

STAAR Review Cards  
Chapter 14 The  
Reconstruction Era

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Reconstruction

the process of re-admitting southern backin to the union and the rebuilding the economy of the south., was the government's plan to rebuild

Freedman's Bureau

Federal agency set up in 1865 to provide food, schools, and medical care to freed slaves in the South

Radical Republicans

After the Civil War, a group that believed the South should be harshly punished and thought that Lincoln was sometimes too compassionate towards the South.

Civil Rights Act

In 1866 It was created to grant citizenship to blacks and it was an attempt to prohibit the black codes. It also prohibited racial discrimination on jury selection. It was not really enforced and was really just a political move used to attract more votes. It led to the creation and passing of the 14th amendment.

Thirteenth Amendment	Constitutional amendment that officially ended slavery, abolished slavery everywhere in the united states
Fourteenth Amendment	A constitutional amendment giving full rights of citizenship to all people born or naturalized in the United States, except for American Indians
Fifteenth Amendment	A constitutional amendment that gave African American men the right to vote
Tenure of Office Act	Required the President to seek approval from the Senate before removing appointees. When Andrew Johnson removed his secretary of war in violation of the act, he was impeached by the house but remained in office when the Senate fell one vote short of removing him.
Carpetbaggers	Northerners who had moved to the South during reconstruction to seek political power and profit.

## Scalawags

A derogatory term for Southerners who were working with the North to buy up land from desperate Southerners, Southern whites in the Republican party during Reconstruction; term has come to mean "scoundrels" or "worthless rascals"

## "New South"

new vision for self sufficient southern economy built on modern capitalist values, industrial growth, and improved transportation

## Homestead Act

Passed in 1862, it gave 160 acres of public land to any settler who would farm the land for five years, for only a registration fee of \$25; this act, as well as the lure of gold, continued the push westward during the war.

## Morrill Act

Law passed by Congress in July 1862 awarding proceeds from the sale of public lands to the states for the establishment of agricultural and mechanical colleges

## Transcontinental Railroad

a railroad that connected the eastern United States to the western United States. The railroad firmly bonded the West Coast the Union, created a trade route to the far-east, and helped the western expansion

## Indian Wars

Term used to describe the several conflicts with Indians during the 1860s and 1870s as Americans began to encroach upon the Indian owned land instead of just passing through it on their way west.

## Dawes Act

An act that removed Indian land from tribal possession, redivided it, and distributed it among individual Indian families. Designed to break tribal mentalities and promote individualism.

## National Labor Union

first large scale labor union, , founded by William Sylvis (1866); supported 8-hour workday, convict labor, federal department of labor, banking reform, immigration restrictions to increase wages, women; excluded blacks

## Knights of Labor

one of the most important American labor organizations of the 19th century, demanded an end to child and convict labor, equal pay for women, a progressive income tax, and the cooperative employer-employee ownership of mines and factories

## "Black Codes"

southern laws designed to restrict the rights of the newly freed black slaves, laws enacted by southern legislatures after the civil war that prevented former slaves from voting and holding certain jobs, among other prohibitions

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## Hiram Rhodes Revels

became the 1st african american elected to congress., 1870- First black man in Senate. Freeborn son of white irish mother with free black father- new population of voting blacks were voting African Americans into office

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## Sharecropping

A system used on southern farms after the Civil War in which farmers worked land owned by someone else in return for a small portion of the crops.

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