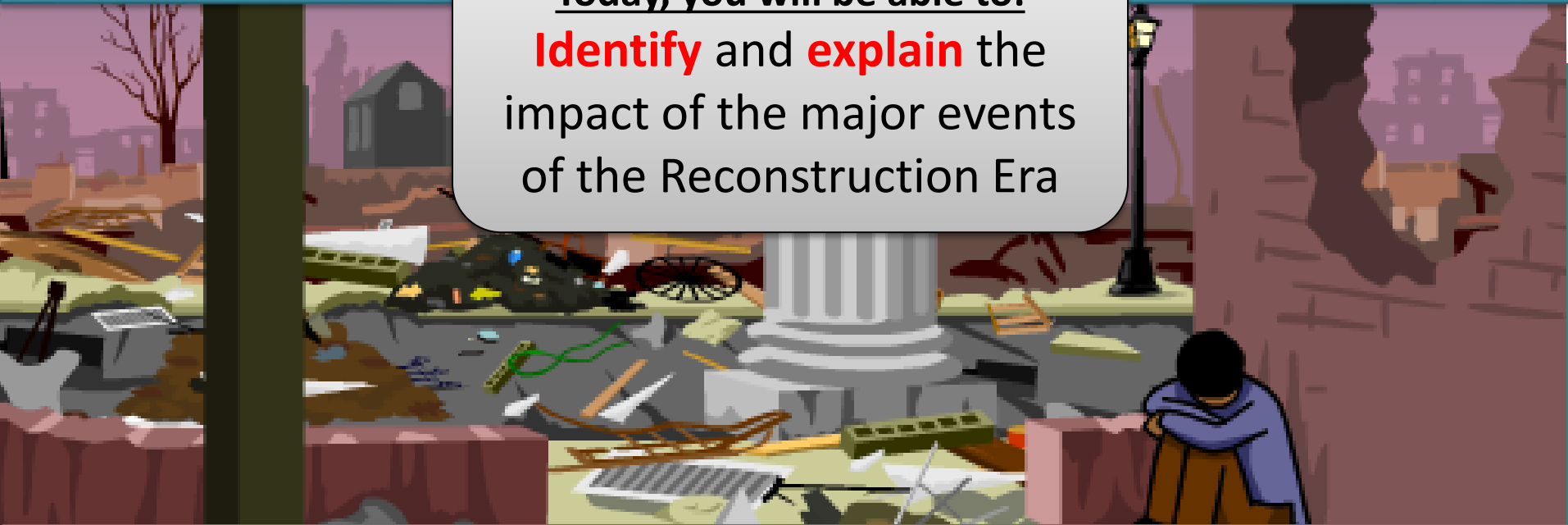


Reconstruction Era

Today, you will be able to:
Identify and **explain** the
impact of the major events
of the Reconstruction Era



Directions:

- 1. Write vocabulary words on page 127**
- 2. Read and Summarize the major events by answering the guided questions**

Reconstruction

Vocabulary

Reconstruction Vocabulary Page



Timeline Voc.

