

Unit IV: Sectional Conflict, Civil War, and Reconstruction

~1850-1877~

A Meridian® APUSH Study Guide by John Ho and Tim Qi

Important people during the era:

1. **Andrew Johnson:** Lincoln's successor, a white supremacist. Wields the veto against Congressional Reconstruction plans, quickly readmits the South. He is eventually impeached and acquitted by one vote.
2. **Stephen Douglas:** Lincoln's rival for Illinois Senate position. Proposes Kansas Nebraska Act, adheres to Freeport Doctrine which states that popular sovereignty overrules legislation.
3. **William T. Sherman:** Northern general, pioneer of "total war". Marches through South paving a streak of destruction.
4. **John Crittenden:** Kentucky Senator, proposes Crittendell Compromise as a desperate effort for Union (see Legislation).
5. **William Seward:** Senator from New York. Unyieldingly protested against slavery arguing for the "higher law". In 1867 as Secretary of State, he purchases Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million ("Seward's Folly").
6. **William Lloyd Garrison:** Founder of the *Liberator*, ardent northern abolitionist.
7. **John Slidell:** Southern Senator who joins the Confederacy. Previously sent to Mexico to negotiate for Texas. Sent to France during the war, but was delayed by the *Trent* affair.
8. **Jefferson Davis:** President of the Confederacy, suffered under disunion and conflicting interests within his own administration. His own states fought for their rights while he struggled for federal power to effectively wage the war.
9. **Matthew Brady:** Famous Civil War photographer who took pictures of the dead and wounded in the battlefields after battles.
10. **George McClellan:** Union general who was infamously cautious. Dubbed "young Napoleon", he was removed and reinstated twice by Lincoln. Commands in the Peninsula Campaign (see Battles) and later Antietam where he fails to pursue Lee.
11. **Dred Scott:** Black slave who sued for freedom, arguing that he had lived on free soil. Supreme Court Chief Justice Taney rules in the *Dred Scott Decision* that all slaves were property and could be legally held in all territories regardless of law. Furthered ruled that the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional since Congress had no power to ban slavery.
12. **Salmon Chase:** A prominent Copperhead, he was an over-ambitious Secretary of Treasury under Lincoln who severely criticized his policies.
13. **Benjamin Wade:** Unethical "Bluff Ben" of Ohio, would succeed Johnson in presidency if he was removed from office.
14. **Abraham Lincoln:** Union president during the Civil War whose election would be the final cause of secession. At first, he declared that the war was to solely preserve the Union to keep Border States, later issues the Emancipation Proclamation. He advocated a quick readmission of Southern States but was assassinated in 1865,
15. **Franklin Pierce:** Democratic president from 1852-1856 who supported the Compromise of 1850. Undertook an ambitious expansionist policy, including the opening of Japan under Commodore Perry. Attempted several operations to seize Cuba. As former president, he opposed Lincoln's emancipation of slaves.

16. **Ulysses S. Grant:** Successfully waged the Western Campaign, at his victory at Vicksburg, Lincoln made him General. Marched towards Richmond in his “wilderness campaign” and cornered Lee at the Appomattox Court House.
17. **John Brown:** ardent abolitionist and Northern martyr, executed after raid on Harper’s Ferry where he tried to spark a slave revolt.
18. **Fredrick Douglass:** prominent former slave and self-educated abolitionist. His influence extended even to the president.
19. **John C. Calhoun:** Southern Senator who tried to protect Southern interests while maintaining the Union. Pleaded the North to give concessions to the South.

Battles of the Civil War:

1. **Vicksburg:** Located along the southern portion of the Mississippi river. Grant’s Victory that gave Lincoln hope, and promoted him to General. City was siege until it fell to the Unions.
2. **Fort Sumter:** Located in South Carolina, site of first conflict where Southern troops fire on in coming “supplies” (reinforcements)
3. **Fort Pulaski:** n/a
4. **Antietam:** Turning point in Civil War. After this war, Unions would win all the major battles. This “tie” allowed Lincoln to deliver the Emancipation Proclamation.
5. **Fredericksburg:** The Union “slaughter”. Burnside was general, and he lost terribly to Lee.
6. **Gettysburg:** The farthest north point the Confederates have ever gone to. 3 days battle and ended with Pickett’s Charge, a confederate “slaughter”.
7. **Shiloh:** Another victory for Grant. Thought it almost emerged out to be a tie, Grant was victorious in the end.
8. **Petersburg:** 10 month long siege by the Unions. Even though the Crater battle caused huge casualties for the Union. Grant’s siege emerges victorious. (major battle in Wilderness Campaign)
9. **Peninsula Campaign:** McCellan’s attempt to capture Richmond, took nearly a year to *try* to sneak around and get to Richmond. Defeated by Lee in the Seven Days’ Battle.

