Study Guide for the Reconstruction Exam!

Vocabulary: Complete flashcards for the vocabulary section of the test and get 5 extra percentage points on your test!

13th Amendment – This amendment made slavery illegal (not allowed) in the United States.

14th Amendment – This amendment gave equal rights to all people no matter their skin color. It also made sure that everyone, no matter their skin color gets due process.

15th Amendment – This amendment gave all men the right to vote no matter their skin color or age.

Reconstruction – The period after the Civil War when the South was being rebuilt, and the government set up the Freedmen’s Bureau to help freed black slaves and poor white Southerners. It lasted from 1866 – 1877.

Freedmen’s Bureau – The Freedmen’s Bureau was a group set up by the government after the Civil War that helped freed black slaves and poor white Southerners get education, health care, and jobs. The Freedmen’s Bureau helped many people get back on their feet.

Vocabulary: Complete flashcards for the vocabulary section of the test and get 5 extra percentage points on your test!

Sharecropping – a system where a plantation owner lets people work on part of their land in return for rent and money that is made from selling crops such as cotton.

Debt – owing someone money

Discrimination – Being mean to a person for no good reason.

Racism – Not liking someone because of the color of someone’s skin color.

Jim Crow Laws – Laws that were in place in the South used to take away rights of African Americans.

Segregation – Separating people either by gender, race, or some other way.

Short Answers: Complete flashcards for the vocabulary section of the test and get 5 extra percentage points on your test!

Why was sharecropping bad?

Sharecropping was bad because the people that worked on the plantation owner’s land would constantly be in debt. Every penny that a sharecropper might get from selling their cotton would have to go straight to the plantation owner
because that sharecropper owed the plantation owner money for rent and supplies. **Sharecropping was like slavery!**

*How did Jim Crow Laws take away African Americans’ rights?*

**Jim Crow Laws would take African Americans’ rights away.** Jim Crow Laws included making African Americans pay taxes to vote, making separate schools for African Americans and White people, but at the same time not giving money to African American schools.

*How did groups like the Ku Klux Klan take away African Americans’ rights?*

**The Ku Klux Klan would threaten African Americans if they tried to use some of their rights.** The Ku Klux Klan would make African Americans afraid to do certain things like vote, speak out against racism (first amendment right), or get a good education. **Many times the Ku Klux Klan would use violence.**