

## Civil War & Reconstruction

**Time Needed:** One class period

**Materials Needed:**

Student worksheets

**Copy Instructions:**

Brainstorming Sheet (*half set; one sided*)

Student Pages (*class set; double-sided*)

**Learning Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- Identify the division of the U.S. at the outbreak of the Civil War.
- Describe the expansion of civil rights and liberties in the Civil War/Reconstruction Period.
- Explain the purposes of the due process and equal protection clauses of the 14th Amendment.
- Identify the different perspectives on slavery during the Civil War period.
- Determine the differences between the Presidential and Congressional plans for Reconstruction.

### STEP BY STEP

- ANTICIPATE** by distributing the half sheet and giving students 2-3 minutes to list as many things related to the Civil War and Reconstruction as they can. Ask students to share what they have on their lists, and create a list of things to look out for in the lesson.
- DISTRIBUTE** the reading packet to the students and read through as a class. Pause on the comparison between North and South and ask the students which differences might create conflict and which might not. You may also ask the students to draw a line between the Northern states and Southern states and explain that that was commonly called the Mason-Dixon line.
- WORK** though the third page with the students. Discuss each 'due process' question and have the students discuss *why* the laws are constitutional or not. Is there an issue of reasonableness and fairness? Do the procedures make sense? (Number 6 of the Due Process questions is intended to be vague– discuss with your class.)
- DISTRIBUTE** the review to the students.
- DISCUSS** the *What if?* section on the second page and let the students know that all the options in column one were the choices made by President Johnson in the Presidential Reconstruction Period, and the second column were the choices made by the Congress in Congressional Reconstruction.

# Civil War & Reconstruction

Name:



What do you know about the Civil War & Reconstruction?  
List as many terms, ideas, names, and events as you can that relate to this period of history.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
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- 9.
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- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.

You can draw images too!



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## The Constitution: Something's Missing



The Constitution set up the rules for our government. The Bill of Rights listed the rights that citizens should expect. Unfortunately, these documents only considered some of the people living in the U.S. to be citizens. Over one third of the population of the United States between the Revolutionary War and 1865 were not citizens. They were born in the U.S., worked in the U.S., and died in the U.S.– but were not protected by the founding documents or state laws. These were the slaves and free blacks living in the Northern and Southern states. It took a bloody war and changes to the Constitution to bring an end to slavery, legal discrimination, and set the path for greater equality.

## One Nation, Two Different Ways of Life

The Northern and Southern states developed in different ways, which eventually led to conflict:



Free & public

### The Northern States



Large population



Urban



Few Slaves



Trade & Factories



Fast Growth



ONLY For the RICH

### The Southern States



SMALLER population



RURAL



Many Slaves



FARMS & PLANTATIONS

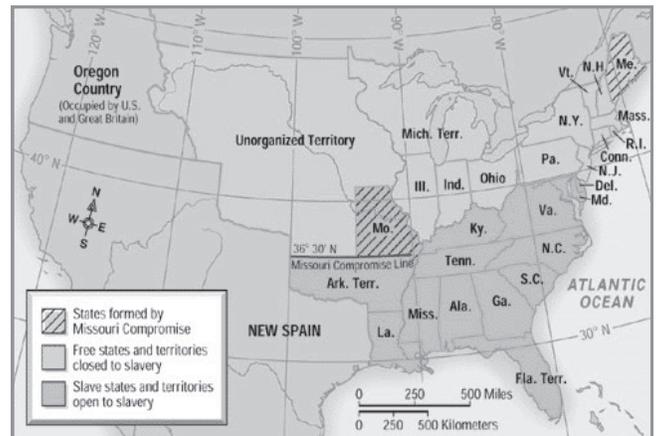


SLOW Growth

## Welcome to the Country! Which side are you on?

We don't hear much about new states being added to the United States anymore. The last time we admitted a new state was 1959! In the early 1800s, a bunch of new states were added to the union. One of the hot topics of the day was whether these new states would allow slavery (like the Southern states) or ban it (like most of the Northern states).

Check out the map for the line between North and South.



## War!

These differences and the debate over slavery in the new states led to the bloodiest war in our country's history. The slave states in the South decided they would be better off as a separate nation, so they *seceded* from the United States.

**Secession** is a term that means separation, or breaking away. President Abraham Lincoln would not allow the nation to be divided. It took four years of fighting to bring the nation back together. During the war, the Emancipation Proclamation freed the slaves in the Southern states. When the war ended, three new amendments were added to the Constitution. These amendments promised the slaves freedom, equality, and the right to vote.