Battles Timeline:

- ❖ 1861 Fort Sumter
Bull Run
- ❖ 1862 Fort Henry
Monitor vs. Merrimack
Battle of Shiloh
Peninsula Campaign
Second Bull Run
Antietam
Fredericksburg
- ❖ 1863 Emancipation Proclamation
Chancellorville
Siege of Vicksburg
Gettysburg
- ❖ 1864 Wilderness Campaign
Cold Harbor
Siege of Petersburg
Sherman’s March
- ❖ 1865 Sherman’s March through Carolinas
Richmond falls

Order of Union Commanders:

1. Winfield Scott
2. McDowell

3. McClellan
4. John Pope
5. McClellan (again)
6. Burnside
7. Joseph Hooker
8. Meade
9. Ulysses S. Grant

Legislation during the War:

1. **13th Amendment:** Outlaws slavery, frees all slaves in the U.S. Grants Congress authority to enforce the law.
2. **14th Amendment:** Civil rights amendment, grants citizenship to all residents, including blacks. Provides for due process of law and equal protection to all citizens. Reduces the representation proportionately if votes are not given to blacks, forbids Confederates from holding office, and repudiates all Confederate debts.
3. **15th Amendment:** Replaces part of the Fourteenth Amendment, forbids states from withholding the vote based on "race, color, or previous condition of servitude."
4. **Crittenden Compromise:** Last effort to maintain Union, states above 36° 30' line free states, all below slave. Future states were to be elected by popular sovereignty; territories in the south were to accept slavery. Rejected flatly by Lincoln.
5. **Wade-Davis Bill:** Congress' response to Lincoln's 10% plan. 50% of Southern voters must take the loyalty oath for readmission. Pocket- vetoed by Lincoln.
6. **Pacific Railway Act:** Passed 1862, grants federal land for the construction of a transcontinental railroad.
7. **Kansas-Nebraska Act:** Disregards the Missouri Compromise, divides the territory of Nebraska into 2 states (Kansas and Nebraska) and opens both to popular sovereignty to determine whether slave or free.
8. **Pendleton Act:** n/a (Bailey 24)
9. **Morrill Land Grant:** Passed in 1862 under Lincoln, grants each states a tract of federal land where all proceeds from its sales would be spent towards education. Did not include rebel states.
10. **Reconstruction Act of 1867:** radical Reconstruction policy, divides the South into five military districts.

Political Parties during the War:

1. **Republican:** Nominates Lincoln during the 1860 election. A sectional part, it does not attain national status.
2. **Southern Democrats:** Democrats who seceded from the Union and joined the Southern Confederacy.
3. **Northern Democrats:** Northern party divided into the militant fraction and peace fraction over the Civil War. War supporters join with the Republican Party whereas the Copperheads and the Peace Democrats opposed Lincoln's war efforts.
4. **Copperheads:** Northern extremists who aggressively undermined war efforts in order to bring about peace.
5. **Know-Nothings:** merged with Republican (see Republican)
6. **Liberty Party:** merged with Republican (see Republican)
7. **Whigs:** merged with Republican (see Republican)

Reconstruction Timeline:

- Reconstruction 1863-1879
 - ❖ 1863 Lincoln proposes original 10% Plan
 - ❖ 1864 Congress responds with Wade-Davis Bill
Lincoln re-elected, Johnson vice-president
 - ❖ 1865 13th Amendment ratified
Lincoln's Inaugural Address

- Lee surrenders at Appomattox Court House
- Lincoln assassinated
- Johnson announces his plan
- Planter aristocracy revives Black Codes
- Republicans dominate Congress, refuse to seat rebels
- Johnson announces the end of Reconstruction
- ❖ 1866 Johnson vetoes the Freedman's Bureau
- Civil Rights Bill of 1866 (Johnson vetoes, Congress overrides)
- 14th Amendment sent to states for ratification
- Johnson's speeches "swing around the circle"
- Republican election victory, 2/3 majority in both houses
- ❖ 1867 Reconstruction Act of 1867 (radical Reconstruction)
- ❖ 1868 Johnson is impeached and acquitted
- ❖ 1869 15th Amendment sent for ratification
- ❖ 1870 All states readmitted under radical Reconstruction
- Force Act passed

