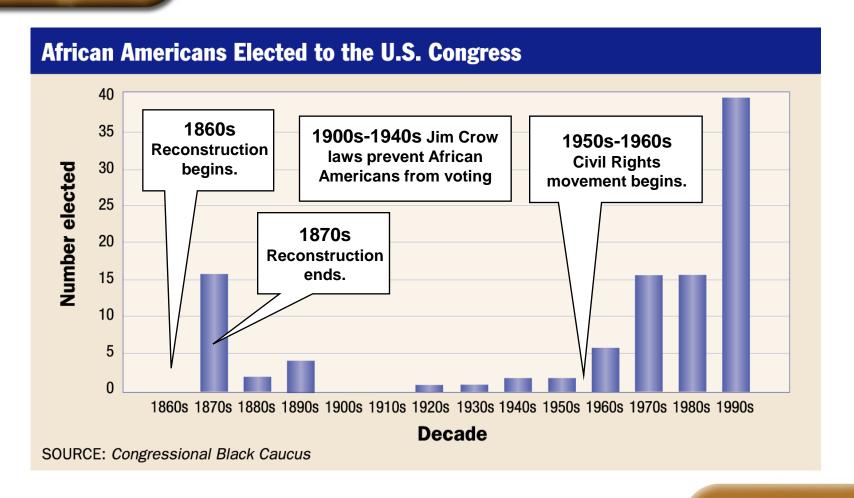






An End to African American Suffrage

Chapter 5, Section 4















Reconstruction Ends

Chapter 5, Section 4

- There were four main factors that contributed to the end of Reconstruction.
 - Corruption: Reconstruction legislatures and Grant's administration came to symbolize corruption, greed, and poor government.
 - The economy: Reconstruction legislatures taxed and spent heavily, putting the southern states deeper into debt.
 - Violence: As federal troops withdrew from the South, some white Democrats used violence and intimidation to prevent freedmen from voting. This tactic allowed white Southerners to regain control of the state governments.
 - The Democrats' return to power: The pardoned ex-Confederates combined with other white Southerners to form a new bloc of Democratic voters known as the Solid South. They blocked Reconstruction policies.



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Chapter 5, Section 4

Successes	Failures
Union is restored.	Many white southerners remain bitter toward the federal government and the Republican Party.
The South's economy grows and new wealth is created in the North.	The South is slow to industrialize.
Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments guarantee African Americans the rights of citizenship, equal protection under the law, and suffrage.	After federal troops are withdrawn, southern state governments and terrorist organizations effectively deny African Americans the right to vote.
Freedmen's Bureau and other organizations help many black families obtain housing, jobs, and schooling.	Many black and white southerners remain caught in a cycle of poverty.
Southern states adopt a system of mandatory education.	Racist attitudes toward African Americans continue, in both the South and the North.













The Compromise of 1877

Chapter 5, Section 4

- The presidential election of 1876 was disputed. Rutherford B. Hayes lost the popular vote, but the electoral vote was contested.
- Democrats submitted a set of tallies showing Samuel Tilden, who had the support of the Solid South, as the winner.
- Finally, the two parties made a deal. In what became known as the Compromise of 1877, the Democrats agreed to give Hayes the victory. In return, the new President agreed to support appropriations for rebuilding the levees along the Mississippi River and to remove the remaining federal troops from southern states.
- The compromise opened the way for Democrats to regain control of southern politics and marked the end of Reconstruction.









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Chapter 5, Section 4

What were the four factors that contributed to the end of Reconstruction?

- (A) Corruption, the economy, violence, and the return of the Democrats to power
- (B) Sharecropping, industrialization, violence and the Fourteenth Amendment
- (C) Tenant farming, corruption, violence and the Democratic return to power
- (D) Increased military presence in the South, sharecropping, the economy, and violence

What did the Enforcement Act of 1870 do?

- (A) Enforce universal voting in the South
- (B) Force planters to pay sharecroppers a living wage
- (C) End corruption in Reconstruction
- (D) Ban the use of terror, force, or bribery to prevent people from voting

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