## Emancipation (that means freedom)

The U.S. government didn't wait for the Civil War to end before it started working for civil rights. In the middle of the war (1863), President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that all the slaves in the South were free. But this didn't help the slaves in the North or the Border states, which had slaves but didn't break away from the U.S. It also didn't really free slaves in the South, because by that time the Southern states had their own government (called the Confederate States of America) and president!

### So, why is the EP a big deal?

Although it failed to free any actual slaves, it did send a strong message: when the war was over slavery in the U.S. was going to end for good! The U.S. government took this as a sign to move forward with additional laws that changed the definition of 'rights'.

## Slavery is Finally Over...

In January 1865— three months before the war ended— Congress passed the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, outlawing slavery in the United States. The war ended in April when the South surrendered, making the U.S. one nation rather than two. Slavery was finally abolished in December 1865 when the last state finally ratified (passed) the 13th Amendment. This freed all the slaves in the U.S., no matter where they lived.



Early KKK Members



Lynching Tree



## Another Kind of War

Many Southerners saw the Emancipation Proclamation and 13th Amendment as a direct threat to their way of life. Individual states began to pass laws, called **Black Codes**, that kept African Americans separate from and unequal to their white neighbors. Some of these laws made it illegal for black people to rent or buy property, own a gun, marry someone that was white, or even meet in a group of more than three after sunset! In addition to these restrictive laws, groups of white **supremacists** (like the Ku Klux Klan) used intimidation and violence to keep the former slaves from exercising their freedom.

## Reconstructing a Nation

Everyone agreed that the nation had to be rebuilt after the war, but not everyone could agree on how it should be done. Some, like President Andrew Johnson, believed the Southern states should be let back into the U.S. and the former Confederates shouldn't be punished. Others, like many in Congress, wanted to make sure that the Southern politicians were punished for seceding. They did not want Southern politicians to interfere with the new freedom of African Americans. Congress used the 14th and 15th Amendments to ensure the rights of former slaves. Many in the South resisted, and the federal government had to send troops to enforce the new civil rights laws.

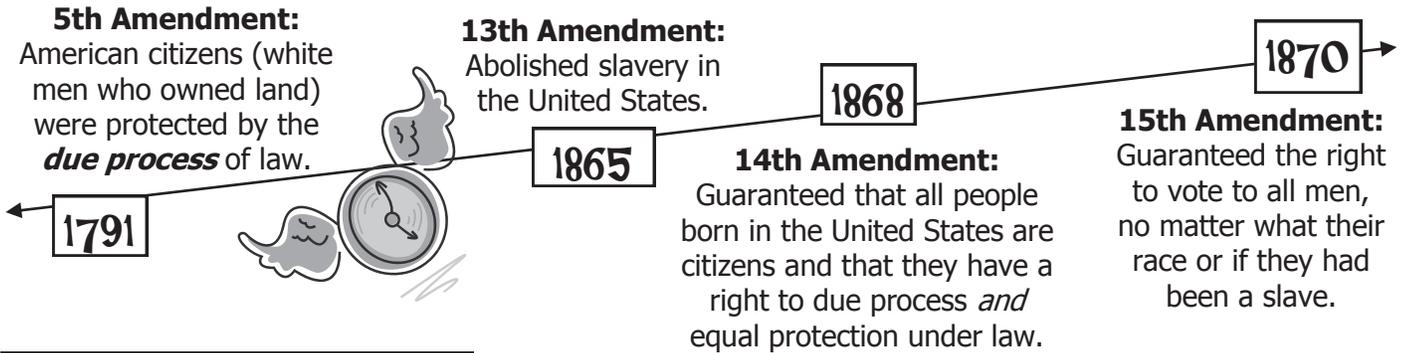
**14th Amendment:** Guaranteed citizenship, the right to due process and to be equally protected by laws to anyone born in the United States.



**15th Amendment:** Guaranteed the right of all men to vote, regardless of race or the fact that they had been slaves.

## Civil Rights and the Constitution

The Constitution does many things, including listing our rights as American citizens. Those rights didn't always apply to everyone equally. Check out the timeline to see how the Constitution changed over the years.



### What does 'due process' mean?

People have the right to be treated fairly by the government. Fairness can be looked at in two different ways...

#### What does the law say?

The substance (or content) of a law must be fair and reasonable. The federal and state governments can't pass laws that unfairly limit people's life, liberty, or property.

#### How is the law enforced?

Government officials have to follow certain procedures (or rules) when they enforce laws. They cannot take away or limit life, liberty, and property without following a set of rules that everyone has agreed on.

