Reconstruction: The More Things Change, The More They Stay The Same

Introductory Lesson Plan
Reconstruction Lesson 1

Introduction

Standards: 4.02- describe the military and political developments of the Civil War and analyze their effect on the outcome of the war.

Objectives: Discuss the effects of the civil war on society and discuss the objectives of the ensuing reconstruction

Teacher Input: Lecture on military strategies and new weapons used during the Civil War. Stress the importance of the devastation left by the war, especially in the south. Note that the Civil War settled the preservation of the Union, and the fate of slavery. Cover the three questions unanswered by the conclusion of the war concerning southern reconstruction. 1- Who should control the south? 2- What should be the status of former slaves? 3- What labor system should replace slavery?

Materials: “KWL” worksheet, Newspaper project direction, Film: The Civil War; A film by Ken Burns. Map of Sherman’s march. Pictures of ruins

Activities: Introduce Unit vocab. Worksheet, introduce newspaper project. Students will keep a journal throughout the unit, writing each day.

Guided Practice: Go over all vocab for the Unit. There will be vocab on the test at the end of the Unit.

Independent Practice: Give Students the KWL worksheet, have them feel out the “what I know”, and the “what I want to know” but take up to be passed back out the last day of the lesson, and have them fill in “what I learned”

Closure/assessment: Have the students write their own plan for reconstruction in a journal to be kept throughout the unit.
Outline

I. Military strategies and weapons in the Civil War.
   A. Impact on the war
      1. Death tolls
      2. Mutilations

II. Devastation after the war
    A. Destruction of Southern Cities and Plantation

III. Three questions to be answered
    A. Who should control the south?
    B. What should be the status of former slaves?
    C. What labor system should replace slavery?
Key Terms & Names of Reconstruction

Black Codes
Carpetbaggers
Freedmen
Andrew Johnson
Reconstruction
Scalawags
Ku Klux Klan
Martial Law
Bond
White supremacy
New south
Universal manhood suffrage
Poll tax
Industrialization
Sharecroppers
Tenancy system
Farmers alliance
Furniture industry
Tobacco industry
Amnesty
Pocket veto
Impeach
Graft
Sin tax
Tenant farmer
Crop lien
Debt peonage
Furnishing merchant
Horace Greeley
Whiskey ring
Panic of 1873
Compromise of 1877
Joseph Rainey
Hiram Revels
Ku Klux Klan Act
14th Amendment
Civil Rights Act
Military Reconstruction Act
Tenure of Office Act
Thaddeus Stevens
Radical Republicans
Wade Davis Bill
Freedmen’s Bureau
Ratify
Abolish
Ulysses S. Grant
Rutherford B. Hayes
Samuel J. Tilden
Lincoln’s Ten Percent Plan
13th Amendment
15th Amendment
Black Codes - a set of laws enacted by many of the southern states after the Civil War that applied only to freedmen.

Carpetbaggers - a northerner who moved into the South to help carry out Congress's reconstruction plan after the Civil War.

Freedmen - free slaves.

Andrew Johnson - succeeded to the presidency in 1865 when Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, developed plan to restore southern states to the Union called Reconstruction.

Reconstruction - the steps taken to restore the southern states to the Union and to rebuild the South after the Civil War.

Scalawag - a native white southerner who belonged to the Republican Party during Reconstruction.

Ku Klux Klan - a secret, racist organization that tried to restore political and social control to native whites through violence and intimidation.

Martial law - the use of military forces to keep order in an emergency or when civilian forces cannot.

White supremacy - the belief that the white race is superior to the black race or any other race.

Bond - an IOU; a document serving as proof of a debt and requiring the repayment of the money borrowed plus interest.

New South - from 1865, following the Civil War, to today.

Universal manhood suffrage - the right of all men to vote.

Poll tax - it is a tax to vote in an upcoming election, and was used to keep blacks from voting. To vote in November, you must pay in the spring. Cotton was harvested in the fall, so poor sharecroppers had no money in the spring.

Industrialization - the process of changing to a manufacturing economy.

Sharecroppers - landless farmers who rented land and purchased goods on credit, paying the landlord or merchant back with a share of the crop.

Tenancy system - the rental of farmland at an agreed upon price or a share of the crop.

Farmers alliance - a farmers organization in the late 1880s that was concerned with economic issues; it wanted the government
to issue silver coins, regulate railroads, and break up trusts; it encouraged the establishment of cooperative stores.

