

## The Study of History

### Reconstruction

The goals of the majority of members of Congress during the Reconstruction period were to restore relations with the defeated South and to help the freed slaves. Most white Southern leaders had different goals. They wanted to restore the way of life in the South as it had been before the Civil War. To do this, they wanted to continue their control of state governments and restrict the opportunities and rights of the former slaves.

*A. The chart on page 123 shows some results of actions taken by Congress. In the spaces provided, fill in the action from the list below that matches each result. Check your answers with information found in Chapter 17 of AMERICA IS.*

Passage of the Fifteenth Amendment

Passage of the Civil Rights Act

Passage of the Fourteenth Amendment

Plan for Radical Reconstruction

Passage of the Thirteenth Amendment

Establishment of the Freedman's Bureau

AMERICA IS ACTIVITY BOOK

## Actions Taken by Congress

Date	Action	Results
1865		Slavery abolished in all states.
1865		Direct step by Congress to help the South and former slaves economically.
1866		Discrimination against a person because of race or color declared illegal.
1866		Law clearly stated blacks were citizens; states which did not allow all male citizens to vote could lose part of representation in Congress.
1867		States had to hold constitutional conventions, new constitutions had to allow black men the right to vote, and Southern states had to approve the Fourteenth Amendment before they could be added to the Union again.
1869		Keeping a person from voting because of color declared illegal. Remaining Confederate states were required to and did approve this amendment before they returned to Union.

*B. The chart below shows some of the results of actions taken by white Southern leaders. In the spaces provided, fill in the action from the list above the chart that matches each result. Check your answers with information found in Chapter 17 of AMERICA IS.*

Ku Klux Klan organized

Black codes passed

Loans, jobs, sale or rental of land refused to blacks

<b>Actions Taken by White Southern Leaders</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Results</b>
1865		Blacks prohibited from holding certain jobs or from serving on juries. Some required to work for former slave owners.
1866		Blacks kept from voting or exercising other rights. Whites who helped blacks were terrorized.
1865 and after		Blacks unable to earn a living independent of whites.

The goals of leaders in Congress and white Southern leaders were in conflict. This conflict also involved two political parties—the Republicans and Democrats. Most leaders in Congress at the time were Republicans. Most white Southern leaders were Democrats. At first, the Republicans had so much power in Congress that they were able to pass many laws aimed at accomplishing their goals. After some time, several events took place that weakened the power of the Republicans to control Reconstruction.

*C. After reviewing pages 385–391 of AMERICA IS, list some of the reasons for the Republican party losing some of its power.*

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