



Civil War and Reconstruction U.S. History Unit Companion

Directions

- Complete the Prepare section before you begin a unit.
- Complete the Lesson Summaries and Guided Notes section as you work through each lesson.
- Complete the Unit Review sections before you take the cumulative assessment.

NOTE: Your teacher may require that you complete and submit this unit companion.

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Prepare

Throughout the Civil War and Reconstruction unit, you will explore the following Essential Questions.



Unit Essential Questions

- How did the election of 1860 lead to southern secession?
- How did the Civil War change life for Americans?
- What factors and events led to the end of the Civil War?
- How did presidential plans for Reconstruction differ from congressional plans?
- How did Reconstruction affect the lives of African Americans?

You will learn about the following topics in the Civil War and Reconstruction unit:

- political disagreements and events that led to southern secession
- efforts of women at home and on the battlefield
- changes in technology and their impact on the war
- political clashes over Reconstruction
- the Emancipation Proclamation and the Reconstruction Amendments and their impact on African Americans

You will take a cumulative quiz and test over the content in this unit.



Lesson Summaries and Guided Notes

Each lesson is summarized on the following pages. Read the summary before a lesson to preview the most important information, including people, places, and events. Read the summary after a lesson to review the lesson content without rereading every word. As you complete each lesson, record information in the Guided Notes section. Some questions have been provided for you. You may also take notes on other important lesson information.

The Civil War Summary

As the election of 1860 approached, the nation was bitterly divided over the issue of slavery. When Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln won against a divided Democratic ticket, Southerners began discussing leaving the Union. Weeks after the election, South Carolina became the first state to secede. Six other states soon followed to form the Confederate States of America. The Civil War began soon after in April of 1861.

Each side felt it would be an easy, quick victory. The more populous and industrial North had a well-developed rail network and well-organized navy. The Confederates had a smaller, more committed army led by experienced generals. However, the first battles proved the war would be more difficult than anticipated. Early battles were indecisive and often ended in bloody stalemates. As the war dragged on, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. He hoped the move would weaken the Confederacy and bring an end to the terrible war. However, it would drag on for two more years.

The Civil War Guided Notes	
What are a couple of events that spurred conflict between the North and the South prior to 1860? (Slide 1)	Bleeding Kansas and John Brown's raid at Harpers Ferry, Virginia were two events that increased tension between the North and South prior to 1860.
How did various groups react to the Compromise of 1850, and the Fugitive Slave Act? (Slide 2)	
How did the Dred Scott decision impact Congress? (Slide 2)	
Why was Abraham Lincoln's election a problem for the South? (Slide 3)	
What event started the Civil War? (Slide 4)	

The Civil War Guided Notes

Which states made up the Confederate States of America? (Slide 4 and 5)	
How did European countries react to the Civil War? (Slide 5)	
What was the North's military plan called and what did it mean? (Slide 6)	
What new technology was used in the Civil War? (Slide 7)	
What was surprising about the First Battle of Bull Run? (Slide 8)	
What was the purpose of the Emancipation Proclamation? (Slide 9)	
How did various groups react to the Emancipation Proclamation, including abolitionists, slaveholders, and European countries? (Slide 9)	

The Effect of the Civil War Summary

The Civil War transformed life for Americans. In both the North and South, men who had not initially joined the war were drafted into service. Many were upset that rich men were able to avoid serving by paying for substitutions. The women left behind found new roles at home and on the battlefield.

As the war dragged on, those left behind in the South also suffered from food shortages and high inflation. The South struggled to mobilize resources and supplies for the troops. In the North, the demand for army resources boosted industry and the economy.

The war also transformed life for African Americans. The Emancipation Proclamation allowed free African American men to serve in the Union army and thousands volunteered to wear the blue Union uniform. However, life as an African American soldier was difficult due to racism and discrimination.

The Effect of the Civil War Guided Notes	
How did women contribute to the war effort? (slide 2)	Women had to do many jobs traditionally held by men. They took over farms and factories, served as nurses and spies, and even disguised themselves to fight on the battlefield.
What was the role of Ladies' Aid Societies? (slide 2 interactive activity)	
How was the experience as a soldier different for African Americans than for white soldiers? (slide 3)	
How did the Union draft law compare to the Confederate draft law? (slide 4)	
What is mobilization? (slide 5)	

The Effect of the Civil War Guided Notes

Why did the South have a hard time mobilizing? (slide 5)	
How did mobilization affect the Northern economy? (slide 6)	
What is habeas corpus? (slide 7)	
Why did both the North and the South suspend the writ of habeas corpus during the Civil War? (slide 7)	

The Civil War Ends Summary

In 1863, the Union began gaining momentum. Victories at Vicksburg and Gettysburg turned the tide in favor of the Union in both the East and the West. General Grant used his army of seemingly unlimited soldiers to win bloody battles in the Deep South. In the fall of 1864, General William Sherman adopted a strategy of total war to lead his troops on a march of destruction through Georgia and South Carolina. The exhausted Confederacy had little choice but to admit defeat. On April 9, 1865, General Lee surrendered.

