

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

## Answer Key: A Split House Mends: The Reconstruction Mystery for 2nd Grade

Go beyond dates and names to synthesize how families rebuilt their lives and high-level thinkers helped heal a broken nation.

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**1. Imagine you are a reporter in 1865. If you saw a building being used as both a school and a place to help people find jobs, which group most likely started it?**

**Answer:** B) The Freedmen's Bureau

The Freedmen's Bureau was created specifically to help formerly enslaved people and poor southerners with education, food, and finding work after the war.

**2. True or False: After the Civil War ended, the North and South immediately became best friends and agreed on all the new rules.**

**Answer:** B) False

Reconstruction was a difficult time of 'multi-step' problem solving where people still disagreed about rights and laws for many years.

**3. To help the country become one again, the government passed the 14th Amendment. This important rule said that everyone born in the U.S. is a \_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** C) Citizen

The 14th Amendment was a key part of Reconstruction that gave citizenship and equal protection to African Americans.

**4. Ely S. Parker was a Native American leader who helped write the surrender papers at the end of the war. Why was his work important for the whole country?**

**Answer:** B) He helped make sure the fighting stopped legally

Parker was a high-level thinker who used his skills to help end the formal fighting, which was the first step in Reconstructing the nation.

**5. True or False: During Reconstruction, some African American men were elected to high-level government jobs for the first time in history.**

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

**Answer:** A) True

During this era, men like Hiram Revels served in the Senate, showing a major change in how the country was run.

**6. The period after the war was called 'Reconstruction' because the leaders had to \_\_\_ the laws and buildings of the South.**

**Answer:** A) Rebuild

Reconstruction literally means building again, which applies to both physical structures and the rules of the country.

**7. If a family moved from the North to the South during Reconstruction to help build schools, they were sometimes called 'Carpetbaggers.' Why did they get this name?**

**Answer:** B) They carried their things in bags made of carpet fabric

Many people traveling south used luggage made from old carpets, which became a symbol for those moving to help or work during Reconstruction.

**8. True or False: The 13th Amendment was the rule that said slavery was no longer allowed in any part of the United States.**

**Answer:** A) True

The 13th Amendment was the official step that ended slavery, which was a core cause of the war.

**9. Many families were separated during the war. During Reconstruction, newspapers often printed ads where people were \_\_\_ for their lost family members.**

**Answer:** B) Searching

A major part of rebuilding lives was the search for family members that had been separated by slavery and the war.

**10. Which of these was the BIGGEST problem that leaders had to solve during Reconstruction to make sure everyone was treated fairly?**

**Answer:** B) Making sure all citizens had the right to vote and go to school

Protecting the rights of African Americans and ensuring they had access to education was the most complex and important challenge of the era.