**Furniture industry**- the activities involved in producing furniture.

**Tobacco industry**- the activities involved in growing and curing tobacco and in producing tobacco products.

**Amnesty**- the act of granting a pardon to a large group of people

**Pocket veto**- indirectly vetoing a bill by letting a session of Congress expire without signing the bill

**Impeach**- to formally charge a public official with misconduct in office

**Graft**- the acquisition of money in dishonest ways, as in bribing a politician

**Sin tax**- federal tax on alcohol and tobacco

**Tenant farmer**- farmer who works land owned by another and pays rent either in cash or crops

**Crop lien**- obligation placed on a farmer to repay a debt with crops

**Debt peonage**- condition of sharecroppers who could not pay off their debts and therefore could not leave the property they worked

**Furnishing merchant**- merchant who provides sharecroppers with supplies on credit at high interest rates

**Horace Greeley**- 1872 candidate for the Liberal Republicans

**Whiskey ring**- groups of government officials and distillers in St. Louis cheated the government out of millions of dollars

**Panic of 1873**- the wave of fear in 1873 that caused many businesses to close and the stock market to plummet

**Compromise of 1877**- the debate over Hayes being elected President

**Joseph Rainey**- first African American in the House of Representatives

**Hiram Revels**- first African American in the United States Senate

**Ku Klux Klan Act**- outlawed the activities of the Ku Klux Klan

**14th Amendment**- granted citizenship to all persons born in the United States and declared that no state could deprive any person if life, liberty, or property without due process of law or equal protection of the law
Civil Rights Act- granted citizenship to everyone born in the United States except Native Americans
Military Reconstruction Act- wiped out majority of Johnson's programs
Tenure of Office Act- required Senate to approve the removal of any government official
Thaddeus Stevens- led the Radical Republicans
Radical Republicans- wanted to revolutionize the south in all aspects
Freedmen's Bureau- bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands
Ratify- to approve and sanction formally; confirm
Abolish- to do away with; end
Ulysses S. Grant- had many scandals during his presidency, he was believed to be in the whisky ring
Rutherford B. Hayes- won the election of 1876 in the Compromise of 1877
Samuel J. Tilden- Democrat governor of New York who ran for President in 1876
Ten Percent Plan- Lincoln's lenient plan to that would pardon all Confederates except high ranking Confederate officials and those accused of crimes against prisoners of war- who would swear allegiance to the Union and promise to obey its laws. Ten percent of those voting took the oath of allegiance their Confederate state would form a new state government and send representatives to Congress
13th Amendment- amendment that abolished slavery and involuntary servitude
15th Amendment- amendment that prohibits the denial of voting rights to people because of their race or color or because they have previously been slaves
Reconstruction

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>“K”</th>
<th>“W”</th>
<th>“L”</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(What I Know)</td>
<td>(What I Want to Know)</td>
<td>(What I Learned)</td>
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Newspaper Project

Two weeks.

To enable students to become familiar with the elements of, and the process of creating a newspaper.

Students will be able to...
- create their own historical newspaper.
- identify the elements of a newspaper.

Students will create a newspaper reflecting significant components of an historical period. Although the activity presented focuses on the Reconstruction, the framework could be used for any given period in history.

Have students create their own newspaper. Each newspaper will include...
- three articles summarizing events (social, political, economic) that happened during the time period. Each article should have a title.
- one letter to the editor stating one's opinion about a major event during the time period.
- two pictures or drawings about major events happening during the time period.
- a small crossword puzzle related to entertainment of the time period.
- a map showing weather conditions in a given region. Be sure to include a weather forecast for a particular location.
- one political cartoon.

The above requirements are minimums. Encourage students to add other elements. These may include an entertainment section, book review section, sports section, classified ads, fashion section, obituaries, and lifestyle section. Remind students to keep the articles appropriate to and factually accurate for the time period.
Assignment  Try your hand at producing a historical newspaper reflecting the time period of the Reconstruction. It must represent as much of the culture as possible. Although you or your teacher may decide on a different period of time, the elements of this activity will remain the same.

Use a textbook, primary source books, and encyclopedias as resource materials.

Part of the work for this project will be done in class. Some homework will be necessary for its completion. The procedure for this project is to write your articles on notebook paper or on a computer, proofread them, and then "print" your articles.

Criteria

- Usual newspaper format. (Page must be divided into columns. Must be neatly done, article by article.)
- Articles will be cut out and mounted on legal- or ledger-size paper.
- Articles are to be keyed on the computer or hand-printed in black ink.
- Work must be free of mechanical errors. Proofread.
- Use a ruler, if applicable, for comic strips and political cartoons.
- All printing must be legible.

Required Elements

Your newspaper must contain . . .

- a masthead—name, date, city of publication, and cost.
- three articles summarizing events (social, political, economic) that happened during this time period. Each article should have a title.
- one "letter to the editor" stating your opinion about a major event taking place during this time.
- two pictures or drawings about major events happening during this time.
- one political cartoon.
- a small crossword puzzle.
- a map showing weather conditions in a given region. Be sure to include a weather forecast for a particular location.

Optional Elements

- Display Ad
- Sports Section
- Financial Section
- Obituaries
- Classified Ads
- Comic Strip
- Other
- Entertainment Section
# Historical Newspaper Writer's Guide

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<th>Possible Points</th>
<th>Score by Student</th>
<th>Score by Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Masthead—Name:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>City of Publication:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cost:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Three Articles Summarizing Events</td>
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<tr>
<td>One &quot;Letter to the Editor&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Pictures or Drawings of Major Events</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weather Report with Map</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crossword Puzzle (10-word min.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>One Political Cartoon</td>
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<td>Mechanics</td>
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<td>Layout</td>
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<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
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## Optional Elements

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sports Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Display Ad (with 4&quot; x 5&quot; picture)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classified Ads (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obituaries</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comic Strip</td>
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Journal

Write your own plan for reconstruction in the south. What would you do to reunify the Union?