

## IMPORTANT IDEAS

- A. The Democrats divided and nominated two candidates to the Presidency. As a result of this split, Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln won the election.
- B. Because of Lincoln's reputation as an opponent of slavery, South Carolina seceded. Five other states seceded before Lincoln's inauguration.
- C. **Jefferson Davis** became President of the Confederacy. In his Inaugural address, Davis claimed southern states had the right to secede.
- D. In his **First Inaugural Address**, Lincoln pledged not to attack slavery in the South, but warned that he would act to preserve the Union, by force if needed.
- E. When Lincoln tried to reinforce **Fort Sumter** in April 1861, South Carolina fired on the fort. The **Civil War** began. Lincoln called on all states to contribute militia to put down the rebellion. Virginia and three more Southern states seceded and joined the Confederacy. Many historians believe **sectionalism**, **states' rights**, and **slavery** were the three main causes of the Civil War.
- F. Both sides thought the war would end quickly. The North failed in its early attempts to take Richmond. The North had a large population, more industry, more money, and a larger navy than the South. Lincoln adopted the "Anaconda Plan", attempting to strangle the South with a naval blockade. Southerners had gifted military leaders like **Robert E. Lee** and "**Stonewall**" **Jackson**.
- G. The Confederate states felt they were fighting to preserve their own way of life, just as the American colonists had once resisted Britain.
- H. Lincoln took all needed steps for pursuing the war, including a naval blockade of the South, conscription, use of paper money, and limited censorship.
- I. General Lee led Southern forces into the North in 1862, but they were stopped at the **Battle of Antietam**. Soon after, Lincoln issued the **Emancipation Proclamation**, declaring slaves in states still in rebellion on January 1, 1863, would be free. This did not extend to Border States still in the Union.
- J. Lincoln hoped the Emancipation Proclamation would give the war a moral purpose and would prevent Britain and France from allying with the South.
- K. In the summer of 1863, Lee's march northward was stopped at the **Battle of Gettysburg**. In his **Gettysburg Address**, Lincoln argued the war had become a struggle to see if they system of democracy could survive.
- L. The same week, Grant took Vicksburg, giving the north control of the Mississippi river. General **William Sherman** marched from the West across Georgia to the sea, destroying crops, towns, and farms everywhere he went.
- M. Lincoln was re-elected in 1864. In his **Second Inaugural Address**, he focused on slavery and the need to take a conciliatory approach at the war's end.
- N. In April 1865, General Lee surrendered to General Grant at **Appomattox Court House**. This brought the Civil War to an end.
- O. A few weeks later, President Lincoln was assassinated by **John Wilkes Booth**.

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- A. During the **Reconstruction Era**, Southern states needed to rebuild their economies and to be re-admitted into the Union.
- B. Lincoln sought to treat the South leniently by asking 10% of its voters to take an oath of allegiance and have the state ratify the **Thirteenth Amendment**. When he was assassinated, the next President, **Andrew Johnson**, sought to follow Lincoln's plan by treating the south leniently, pardoning former Confederates.
- C. One of the biggest issues facing the South was the fate of the freedmen. Despite experiments during the war, the freedmen were not given their own land. The federal government set up the **Freedmen's Bureau**, with offices throughout the South, to help the freedmen adjust and to set up schools to educate them.
- D. Southern state legislatures created "**Black Codes**", based on older slave codes. These limited the civil rights and freedom of movement of the freedmen.
- E. **Radical Republicans** in Congress were outraged by the Black Codes. They passed the **Civil Rights Bill**, granting freedmen their civil rights. This act later became the **Fourteenth Amendment**. The Congress passed **Military Reconstruction**, dividing the South into districts governed by the army. Former Confederate leaders lost their political rights, while the freedmen were given the right to vote.
- F. Congress also impeached President Johnson. He was "impeached" (accused) by the House of Representatives, but the Senate failed to remove him from office.
- G. During Reconstruction, three amendments were added to the Constitution. The **Thirteenth Amendment** abolished slavery. The **Fourteenth Amendment** guaranteed all citizens "equal protection of the laws" and "due process". The **Fifteenth Amendment** prohibited denial of voting rights on the basis of race.
- H. During Reconstruction, freedmen, **carpetbaggers**, and **scalawags** held power in Southern governments. For the first time, African Americans were elected to government posts. **Hiram Rhodes Revels** became the first African American elected to Congress. Reconstruction governments built roads, schools, and took steps towards racial equality. However, after Northern troops were withdrawn, Southern states passed segregation laws in the 1880s.
- I. Southerners also developed a new economy during Reconstruction. Many former slaves became tenants and **sharecroppers**, giving a share of their crops to the landowner. New industries developed in the South, especially in larger cities.
- J. This period also saw the opening of the **Great Plains** to settlement in the West. Congress passed the **Homestead Act** and **Morrill Act** during the Civil War, giving away federal lands to settlers in the West. The completion of the **Transcontinental Railroad** (1869) helped develop the West.
- K. The **Indian Wars** forced Indians onto government reservations, while the widespread massacre of the buffalo on the Great Plains destroyed their food supply. In 1887, the **Dawes Act**, meant to help Indians, failed to respect tribal customs and led to the loss of most of their remaining land.
- L. The Civil War provided a great stimulus to industrial production in the North. New banking laws and higher tariffs helped Northern industries to expand. Immigration from Europe stimulated the growth of Northern cities, while workers organized into **trade unions** for higher wages and better working conditions.