

Unit: Civil War

Name _____

Lesson: Economic Impacts of Reconstruction

KEY TERMS

Use the word bank to fill in the blank with the correct key term.

- _____ had to give some of their harvest to the land owners to pay for farming their lands.
- After the war, _____ borrowed money from banks to build new factories in the South, but many of them were unable to pay back these _____.
- The Panic of 1873 saw many businesses lose all their money and go _____, and they also had to fire their workers.
- Many white planters did not want to pay African Americans _____ for working in their fields.
- Former slaves were called _____, and 40,000 of them settled on abandoned lands in Georgia and South Carolina when the war ended.
- In 1873, American went into an economic _____, and even the stock market temporarily closed.
- Because many sharecroppers stayed in _____ to their land owners, they were unable to pay rent for the land to do _____.
- Southern governments increased taxes to help pay for _____ programs.
- Tenant farmers often had to buy supplies using _____ from merchants, who often charged high prices.

WORD BANK

debt	sharecroppers	depression	public works	tenant farming	wages
credit	investors	loans	bankrupt	freedmen	

APPLY: Choose three terms and illustrate the meaning of each.

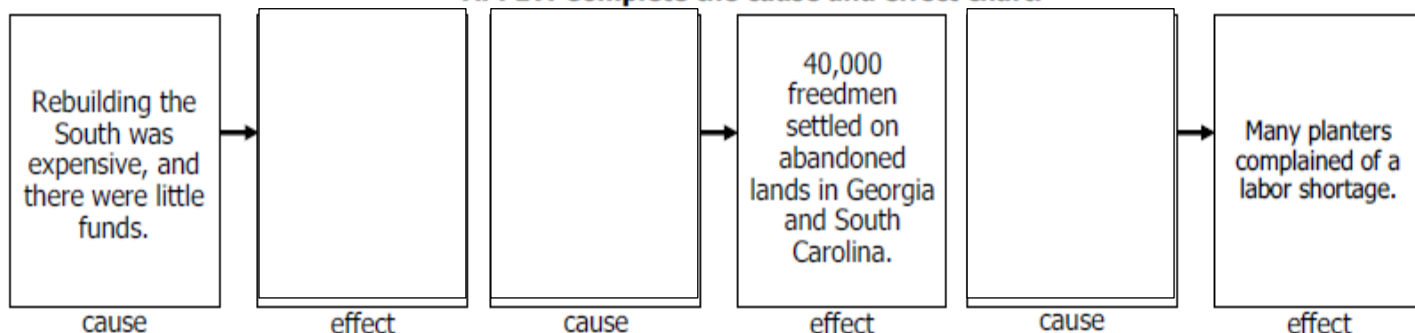
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DATES & EVENTS

Match the cause (left) to its effect (right).

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> After the war, some Southern planters increased their cotton production. _____ The Republican Party wanted to prevent inflation. _____ In August 1865, President Johnson declared all lands be returned to their former owners. _____ Many African Americans were not able to grow crops to feed their families because they didn't own land. _____ Cities offered more opportunities for African Americans to find work. _____ Northerners were angry about the economy and voted Democrat in the 1876 presidential election. _____ The federal government refused to confiscate citizens' private lands. _____ | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The freedmen who had been farming these lands were forced to leave. Congressional Reconstruction came to an end. The Homestead Act of 1866 was passed. The African American population doubled from 1865-1870 in ten of the South's largest cities. The cost of cotton dropped, and many planters turned to tobacco. African Americans reluctantly signed labor contracts. The Resumption Act of 1875 was passed. Many tenant farmers stayed in debt and were unable to buy their own land. |
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APPLY: Complete the cause and effect chart.



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»»» POLITICAL CARTOON «««

Use the political cartoon to answer the questions.



The title is "Panic, as a Health Officer, Sweeping the Garbage out of Wall Street."

1. What does the main character represent? _____
2. What is the character doing? _____
3. What is in the background of the cartoon? _____
4. Why are the people acting in that manner? _____
5. What do the pieces of trash represent? _____
6. Analyze the cartoon. Explain the message of this cartoon. _____

APPLY: Draw a political cartoon representing one aspect of the South's economy after the Civil War.

⇨ LITERACY CONNECTION ⇩

Answer the prompt using complete sentences in paragraph form.

How did the Panic of 1873 lead to the end of Reconstruction?

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QUIZ

Use the word bank to fill in the blank with the correct key term.

1. When _____ were unable to pay back the _____ they took out, they lost their businesses.
2. Many _____ ended up working for _____ on white-owned farms and plantations.
3. After the Civil War, _____ programs were started to help the South rebuild.
4. Many sharecroppers were never able to do _____ because they made little, if any, profits.
5. Merchants would sell supplies to tenant farmers on _____, but they charged inflated prices the farmers could not repay.
6. During the _____, many Northerners and Republicans began to focus on the economy and not on Reconstruction efforts.
7. Often _____ would become tied to the land they farmed because they did not make enough money to pay back their _____ to the land owners.
8. During the Panic of 1873, millions of Americans lost their jobs and thousands of businesses went _____.

WORD BANK

investors	tenant farming	credit	sharecroppers	debt	wages
loans	bankrupt	freedmen	public works	depression	

Choose the best answer.

9. Why did many freedmen and poor whites become sharecroppers?
 - a. They wanted to be partners with land owners.
 - b. They could not afford their own land.
 - c. They were in debt to land owners.
 - d. They would be able to make a lot of money.
10. Why did Southern freedmen move to cities after the war?
 - a. The tobacco industry was failing.
 - b. They felt safer living in cities.
 - c. They lost their jobs as sharecroppers.
 - d. There were more job opportunities for them in cities.
11. Why did the Homestead Act of 1866 not help freedmen or loyal whites?
 - a. They were forced to leave the lands when President Johnson declared the lands would be returned to the previous owners.
 - b. The 44 million acres set aside for them were swampy and unsuitable for farming.
 - c. They were still unable to purchase land.
 - d. Many Southern planters bought the land instead.
12. What was the purpose of the Resumption Act of 1875?
 - a. to prevent inflation after the Panic of 1873
 - b. to help freedmen find jobs in cities
 - c. to prevent planters from forcing freedmen to sign labor contracts
 - d. to set aside 44 million acres for freedmen and loyal whites
13. Why did Thaddeus Stevens want the federal government to confiscate citizens' private lands?
 - a. He wanted to create large plantations for farming tobacco.
 - b. He wanted to help tenant farmers get out of debt.
 - c. He wanted to redistribute the land to African Americans.
 - d. He wanted to provide more opportunities for sharecropping.
14. Why did sharecropping prevent the South's economy from recovering?