Reconstruct

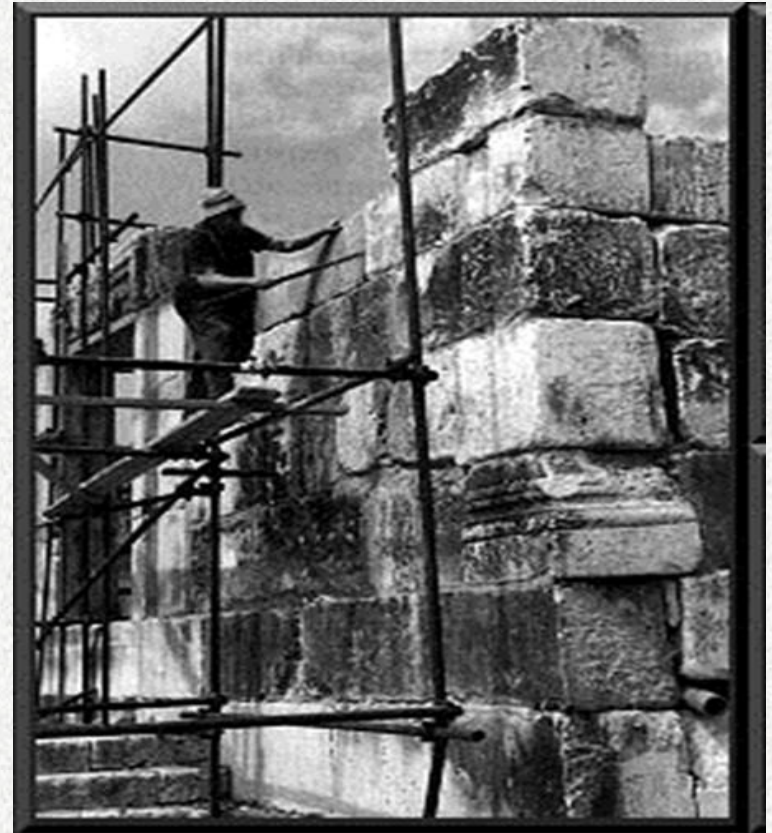
Freedmen

Legislative Programs

Assassination

Reconstruct

❑ **To rebuild;** After the Civil War, the nation must reconstruct the South.



Freedmen

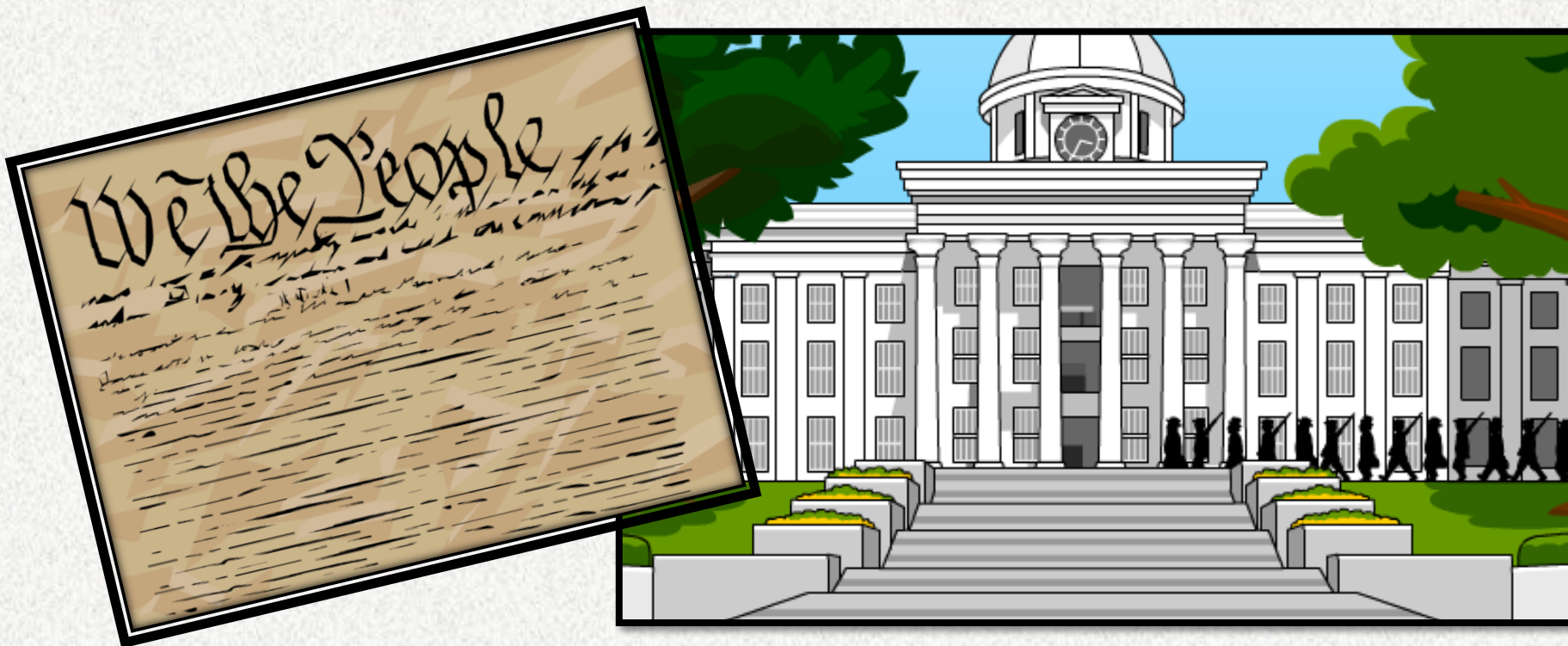
- ❑ **The freed slaves;** The Freedmen's Bureau was a program to aid the freed slaves



Legislative Programs

Pages
127-128

- ❑ **Plans passed by Congress;** Congress passed several legislative programs to rebuild the South.



