

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Hardtack and Hegemony: Senior Civics and Reconstruction Quiz

Students achieve baseline recall of legislative milestones and military strategies that shifted federal power and redefined American citizenship transitions.

1. Which specific military strategy, executed by the Union in 1863, was designed to split the Confederacy in half by seizing control of the Mississippi River?

Answer: A) The Anaconda Plan's western prong at Vicksburg

The Siege of Vicksburg was a critical strategic success that fulfilled a primary objective of the Anaconda Plan, effectively bisecting the South.

2. The Reconstruction Act of 1867 divided the former Confederate states into five _____ overseen by Union generals to ensure compliance with federal law.

Answer: B) Military Districts

Radical Reconstruction involved placing the South under military rule to protect the rights of freedmen and enforce the 14th Amendment.

3. The 15th Amendment explicitly guaranteed that the right to vote could not be denied on the basis of sex.

Answer: B) False

The 15th Amendment addressed race, color, and previous condition of servitude, but purposefully omitted 'sex,' leading to a split in the women's suffrage movement.

4. Which 1864 legislation, pocket-vetoed by Lincoln, sought to require 50% of a state's white male voters to take an 'ironclad' oath of loyalty before readmission?

Answer: B) The Wade-Davis Bill

The Wade-Davis Bill represented the Radical Republicans' desire for a much harsher and more transformative Reconstruction process than Lincoln's lenient plan.

5. The internal conflict known as 'Bleeding _____' served as a violent precursor to the Civil War, centered on the concept of popular sovereignty.

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Answer: C) Kansas

Bleeding Kansas was a series of violent civil confrontations regarding the legality of slavery in the new state, triggered by the Kansas-Nebraska Act.

6. Hiram Revels became the first African American to serve in the U.S. Senate during the Reconstruction era.

Answer: A) True

Hiram Revels of Mississippi was elected to the Senate in 1870, filling the seat previously held by Jefferson Davis.

7. What was the primary purpose of the 'Exodusters' movement during the tail-end of Reconstruction?

Answer: B) Mass migration of African Americans from the South to Kansas

Led by figures like Benjamin 'Pap' Singleton, Exodusters sought safety and land ownership in the West following the withdrawal of federal troops from the South.

8. The _____ Clause was often used in Southern state constitutions to exempt white voters from literacy tests if their ancestors had voted before 1867.

Answer: A) Grandfather

The Grandfather Clause was a tool used to bypass the 15th Amendment and disenfranchise Black voters while protecting the voting rights of poor whites.

9. The 'Trent Affair' nearly brought the United Kingdom into the Civil War on the side of the Confederacy.

Answer: A) True

The Union's seizure of Confederate diplomats from a British ship created a major diplomatic crisis that threatened to involve Britain in the conflict.

10. Which 1862 act encouraged Western migration by providing settlers with 160 acres of public land, fundamentally changing the nation's demographics during the war?

Answer: B) The Homestead Act

The Homestead Act was part of the Republican 'free soil' agenda to populate the West with independent farmers rather than slave plantations.