The Union victories also helped President Lincoln get reelected in 1864, despite strong opposition from Copperheads and Northern Democrats. In his Second Inaugural Address, Lincoln made it clear he did not want to punish the South for seceding but instead called for peace and healing.

The Civil War Ends Guided Notes	
Why was the Union victory in Vicksburg important? (slide 2)	The victory was important because it gave the Union complete control of the Mississippi River. This split the Confederacy in half and denied them use of a major supply route.
What is a siege? (slide 2)	
What was the significance of the Battle of Gettysburg? (slide 3)	
Why was the Gettysburg Address such an effective speech, even though it was so short? (slide 4)	
Why was the size of the Union army an advantage as the war dragged on? (slide 5)	
What is total war? (slide 6)	

The Civil War Ends Guided Notes

What was the result of General Sherman's March to the Sea? (slide 6)	
What factors led to Lincoln's reelection in 1864? (slide 7)	
What events led to the end of the Civil War? (slide 8)	
What was the effect of Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address? (slide 9)	

Plans for Reconstruction Summary

After the Civil War, the country faced the challenge of rebuilding and reuniting the southern states. However, no one could agree on the best way to accomplish these goals. President Lincoln wanted to reunify the nation as quickly and leniently as possible. Yet some congressional leaders wanted to punish the South and restructure southern society. President Lincoln's assassination in April of 1865, further complicated the issue. His successor, Andrew Johnson, wanted to treat the South leniently but opposed giving former slaves political rights. This was in opposition to many members of Congress, especially the Radical Republicans, who were determined to treat the South harshly and advocated full rights for African Americans.

President Johnson and Congress clashed repeatedly over their different goals for Reconstruction. Congress even charged Johnson with improper conduct while in office. Although he got to keep his job, Johnson lost most of his political power. With the Radical Republicans in charge, the South was divided into military districts controlled by Union military commanders. They protected the rights of freed people granted by the Reconstruction Amendments. Yet the societal changes in the South and political gains made by African Americans would not last when Reconstruction ended.

Plans for Reconstruction Guided Notes	
What was President Lincoln's plan for Reconstruction? (slide 2)	President Lincoln wanted to reunify the states as quickly as possible. His Ten-Percent Plan treated the South leniently. States could be readmitted once 10 percent of their voting population pledged their allegiance to the United States.
Who was John Wilkes Booth? (slide 2)	
How did President Johnson's plan for Reconstruction differ from that of the Radical Republicans? (slide 3)	
What was the Thirteenth Amendment? (slide 3)	

Plans for Reconstruction Guided Notes

List two ways Congress fought against President Johnson's Reconstruction agenda. (slide 4)	
What was the purpose of the Fourteenth Amendment? (slide 4)	
How were state government actions handled during Radical Reconstruction? (slide 5)	
What led to Johnson's impeachment, and what was the result? (slide 6)	
What was the Fifteenth Amendment designed to do, and was it effective? (slide 7)	
Why did the Fifteenth Amendment anger many women? (slide 8)	

The Effects of Reconstruction Summary

Following the Reconstruction efforts in the South, African Americans were free, but still suffering from discrimination. The Freedmen’s Bureau was established in 1865 to provide services for forever slaves including education, food, and employment. Encouraged by members of the Republican Party, black voters elected many African Americans and former slaves into political offices, including U.S. Congress. However, most African Americans remained tied to plantations through the sharecropping system. Although they were free and earning a wage, sharecropping often resulted in continuous debt and an economy dependent on agriculture.

Discontent over Reconstruction resulted in violence and the formation of the Ku Klux Klan in 1866. The Klan attacked those who supported the freedom of former slaves and Reconstruction efforts. In 1871, President Grant had federal troops arrest several hundred Klan members, which led to the end of the Klan’s reign of terror in the South.

The president election of 1876 was a tight race due to disputes over the electoral votes in three states. After Congress created a special electoral commission using both Democrats and Republicans from Congress and the Supreme Court, Rutherford B. Hayes, a Republican, was elected as president. As a result of this contested election, Congress made the Compromise of 1877. The Compromise removed all federal troops from the South, effectively ending the Reconstruction era. Since federal troops were no longer protecting African Americans, Jim Crow laws were established to limit the freedom of former slaves. The laws legally segregated whites and blacks in almost all aspects of life, creating a racially oppressive society similar to times of slavery.

