

American History Questions

Name:

Subject:

Date:

## History questions

The reconstruction period refers to the period after the American Civil War (1865-1877). The period's process was initiated by Abraham Lincoln as there were many union soldiers that occupied the southern areas. His main mission was to bring the southern Nation together in 1863, but it was a requirement to abolish slavery. Consequently, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 1865, the Congress passed the Thirteenth Amendment that abolished slavery.

**a) What was the experience of Reconstruction like for free people in the South?**

The Emancipation Proclamation in the year 1863 led to the freedom of African Americans in states that rebelled and subsequently after the Civil War; the Thirteenth Amendment led to the emancipation of the all the slaves in any location. Therefore, they faced the difficulty that was encountered by the Northern blacks, which is that of free people surrounded by white hostilities. The state was still not prepared to deal with the full citizenship of the free blacks. After the years, white and black teachers from South and North churches, schools and missionary organizations worked towards the emancipation of the general population. The slaves became more literate. Freed slaves began to leave the south and most from Kentucky and northwestern Kansas. Due to several failures or crops and the white settler's resentment, a number of individuals left their claims.<sup>1</sup>

**b) How did freed people in the South protect their interests? How did whites seek to subvert those interests?**

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<sup>1</sup> "reconstruction and its aftermath" N.d. African American Odyssey. Accessed May 17 2018 from <https://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aahtml/exhibit/aopart5.html>

The members in Reconstruction completely comprehended that challenges over civil and social equality couldn't be confined from the South and financial remaking of the country. For the blacks, the finish of subjugation obviously didn't suggest the finish of work. However, it meant a relative conclusion to constrained work. Blacks savored the probability of obtaining the merits of their own work. In any case, by far most of the blacks rose up from servitude without the capacity to purchase land and faced the white population refusing to sell them land and offer jobs. While whites searched for an arrangement of work and codes to tie the blacks to their jurisdiction, as servitude had, liberated individuals, desired places that are known for their own administration and attempted to be in charge of their particular time and work.

Former slave proprietors in the South were cautious about ensuring their interests. Prior to the Civil Conflict, work was the way to get rich in the Southern regions and after the hostilities land was one of the most precious possessions. White landowners comprehended the power the new conditions gave them, yet they couldn't control the biggest outside powers that molded the district's economy. It was these effective national and universal powers that ensured the reestablished country had a more unified economy than any time in recent memory.<sup>2</sup>

### **c) Why did Reconstruction end in 1877?**

This date means three things: The start of Rutherford B. Hayes' administration, the expulsion of the last Federal troops from the South, and the finish of the "reclamation" of southern state

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<sup>2</sup> "Reconstruction and The Formerly Enslaved". 2010. *Nationalhumanitiescenter.Org*. Accessed May 17 2018. <http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org/tserve/freedom/1865-1917/essays/reconstruction.htm>.

governments by southern whites. Hayes was no enthusiast of Reconstruction and favoured Andrew Johnson's (incapable) way to deal with the southern reunion, not Grant's more solid arrangements, while the expulsion of Federal troops left the ex-slaves and reprobates (whites who had restricted severance) with no energy to depend on notwithstanding expanding white resistance. Finally, the "Recovery" governments currently in control in the old Confederacy—with northern consent—ensured that blacks made no more pick up in legislative issues or society. In spite of that, Reconstruction had a genuine constructive outcome for blacks which persevered until the beginning and ascent of the "Jim Crow" framework in the 1890s—from that point until the point when the 1950s, blacks were denied a significant number of the additions of remaking, for example, the privilege to vote.

In short, reconstruction came to a halt because of too many oppositions from the southerners. To them, the northern ideologies were not fair, and many felt that the plans of the reconstruction were a means to their downfall. At the point when the North endeavors were met with an antagonistic hostility, the Northerner's assurance to reconstruct the South started to wind down in light of the fact that they would not like to always be met with restriction and opposition.

**d) What explains the Northern willingness to abandon the policies they initiated in 1867?**

The circumstance was significantly more mind-boggling that is, for the most part, told in history class. The North was grasped by monetary crashes and bank keeps running in 1865-67, 1869-70, and after that amid the Long Depression of 1873. Since the North was more subject to assembling, shipbuilding, and other resource creating an exchange, it was hard being hit by these monetary rainstorms. It was additionally war-exhausted, as yet retaining its amazing misfortunes.

Further, the North was currently turned westbound, viewing the cross-country railroad being worked from 1863 through 1869. The world was broadening quick, and the North was spellbound. Logical and scientific advances were coming thick and quick from Huxley, Mendeleev, and Galton, among others. Exploiting the new railroad frameworks, live entertainers were beginning to move from town to town with bits of musical drama, plays, and addresses. Jules Verne distributed "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea." It was an energizing time to be alive, and the North was in the thick of partaking and perusing about it. The blacks' predicament in the South didn't enter their awareness, and the South saved no push to keep it that way.<sup>3</sup>

The South exploited the North's missing mindedness by passing countless laws, the vast majority of which clashed with the new Fifteenth Amendment. Political power moved far from the loathed Republican Party and to the fresher and more populist and bigot and racist Democratic Party. The north was convinced that winning the Civil War would free the blacks. The south seemed out of place but in reality, they turned and challenged the Northern states for influence. This led to the breakage of the civil rights.

Over the following 30 years, the civil rights promised to the blacks during the period of reconstruction were neglected and thus crumbled under the rule of the white southerners. The blacks were totally forgotten in the North and were thus condemned to live with less hope and in

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<sup>3</sup> "The End of Reconstruction - AP U.S. History Topic Outlines - Study Notes". 2018. *Apstudynotes.Org*. Accessed May 17 2018. <https://www.apstudynotes.org/us-history/topics/the-end-of-reconstruction/>.

total poverty. The reconstruction had never promised a commitment to equality but had left a void for the enforcement of the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> Amendments.

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