**Declare these laws constitutional or unconstitutional based on the idea of due process!**



- |   |                          |                          |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) All citizens over the age of 18 of the U.S. have the right to vote.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) The government can throw people with freckles in jail.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) Your house can be taken away by the government if you watch too much television.               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) A school that suspends a student must notify the parents and give a reason for the suspension. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) You must be 35 years old to drive a car in the U.S.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6) Children are taken away from bad parents and given to good parents.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

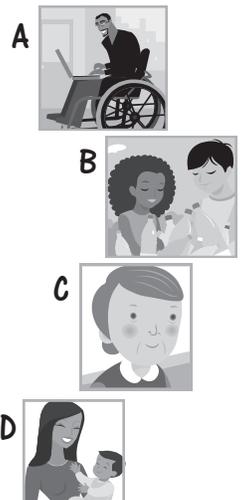
### What does 'equal protection' mean?

The government must treat people equally.

Unreasonable discrimination by the government is not allowed. If a law *does* treat one group of people differently, the government has to prove that there is a good reason for it. Courts will decide if that reason is good enough to let the law stand.

**Read each law and match it to group that is being discriminated against.**

- 7) \_\_\_\_ You are not allowed to work if you are over the age of 65.
- 8) \_\_\_\_ People of different races have to go to different schools.
- 9) \_\_\_\_ Public buses and trains do not have to be accessible to people in wheelchairs.
- 10) \_\_\_\_ Women can not teach school if they are pregnant.



*Think About It: Why do statues that represent justice wear a blindfold?*

# Civil War & Reconstruction

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

**Vocabulary.** Use the word bank to complete each sentence.



**due process      secession      Black Codes**  
**Emancipation Proclamation      equal protection      supremacists**

- 1) Groups like the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) are examples of white \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) In the \_\_\_\_\_, Lincoln announced that all slaves in the South were free.
- 3) After slavery ended, Southern states passed \_\_\_\_\_ that restricted the freedom of African Americans.
- 4) Fair treatment by the government, or \_\_\_\_\_, comes in two types: *substantive* (what they law says) and *procedural* (how the law is enforced).
- 5) The \_\_\_\_\_ crisis occurred when eleven southern states declared their independence from the United States.
- 6) The 14th Amendment says that the government must treat all people the same way. This idea is called \_\_\_\_\_.

**Taking Sides.** Match the quote with who probably said it.

"I live and work in the South, but I can't afford to own slaves. If they are freed, they might try to take my job!"

"I live in the North and think slavery is terrible! Slavery is not necessary and should be illegal! The government should do something about this."

"I own a really big plantation in the South. Slaves are necessary to my cotton business. The government shouldn't tell me how to run my plantation!"

Northern Abolitionist



Southern Slave Owner



Poor Southern Farmer



**Missouri Compromise.** An old document about the Missouri Compromise has been discovered! Complete the letter by using the words on the right.

April, \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Sarah,

We just got the news that our state of \_\_\_\_\_ is going to be admitted to the Union! There was apparently a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ about whether or not we would allow \_\_\_\_\_.

In the end, Congress decided that Maine would also become a state. \_\_\_\_\_ would *not* allow slaves, and Missouri would. Congress also said that if a slave \_\_\_\_\_ and made it to a free state or territory, anyone who found him would have to return him. It is called the Fugitive Slave Act.

So, now our country has 11 states that allow slavery and 11 that don't. People seem to feel pretty strongly about this slavery business. I am worried about how everyone seems to be taking \_\_\_\_\_. Wonder what will come of it? Let me know how you are doing!

Your friend in Missouri,  
Katherine

- slavery
- disagreement
- 1820
- sides
- Maine
- Missouri
- escaped

# Civil War & Reconstruction

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

**Confederacy or Union?** Connect the person or term with the correct side.

## The North

United States  
of America (USA)



- President Abraham Lincoln
- Soldier Nickname: Billy Yank (Yankee)
- President Jefferson Davis
- National Capital: Richmond, VA
- Soldier Nickname: Johnny Reb (Rebel)
- National Capital: Washington, DC

## The South

The Confederate States  
of America (CSA)



**What if?** At the end of the Civil War, the Southern states had to become part of the United States again. Look at the list below. Which of these steps would you recommend if you were in charge of creating a united country in 1865?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">YES    NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Let the Southern states come back into the Union without being punished</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Pardon (officially forgive) former Confederate soldiers if they promise to support emancipation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Let the Southern states decide how they will enforce civil rights laws</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Allow the people that were in charge before the war gain control of the state governments</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Try to forgive and forget. It will be better if everyone puts this mess in the past.</p> <p>_____ Column 'Yes' Total</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">YES    NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Punish the South, so those states don't try to secede again!</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Forbid former Confederate leaders from voting and running for office</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Make the Southern states rewrite their constitutions, pass the 14th Amendment, and give former male slaves voting rights before they can get back into the Union</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Send troops into the South and have them keep an eye on things</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Replace the old state governments with new officials who will protect the rights of African Americans and follow the new rules</p> <p>_____ Column 'Yes' Total</p> |
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**Name that Amendment!** Select the correct Reconstruction Amendment.

