

Introducing Reconstruction - Yesterday & Today Student Response Packet

Name: _____ **Date:** _____ **Class:** _____

Essential Questions: What was the Reconstruction period? What were some of the successes and challenges of the Reconstruction period? How did Black people build power during the Reconstruction period?

Do Now

Someone tells you, “Racism ended when slavery ended. Racism is a thing of the past.” How might you respond to this person?

Invest in the Essential Question:

What are the keywords in our Essential Question? Rewrite the Essential Question in your own words below:

Background and Context:

Directions: Match the following excerpts with the corresponding image on page 4 of the packet.

<i>Excerpt A</i>	Image Match Number:
<p>It was only the other part of the laboring class, the black folk, who connected knowledge with power; who believed that education was the stepping-stone to wealth and respect, and that wealth, without education, was crippled. Perhaps the very fact that so many of them had seen the wealthy slaveholders at close range, and knew the extent of ignorance and inefficiency among them, led to that extraordinary mass demand on the part of the black laboring class for education. And it was this demand that was the effective force for the establishment of the public school in the South on a permanent basis, for all people and all classes.</p>	

Explain why you matched Excerpt A with the selected image:

Excerpt B

Image Match Number:

“Public education for all at public expense, was, in the South, a Negro idea”

Explain why you matched Excerpt B with the selected image:

Excerpt C

Image Match Number:

Negro voters... “instituted a public school system in a realm where public schools had been unknown. They opened the ballot box and jury box to thousands of white men who had been debarred from them by a lack of earthly possessions. They introduced home rule in the south. They abolished the whipping post, and branding iron, the stocks and other barbarous forms of punishment which had up to that time prevailed. They reduced capital felonies from about twenty to two or three. In an age of extravagance, they were extravagant in the sums appropriated for public works. In all that time, no man's rights were invaded under the forms of law”

Explain why you matched Excerpt C with the selected image:

Excerpt D

Image Match Number:

The South, for the first time in the history of this country, began to resemble a democracy, with black Americans elected to local, state, and federal offices. Some 16 black men served in Congress — including Hiram Revels of Mississippi, who became the first black man elected to the Senate.

Explain why you matched Excerpt D with the selected image:

Excerpt E

Image Match Number:

Faced with this unrest, the federal government decided that black people were the cause of the problem and that for unity's sake, it would leave the white South to its own devices. In 1877, President Rutherford B. Hayes, in order to secure a compromise with Southern Democrats that would grant him the presidency in a contested election, agreed to pull federal troops from the South. With the troops gone, white Southerners quickly went about eradicating the gains of Reconstruction. The systemic white suppression of black life was so severe that this period between the 1880s and the 1920s and '30s became known as the Great Nadir, or the second slavery. Democracy would not return to the South for nearly a century.

Explain why you matched Excerpt E with the selected image:

Excerpt F

Image Match Number:

The Freedmen's Bureau, always meant to be temporary, was dismantled in 1872. More than 60,000 black people deposited more than \$1 million into the Freedman's Savings Bank, but its all-white trustees began issuing speculative loans to white investors and corporations, and when it failed in 1874, many black depositors lost much of their savings.

Explain why you matched Excerpt F with the selected image:

Image 1

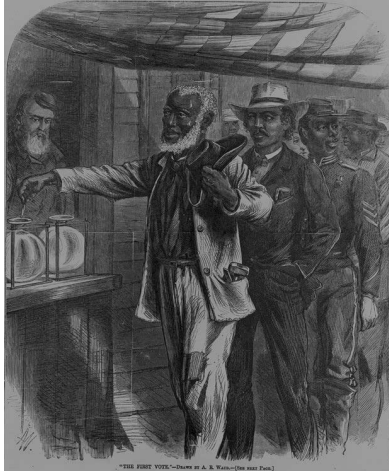


Image 2

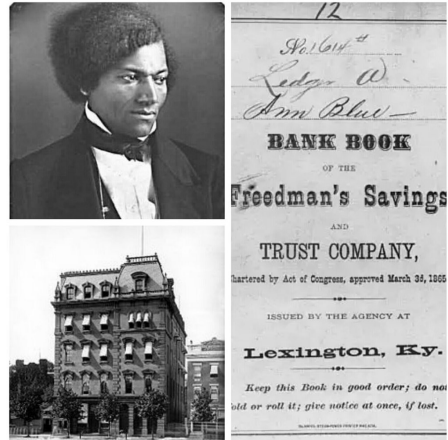


Image 3



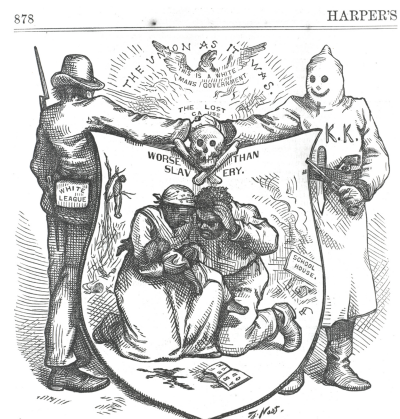
Image 4



Image 5



Image 6



Slide 4 - Slide 6: End of Chattel Slavery

1. What do you think freed Black people did immediately after learning of their freedom?

2. What challenges might freed Black people have faced right after emancipation?

Slide 7-Slide 11: Abolishment of Slavery in the West Indies

3. Summarize: How free were Black people in the West Indies by 1865? Explain.

Slide 12- 14: What was Reconstruction? (Time Period and Definition)

4. If you could make an amendment to the “laws” of your school or your house, what would it be and why? (Answer in a complete sentence!) Choose 1 or 2.

Slide 15-Slide 22: Reconstruction or Backlash?

Directions: As you examine slides 15-21, closely read about the historical moments that took place during the Reconstruction period and answer whether or not the moment is an example of “Reconstruction” or “Backlash” and explain why.

Slide 16: “Reconstruction” or “Backlash” - Explain why.

Slide 17: “Reconstruction” or “Backlash” and explain why.

Slide 18: “Reconstruction” or “Backlash” and explain why.

Slide 19: “Reconstruction” or “Backlash” and explain why.

Slide 20: “Reconstruction” or “Backlash” and explain why.

Slide 21: “Reconstruction” or “Backlash” and explain why.

Summarize: What are four ways Black people exercised freedom during Reconstruction? Which do you think is the most important and why?

Bonus: Do you think this period of “Reconstruction” is truly over in 2023? Why or why not?

Slide 23: “Reconstruction” or “Backlash” and explain why.

Slide 24: “Reconstruction” or “Backlash” and explain why.
