

Name: _____ Date: _____

Dissect the Post-War Pivot: A 5th Grade Reconstruction Quiz

Step into the shoes of a 19th-century lawmaker to weigh the impact of the 15th Amendment and the rise of tenant farming on a fractured nation.

1. The 15th Amendment was a major milestone in American history. What specific power did it aim to protect for citizens, regardless of their 'race, color, or previous condition of servitude'?

- A. The right to own property and businesses
- B. The right to vote in elections
- C. The right to form their own state governments
- D. The right to move to Northern territories

2. After the war, many formerly enslaved people and poor whites became _____, a system where they farmed land owned by someone else in exchange for a portion of the crops.

- A. Homesteaders
- B. Industrialists
- C. Sharecroppers
- D. Abolitionists

3. Hiram Revels made history during Reconstruction by becoming the first African American to serve in the United States Senate.

- A. True
- B. False

4. Which specific event is often cited as the 'spark' that began the physical combat of the Civil War in April 1861?

- A. The signing of the Emancipation Proclamation
- B. The bombardment of Fort Sumter
- C. The inauguration of Jefferson Davis
- D. The passage of the Fugitive Slave Act

5. The period of 'Radical Reconstruction' was characterized by the _____ divided into five military districts to ensure the transition and safety of freedmen.

- A. Northern States
- B. Western Territories
- C. Southern States
- D. Border States

6. Robert E. Lee surrendered his army to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, effectively ending the major fighting of the war.

- A. True

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B. False

7. What was the primary goal of the 'Ironclad Oath' proposed by Radical Republicans during the rebuilding of the Union?

- A. To ensure Southerners joined the Union Army
- B. To force Southerners to pay for war damages
- C. To prevent former Confederates from voting or holding office
- D. To guarantee that all land was redistributed equally

8. During the war, the _____ was a strategic Union plan to 'strangle' the Confederacy by blockading Southern ports and controlling the Mississippi River.

- A. Python Plan
- B. Anaconda Plan
- C. Eagle Operation
- D. Rattlesnake Strategy

9. The term 'Carpetbagger' was a positive nickname given to Southerners who supported Northern business interests during Reconstruction.

- A. True
- B. False

10. In the context of 19th-century infrastructure, how did the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869 impact the United States during Reconstruction?

- A. It caused the South to stop farming cotton entirely
- B. It connected the East and West coasts, speeding up national integration
- C. It was built specifically to transport Union soldiers to Florida
- D. It led to the immediate end of all racial segregation