

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Dissect the Fractured Union: 6th Grade Civil War & Reconstruction Quiz

Evaluate the legislative failures and social restructuring of the 1860s through complex scenario analysis and primary source perspective questions.

1. The 'Crittenden Compromise' was a last-ditch effort to prevent the Civil War by extending the Missouri Compromise line to the Pacific. Why did Abraham Lincoln oppose this plan?

Answer: B) It fundamentally violated the Republican platform against the expansion of slavery.

Lincoln and the Republican Party were firm on 'Free Soil' principles; allowing slavery in any new Western territories was a non-negotiable point for his administration.

2. The _____ was a strategic military plan proposed by General Winfield Scott to 'strangle' the Confederacy by blockading ports and controlling the Mississippi River.

Answer: B) Anaconda Plan

The Anaconda Plan aimed to economically isolate the South, though it was initially criticized for being too slow to bring a decisive victory.

3. True or False: The Enrollment Act of 1863 allowed wealthy citizens in the North to avoid the military draft by paying a \$300 fee or hiring a substitute.

Answer: A) True

This provision led to the 'Rich man's war, poor man's fight' sentiment and caused significant civil unrest, most notably the New York City Draft Riots.

4. Which specific event in 1864 was most responsible for shifting Northern public opinion in favor of Lincoln's re-election?

Answer: B) General William T. Sherman's capture of Atlanta

Before the fall of Atlanta, many Northerners were weary of the war; this major victory proved the Union could win and secured Lincoln's second term.

5. After the war, Congress passed the _____, which divided the former Confederacy into five military districts governed by Union generals to ensure order and enforce civil rights.

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Answer: C) Military Reconstruction Act of 1867

This act was a hallmark of Radical Reconstruction, asserting federal control over the South to protect the rights of newly freed African Americans.

6. True or False: Hiram Revels was the first African American to serve in the U.S. Senate, taking the seat formerly held by Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

Answer: A) True

Elected in 1870 from Mississippi, Revels symbolized the massive (though temporary) political shift during the Reconstruction era.

7. During Reconstruction, the term 'Scalawag' was used by Southerners to insult which group of people?

Answer: C) White Southerners who cooperated with the Republican Party

Scalawags were viewed as traitors to the South because they supported Reconstruction policies and the Republican agenda.

8. What was the primary purpose of the 'Ironclad Oath' proposed by Radical Republicans?

Answer: A) To ensure that Southern voters swore they never supported the Confederacy

The Ironclad Oath was designed to keep former Confederates out of power by requiring a statement of past loyalty to the Union.

9. The domestic labor system known as _____ trapped many freedmen in a cycle of debt, effectively replacing the plantation system with a new form of economic servitude.

Answer: B) Sharecropping

Sharecroppers often owed more to the landowner for supplies than their share of the crop was worth, preventing them from gaining financial independence.

10. True or False: The 15th Amendment guaranteed that the right to vote could not be denied based on gender.

Answer: B) False

The 15th Amendment addressed race, color, and previous condition of servitude, but women did not gain the constitutional right to vote until the 19th Amendment in 1920.