

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

## Answer Key: Could You Rebuild a Nation? High School Civil War & Reconstruction Quiz

Was the post-war peace truly won? Identify 10 core facts about the military strategies and constitutional changes that reshaped the American landscape after 1865.

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**1. Which specific military strategy, employed by Admiral David Farragut, was instrumental in seizing the vital port of Mobile Bay for the Union?**

**Answer:** B) Naval blockade and 'running the torpedoes'

Admiral Farragut's victory at Mobile Bay in 1864 effectively closed one of the last major Confederate ports, utilizing a daring naval charge through mined waters.

**2. The 'Ironclad Oath' was a requirement proposed by Radical Republicans that would have forced Southerners to swear they had never voluntarily supported the Confederacy.**

**Answer:** A) True

The Ironclad Oath was a key part of the Wade-Davis Bill, reflecting the Radical Republican desire for a much stricter Reconstruction process than Lincoln's Ten Percent Plan.

**3. The primary purpose of the \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment, ratified in 1870, was to ensure that the right to vote could not be denied based on 'race, color, or previous condition of servitude.'**

**Answer:** D) Fifteenth

The 15th Amendment specifically addressed voting rights, though it notably excluded protections based on gender.

**4. During the Reconstruction era, the term 'Scalawag' was a derogatory label used to describe which group of people?**

**Answer:** C) White Southerners who supported the Republican Party and Reconstruction

Scalawags were Southern whites who cooperated with the Reconstruction governments, often viewed as traitors by fellow Southerners who opposed the new laws.

**5. The Reconstruction Act of 1867 divided the former Confederate states into five military districts to be governed by Union generals.**

**Answer:** A) True

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Congressional Reconstruction applied military rule to ensure the South complied with new federal mandates and protected the rights of freedmen.

**6. In the 1860s, the economic system known as \_\_\_\_\_ became common in the South, where farmers worked land owned by others in exchange for a portion of the crops.**

**Answer:** B) Sharecropping

Sharecropping often led to a cycle of debt, effectively replacing the plantation system with a new form of economic dependency.

**7. Who was the first African American to serve in the United States Senate, representing Mississippi during Reconstruction?**

**Answer:** B) Hiram Revels

Hiram Revels took the seat formerly held by Jefferson Davis, symbolizing the massive political shift during the Reconstruction years.

**8. The 'Anaconda Plan' was a Confederate strategy designed to lure Union forces into the deep South and cut off their supply lines.**

**Answer:** B) False

The Anaconda Plan was actually a Union strategy proposed by Winfield Scott to blockade Southern ports and control the Mississippi River to 'squeeze' the South.

**9. The surrender of Robert E. Lee to Ulysses S. Grant took place at \_\_\_\_\_ Court House in April 1865, effectively ending the major fighting of the Civil War.**

**Answer:** C) Appomattox

The meeting at Appomattox Court House was marked by Grant's generous terms, allowing Confederate soldiers to return home with their horses.

**10. Which specific event in 1862 motivated Great Britain to remain neutral rather than supporting the Confederacy as they had initially considered?**

**Answer:** C) The preliminary Emancipation Proclamation

By making the war explicitly about the abolition of slavery, Lincoln made it politically impossible for Britain—which had already abolished slavery—to support the South.