

## Failure of Reconstruction

Theme: American and National Identity

Learning Objective 5.L: Explain how and why Reconstruction resulted in continuity and change in regional and national understandings of what it meant to be American.

### Southern Power Structure

KC-5.3.II.D: Southern plantation owners continued to own the majority of the region's land even after Reconstruction...

- \_\_\_\_\_
  - White Southern Democrats who had supported the Confederacy regain political and economic influence
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - laws passed in order to control black population
    - Prohibited taking on loans, testifying against whites in court, being unemployed
- Despite owning land, whites still needed labor

### Southern Economic Structure

KC-5.3.II.D: Former slaves sought land ownership but generally fell short of self-sufficiency, as an exploitative and soil-intensive sharecropping system limited blacks' and poor whites' access to land in the South.

- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Farmers used their own tools, seed, paid a rent to use the land
  - Ended in accumulation of debt
- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Farmers used the tools, seed, land of owner, paid with portion of the crop at harvest
  - Ended in accumulation of debt and lengthened contracts to pay off debts

### Failures of Reconstruction

KC-5.3.II.E: Segregation, violence, Supreme Court decisions, and local political tactics progressively stripped away African American rights...

- \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ given the presidency over NY Democrat, Sam Tilden, in \_\_\_\_\_
  - Removes last troops from the South
- Segregation
  - \_\_\_\_\_ laws begin to be passed in 1870s by \_\_\_\_\_

## #53 - 5.11 Failure of Reconstruction

APUSH

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

governments

- Violence
  - \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ threaten, lynch African Americans, federal response - \_\_\_\_\_
- Supreme Court Decisions
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (1873) weaken 13th and 14th amendments
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (1883) declares Civil Rights Act of 1875 unconstitutional
- Local political tactics
  - \_\_\_\_\_ made it illegal to be unemployed
  - Black Americans convicted of a crime could be sentenced to involuntary servitude

### Foundations for the Future

KC-5.3.II.E: ...but the 14th and 15th amendments eventually became the basis for court decisions upholding civil rights in the 20th century

- 14th Amendment will be necessary to apply Bill of Rights to the states beginning in 1925 after \_\_\_\_\_
- School desegregation in \_\_\_\_\_ decided based on 14th Amendment
- 15th Amendment will later be used to strike down \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

### Recap

- White southerners regained their political and economic influence throughout Reconstruction
- Sharecropping and tenant farming tied blacks and poor whites to the land
- Reconstruction's end is usually marked with Hayes's election
- The collection of actions to undo the gains of equality for African Americans are really what end Reconstruction
- The 14th and 15th amendment will be used in the 20th century to solidify gains

**Part II**

Short Answer Questions

Answer the following in AT LEAST three sentences.

1. Explain how Reconstruction resulted in continuities in the regional and national understandings of what it meant to be American.

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2. Explain how Reconstruction resulted in changes in the regional and national understandings of what it meant to be American.

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### Mississippi Black Code, 1865

Retrieved from: <http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/reconstruction/mississippi-black-code-1865/>

#### Vagrancy Law

Section 2. Be it further enacted, that all freedmen, free Negroes, and mulattoes in this state over the age of eighteen years found on the second Monday in January 1866, or thereafter, with no lawful employment or business, or found unlawfully assembling themselves together either in the day or nighttime, and all white persons so assembling with freedmen, free Negroes, or mulattoes, or usually associating with freedmen, free Negroes, or mulattoes on terms of equality, or living in adultery or fornication with a freedwoman, free Negro, or mulatto, shall be deemed vagrants; and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined in the sum of not exceeding, in the case of a freedman, free Negro, or mulatto, 150, and a white man, \$200, and imprisoned at the discretion of the court, the free Negro not exceeding ten days, and the white man not exceeding six months...

1. Provide an Attribution for the document:
2. Use the document to support the thesis: " Reconstruction was a failure in the short-term because the gains which were made on equality slowly evaporated through the 19th century."
3. Choose one of the analysis topics from HAPP and provide a 3 sentence analysis of the document.
4. Give an A-C-E response on a piece of outside evidence that is relevant to the document and topic of the thesis

### Sharecropper Contract, 1867

Retrieved from: <http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/resources/sharecropper-contract-1867?period=5>

. . . the said Cooper Hughs Freedman with his wife and one other woman, and the said Charles Roberts with his wife Hannah and one boy are to work on said farm and to cultivate forty acres in corn and twenty acres in cotton, to assist in putting the fences on said farm in good order and to keep them so and to do all other work on said farm necessary to be done to keep the same in good order and to raise a good crop and to be under the control and directions of said IG Bailey and to receive for their said services one half of the cotton and one third of the corn and fodder raised by them on said farm in said year 1867 and the said Charles Roberts Freedman with his wife Hannah further agrees and binds themselves to do the washing and Ironing, and all other necessary house work for said IG Bailey and his family during said year 1867 and to receive for their said services fifty dollars in money at the expiration of said year 1867 and the said Cooper Hughs Freedman further agrees and binds himself to give the necessary attention of feeding the Stock of cattle and milking the cows twice daily belong to said IG Bailey, and do the churning when ever necessary during the said year . . .

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## #53 - 5.11 Failure of Reconstruction

APUSH

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Frederick Douglass Speech at the Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society in Boston, 1865**

Retrieved from: <http://utc.iath.virginia.edu/african/afspfdat.html>

The story of our inferiority is an old dodge, as I have said; for wherever men oppress their fellows, wherever they enslave them, they will endeavor to find the needed apology for such enslavement and oppression in the character of the people oppressed and enslaved. When we wanted, a few years ago, a slice of Mexico, it was hinted that the Mexicans were an inferior race, that the old Castilian blood had become so weak that it would scarcely run down hill, and that Mexico needed the long, strong and beneficent arm of the Anglo-Saxon care extended over it. We said that it was necessary to its salvation, and a part of the "manifest destiny" of this Republic, to extend our arm over that dilapidated government. So, too, when Russia wanted to take possession of a part of the Ottoman Empire, the Turks were an "inferior race." So, too, when England wants to set the heel of her power more firmly in the quivering heart of old Ireland, the Celts are an "inferior race." So, too, the Negro, when he is to be robbed of any right which is justly his, is an "inferior man." It is said that we are ignorant; I admit it. But if we know enough to be hung, we know enough to vote. If the Negro knows enough to pay taxes to support the government, he knows enough to vote; taxation and representation should go together. If he knows enough to shoulder a musket and fight for the flag, fight for the government, he knows enough to vote. If he knows as much when he is sober as an Irishman knows when drunk, he knows enough to vote, on good American principles.

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