Miscellaneous:

1. **Foreign relations:** South anticipated and relied on foreign aid believing in the power of "King Cotton".
 - i. *Trent* affair occurred when two Confederate diplomats bound for Europe (see Slidell) were forcefully removed from a British ship. Lincoln later released the prisoners and averted war.
 - ii. *C.S.S. Alabama* warship built by Britain and manned by Britons. The warship raided Union merchants until sunk by a stronger Union cruiser.
 - iii. Attempted raids on Canada by the Irish. Later leads to the establishment of an independent Canada.
2. **Congressional vs. Presidential Reconstruction:**
 - i. President - Wanted to restore the southern states as fast as possible.
 - ii. Congress - Wanted more radical and slowly completely rebuild the south.
3. **Confederate and Union financing during the war:**
 - i. North - Temporary Income tax (duration of war), Import tax, War Bonds, Wheat sold to Britain
 - ii. South - War bonds, Smuggled Cotton, Income tax; hard to execute, Foreign loans from British, Printed too much paper money without specie backup, excise tax on tires, rubber, whiskey, etc.
4. **Lincoln-Douglas Debates:** "Won senate seat, but lost presidency", Douglass said Dred Scott Case did NOT rest in the court's decision, but in the people's decision (Freeport Doctrine). This turned the south Against him (see Douglas).
5. **Media coverage of the war:** Photographer was Matthew Brady.
6. **Southern Population:** 9 million total, 3.5 million slaves.
7. **Mississippi Black Codes:** (see black codes)
8. **Confederate Government:** Capitol located in Richmond, undermined by state's refusal to give up power.
9. **North vs. South:**
 - i. North - Better transportation, more population, better economy, pre-established govt, better navy.
 - ii. South - Don't have to win; just defend, Better generals, Possible foreign intervention.
10. **Union strategy: Six Points Plan** - Blockade, attack all fronts, Cut off south at Richmond, Split Confederacy at Mississippi River, keep border states, prevent foreign intervention.
11. **Union Commanders:**
 - i. Winfield Scott
 - ii. McDowell
 - iii. McClellan

- iv. John Pope
- v. McClellan (again)
- vi. Burnside
- vii. Joseph Hooker
- viii. Meade
- ix. Ulysses S. Grant

12. **Northern indifference towards emancipation:** “Freed” the slaves in the south—the Confederacy. Since Confederates were in a different country, the emancipation didn’t really free anyone other than give the north a moral boost.
13. **Literary works:** *The Liberator*, *American Slavery as it is*, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, *Beecher’s Bibles* (*n/a*, not a literary work)
14. **Black codes:** Forbade slaves to Serve on juries, vote, carry weapons without a license, hold public office, own land, travel without a permit, be out after curfew, assemble in groups without white supervisor.
15. **Freedman’s Bureau:** Government institution that provided welfare support for the freemen and poor whites after the war.
16. **Freeport Doctrine:** Belief held by Senator Douglas that popular sovereignty overrules legislation, that is, a law cannot hold if the majority does not want it to. Applies to the issue of whether a territory is to be free or slave.
17. **Education of freedmen:** accomplished mostly through the Freedman’s Bureau where it succeeded in educating thousands of freemen.
18. **Discovery of oil:** Helped boosted Northern economy and played a role in the initial development of the oil monopoly
19. **New weapons and inventions:** New weapons included the gattling gun and breech-loading rifles
20. **Sharecropping:** Division of plantation in which usually a group of freeman or poor whites worked in the plantation of landowners. Ideally, the workers would eventually earn enough money to buy the plot of land; however, it became basically slavery as the farmers were locked in a spiral of debt.
21. **Dred Scott decision:** (see Dred Scott)
22. **Sectional Conflicts:** State VS National, Agitators, Moral slavery issue, failure of democracy, Economy sectionalism, slave power aggression
23. **Results of the War:** More than 200,000 Americans were killed or injured throughout the war. The South was totally destroyed by the Northern armies.
24. **Scalawags and Carpetbaggers:** Carpetbaggers are Northerners who came down South allegedly for unscrupulous profit. Scalawags are Southerners who helps a Northerner.
25. **C.S.S. Alabama affair:** (see foreign relations)