Former slaves and men of all races can vote.

13th    14th    15th

Slavery is illegal in the United States!

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Former slaves are now protected by law and are considered citizens.

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If you are born in the U.S., you are automatically a U.S. citizen.

13th    14th    15th



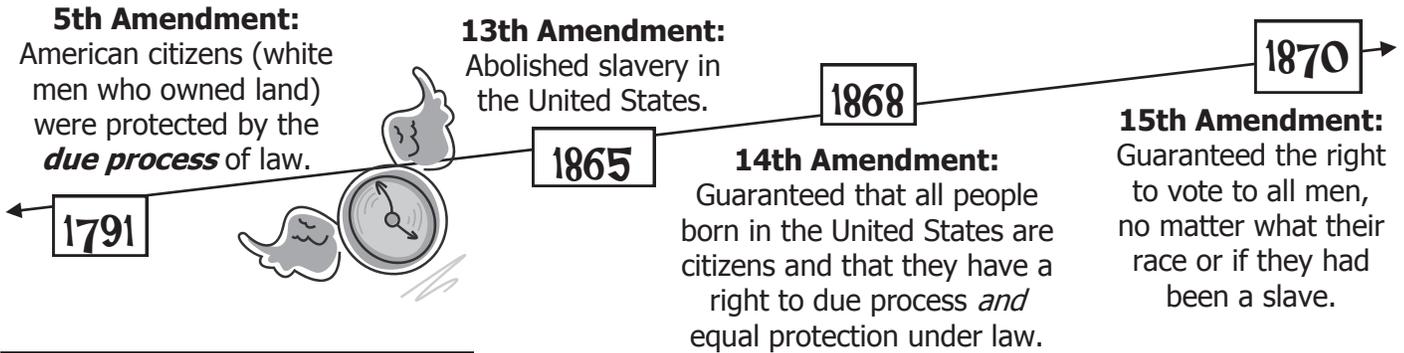
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**Discuss with class.**

### What does 'equal protection' mean?

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- 10) **D** Women can not teach school if they are pregnant.



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due process
secession
Black Codes  
Emancipation Proclamation
equal protection
supremacists

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April, 1820

Dear Sarah,

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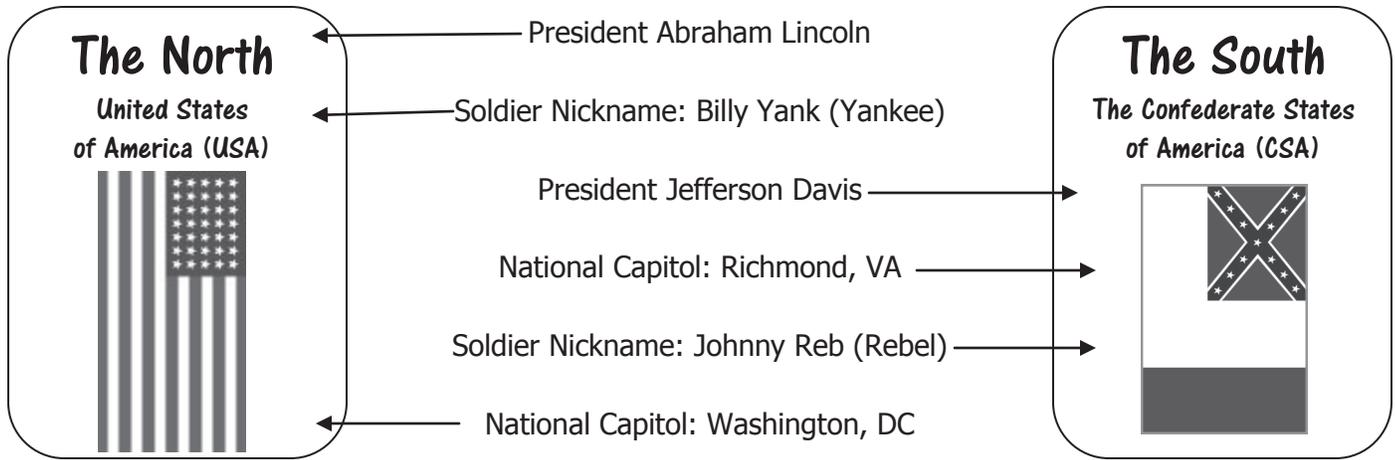
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slavery  
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**\*\*TEACHER KEY\*\***

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**13th**

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