Assassination

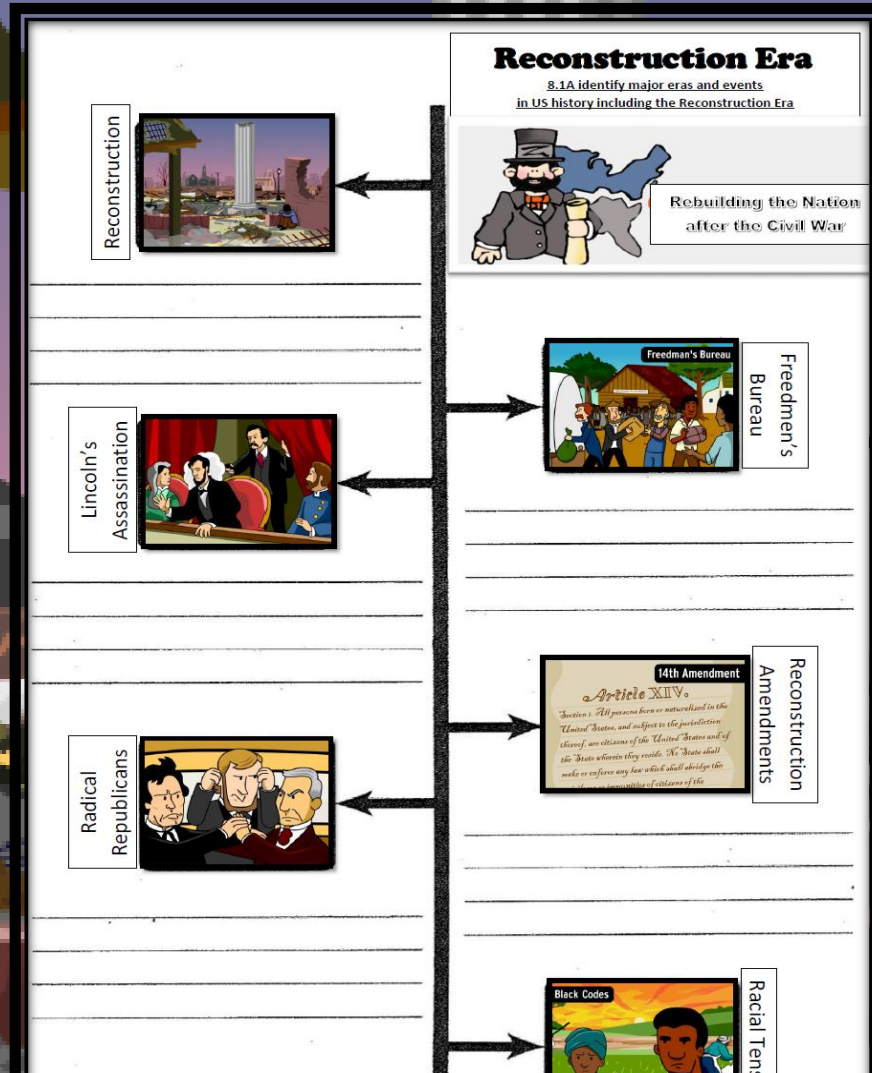
Pages 127-128

- ❑ **The killing on a political leader;** President Lincoln was assassinated at Ford's Theater.



Reconstruction Timeline

- Read and summarize the major events
- Follow instructions to complete the Reconstruction Timeline



Reconstruction

- How did Americans reconstruct the Union?

By the end of the Civil War, Americans longed for peace. Reconstruction, or rebuilding the South and bringing the southern states back into the Union, would not be easy. For a while the nation was united again, Americans remained deeply divided.



Reconstruction

- What was the power struggle during the Reconstruction period?

During this time period, the first major issue confronting the national government was how the Southern states were to be admitted back into the Union. A bitter power struggle developed between the President and Congress over which branch should determined the conditions for admission.



Lincoln's Assassination

- Why was the date of Lincoln's assassination memorable?
- Who shot Lincoln and why did he shot him?

Just weeks after the General Lee surrenders at Appomattox, President Lincoln was assassinated on April 14th 1865, in Washington D.C., exactly four years his call to put down the rebellion. Lincoln was shot in the back of the head by the actor John Wilkes Booth, thought killing Lincoln would save the Confederacy.