The Effects of Reconstruction Guided Notes	
How did the Freedmen’s Bureau help former slaves? (Slide 2)	The Freedmen’s Bureau helped former slaves by delivering food, organizing labor contracts, and establishing schools and colleges to promote education.
What political advancement did African Americans experience during Reconstruction? (Slide 3)	
What is sharecropping? (Slide 4)	

The Effects of Reconstruction Guided Notes

How did sharecropping affect former slaves? (Slide 4)	
What did the Ku Klux Klan do to diminish support for Reconstruction in the South? (Slide 5)	
How did the Ku Klux Klan come to an end? (Slide 6)	
How did Rutherford B. Hayes win the election of 1876? (Slide 7)	
What was the purpose of the Compromise of 1877? (Slide 8)	
What are Jim Crow laws? (Slide 9)	
How did the Panic of 1873 impact the lives of African Americans? (Slide 9)	



Unit Review – Key Words

Describe the following key words from the Civil War and Reconstruction unit. Your descriptions should be as detailed as possible. Include names, dates, and relevant facts related to each key word. Be sure to explain why each person or term is important.

Remember to download and save this PDF before writing.

The Civil War

Key Word	Description
Abraham Lincoln	16th president of the United States who led the nation through the Civil War
Anaconda Plan	
Battle of Antietam	
Battle of Shiloh	
blockade	
Crittenden Compromise	
Confederate States of America	
Election of 1860	
Emancipation Proclamation	
First Battle of Bull Run	
Fort Sumter	

Key Word	Description
George McClellan	
Jefferson Davis	
Robert E. Lee	
secession	
Stonewall Jackson	
Ulysses S. Grant	

The Effect of the Civil War

Key Word	Description
54th Massachusetts Regiment	an all-African American regiment of soldiers noted for their bravery in battle at Fort Wagner
Clara Barton	
Elizabeth Blackwell	
Frederick Douglass	
habeas corpus	
Mary Walker	
mobilization	

Key Word	Description
Northern Draft riots	

The Civil War Ends

Key Word	Description
Appomattox Court House	town in Virginia where Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant in April, 1865
Battle of Gettysburg	
Copperheads	
Election of 1864	
George Meade	
Gettysburg Address	
March to the Sea	
siege	
total war	
Vicksburg	
William Tecumseh Sherman	

Plans for Reconstruction

Key Word	Description
Andrew Johnson	17th president of the United States who took office after Lincoln's assassination and presided over the first years of Reconstruction
Black Codes	
democratization	
Fifteenth Amendment	
Fourteenth Amendment	
impeachment	
John Wilkes Booth	
Radical Republicans	
Thirteenth Amendment	

The Effects of Reconstruction

Key Word	Description
carpetbaggers	derogatory term for northern whites who moved to the South during Reconstruction seeking wealth and political power
Compromise of 1877	
disenfranchisement	

Key Word	Description
Freedmen's Bureau	
Jim Crow laws	
nadir	
Panic of 1873	
scalawags	
sharecropping	



Unit Review – Key Questions

Before the unit assessment, answer the following key questions. Each question contains a tip to help you locate the material in the course. You may want to add your own note about the location of the information. Write the answers in your own words, and test your memory of each answer by covering the answer column while quizzing yourself. Remember that some content may be presented in a multimedia presentation, graphic, or other resource. Refer to the transcripts or text versions for written versions of that content.

Key Question / Location	Answer in your own words
Why did the South feel it had no choice but to secede from the Union? (The Civil War)	The South relied heavily on slavery because of their agricultural economy. If the North continued on the path of abolishing slavery, then the South would lose its ability to make money. After the election of Abraham Lincoln, the South felt that the Republicans in power would soon pass laws to limit slavery and make their livelihood impossible. So, they decided to leave the Union.
How did the economies of the North and South impact their war efforts and strategies? (The Effect of the Civil War)	
During the Civil War, how was life different for women and African Americans than before the war began? (The Effect of the Civil War)	
What tactics used by the North led to winning the war? (The Civil War Ends)	

Key Question / Location	Answer in your own words
How did various groups feel about Reconstruction, including whites, freed slaves, Radical Republicans, Abraham Lincoln, and Andrew Johnson? (Plans for Reconstruction)	
Compare and contrast the daily lives of African Americans in the South before the Civil War to after Reconstruction. (The Effects of Reconstruction)	