Study Guide—Reconstruction

1. What was the Freedman's Bureau? An organization set up by Congress to help former slaves by providing education, food, and other supplies.

2. What was the purpose of the 13th Amendment? It declared that slavery could no longer exist in the United States.

3. What was the purpose of the 14th Amendment? It provided citizenship rights for all former slaves and was a response to the Black Codes.

4. What was the purpose of the 15th Amendment? It allowed African Americans to begin taking part in government by running for office and voting.

5. Why did the House of Representatives want to impeach President Johnson? He objected and refused to carry out the tough laws that were strict towards Southern states.

6. What was sharecropping? A system that developed in the South to keep the plantations operating after the end of slavery.

7. Which event marked the official end of Reconstruction? President Hayes ordered the government soldiers to leave the South.


9. What were the Great Plains like? Flat and dry land.

10. What is a true statement that can be said about Reconstruction in the South? Many were poor, and it was hard to earn a living.

11. Who were the Exodusters? African American homesteaders that left the south to settle in the Great Plains.