I. Presidential Reconstruction (1863-1866)

Use this copy of the PPT to help you take notes on the Reconstruction, the rebuilding of the United States and the South after the Civil War.

Abraham Lincoln
16th President

Andrew Johnson
17th President
A. **Lincoln’s Plan** (10% Plan)

TO Rejoin the Union, a Southern state must:

- 10% white Southerners must take a loyalty oath to the U.S. government
- New state constitutions must ban slavery
- Amnesty given to most white Southerners who took oath

**BUT…**
B. ASSASINATION

- Abraham Lincoln is assassinated on April 14, 1865
- Many Northerners seek a greater CHANGE in South
- President Johnson sets to battle with the Republicans of Congress
Assassination of Lincoln

C. **Andrew Johnson**
- Lincoln’s Vice-President (2\textsuperscript{nd} term only)
- A former Senator and a “War Democrat” from Tennessee (*a Confederate state!*)
- A Southerner who remained loyal to the Union
- Believes the wealthy planter class caused secession and the Civil War
- Johnson’s plan is similar to Lincoln’s
What about the FREEDMEN ???
II. Freedmen in Trouble (1865-1866)
Freedmen and Sharecropping
II. Freedmen in Trouble (1866-1873)

A. Black Codes: attempt to limit civil rights of freed slaves

1. Laws made in Southern states to restrict freedmen’s rights AFTER the Civil War
2. Restricted property rights, arrested for minor crimes such as vagrancy and loitering
3. Not allowed to serve as witnesses and on juries
Sharecropper (Tenant Farming) (1939)
B. *sharecropping* (tenant farmer)

- white landowner would rent a shack, land, seed and crude tools to tenant farmer
- the tenant would pay landowner a “share” of the crop
- the majority and the tenants lived in conditions worse than slavery
What is going on here?
Ku Klux Klan

Nathan Bedford Forrest
“Wizard of the Saddle”

Early disguises for Klansman
C. Violence

1. Groups formed to intimidate freedmen like the Ku Klux Klan founded by Nathan Bedford Forrest
2. White population riots and attacks the freedmen in Memphis and New Orleans (1866)
3. Johnson does nothing to protect them
III. Radical Reconstruction
A. Congressional Leaders (“Radical” Republicans)

1. Thaddeus Stevens
   - Leader of House of Representatives from Gettysburg, PA
   - Hated slavery from his law work in Maryland

2. Charles Sumner
   - Leader of the Senate from Boston, MA
   - Beaten in attack in Senate in 1856

3. Benjamin Butler “the Beast"
   - Civil War general who “reconstructed” New Orleans
   - Elected in to the House and works for civil rights for freedmen
B. HELP for the Freedmen

1. 13\textsuperscript{th} Amendment – ends slavery

2. Freedmen’s Bureau (1865)
   - a federal agency created to help freedmen adjust to freedom
   - Helped by providing food, clothing and medical services
   - help get land and find work
   - set up schools and academies
   - Vetoed by President Johnson but is overridden

3. Civil Rights of 1866
   - Granted full citizenship to African Americans
   - Bill is vetoed by Johnson but is overridden

4. CONGRESS \textsuperscript{v.} PRESIDENT!!!
C. Civil War Amendments

- **13th Amendment** (Jan 1865)
  - ends slavery

- **14th Amendment** (1868)
  - People born in the U.S. are American citizens
  - Citizens have rights

- **15th Amendment** (1870)
  - African-American males are given the right to vote
D. Reconstruction Act of 1867

1. Radical Republicans pass new law:
   - Southern states divided into 5 military districts
   - Guaranteed rights of African-Americans to vote
   - Banned Confederate leaders from holding office
   - Required army to REGISTER voters and protect freedmen

2. To rejoin nation, Southern states had to:
   - Ratify the 14th Amendment
   - Submit new constitutions for Congressional approval
E. Johnson’s Impeachment

1. Congress pass laws to weaken president
2. Tenure of Office Act of 1867:
   - Forbid president from removing officials without Senate approval
3. House of Representatives IMPEACH Johnson in March 1868 for removing Secretary of War
4. Senate held a TRIAL three days later
   - Senate acquitted president (voted not guilty) by one vote Edmund Ross
   - Radical Republicans were one vote away from 2/3 majority
Impeachment & Trial of President Johnson
III. Reconstruction - Successes

A. African Americans Political Leaders

- 16 African-Americans elected to House of Representatives
- **Senator elected Hiram Revels** and **Blanche K. Bruce** (see p88)
- Never gained control of state governments
- Very few African-Americans have been elected president (1), governor (4), and Senator (7)
B. Education

1. The Freedmen’s Bureau Schools
   - Established primary schools
     • 50% white & 40% black children attended
     • Schools were segregated
   - Most teachers were from the North

2. Academies
   - Specialized schools to train skills
   - develop into “Black Colleges” such as Fisk (WEB Dubois), Howard (Thurgood Marshall) & Morehouse (Martin Luther King)

http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0872606.html
Freedman’s School
IV. Failure of Reconstruction – “The Redeemers”
A. How did “White Power” get control in South?

1. **Amnesty Act of 1872**
   - Law PARDONS almost ALL white Southerners
   - All pardoned could VOTE and HOLD OFFICE
   - Democratic Party in South regains power of state governments (by using majority voting, trickery or terrorism)

2. **Election of 1872**
   - Republican party divides over corruption
   - Grant defeats Horace Greeley (Liberal Republican)
   - Republicans begin to move away from Reconstruction and focus on the economy
3. Panic of 1873

(Panic is another word for Economic Depression)

- Thousands of businesses close and tens of thousands of Americans lose jobs
- Republican leaders blamed for the economy
V. Legacy of Reconstruction
Which would you like to use?
A. Divided Society (Segregation)

1. “Reedemers” seize control Southern States
   - Goal is to end the Republican control of their state governments

2. Democrats want to restore “White Power”:
   a. Conservative Fiscal Policy
      - Cut state spending
      - Lower taxes
      - End funding to schools and for social policies
   b. Voting Restrictions
      - Poll tax, literacy test, & the Grandfather clause
   c. Jim Crow Laws
      - Laws that created a segregated society in public places till 1965
      - “White” and “Colored” division in schools, restaurants, transportation, etc…
B. Constitutional?

1. Local police ignore the abuse of freedmen

2. Plessey v Ferguson (1896)
   - Supreme Court rules that the concept of “separate but equal” as constitutional

3. Civil Rights movement fights to end segregation in 1950-1960s

   - Supreme Court OVERTURNS and rules that “separate but equal” as UNCONSTITUTIONAL