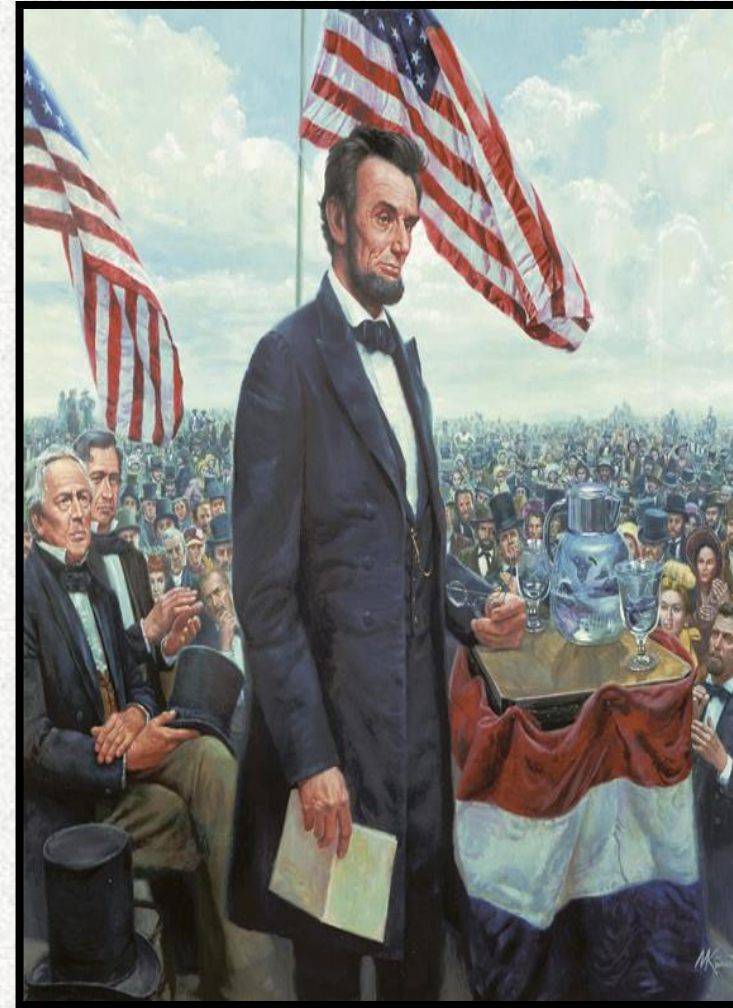
Ford's Theater



Lincoln's Assassination

- What was Lincoln's plans if he remained living?

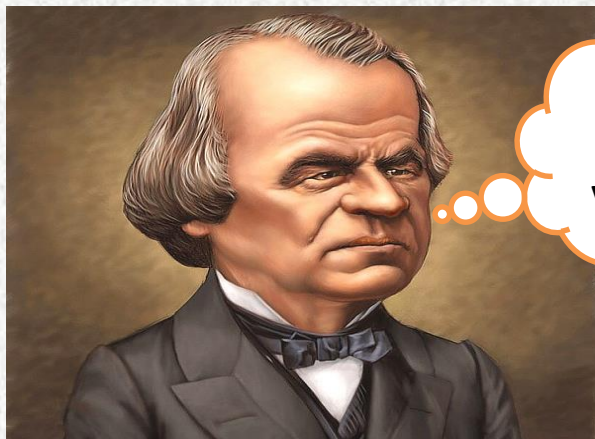
Lincoln died the next day, April 15th 1865. Had Lincoln lived, he was prepared to forgive the South and to work together as Americans dedicated to a system of government based on liberty, equality, and unity. Lincoln's greatest achievement was his ability to preserve the nation by acting "with malice (cruel) towards none."



Radical Republicans

- Who were the Radical Republicans?
- What was the Reconstruction Act?

The Radical Republicans, a group of Northern Congressmen, wanted freedmen to be granted full political equality. Congress also passed the Reconstruction Act to establish direct military rule over the former Confederate states. The newly elected President Johnson opposed the Congressional program.



Radical Republicans

- What was the relationship between the Radical Republicans and President Johnson?

The Radical Republicans believed they should have the power to establish programs. The hostile relations between Johnson and the Radical Republicans in Congress quickly affected Reconstruction policies. They were also quite suspicious that Johnson, a Southerner from Tennessee, was overly sympathetic to the South.



I wonder why Johnson is vetoing every bill...

Johnson Impeached

- Why did the Radicals called for Johnson's removal? What was Johnson's reaction?

A number of Radicals had called for Johnson's removal, fearing that Reconstruction could never be successful so long he remained in office. Congress passed the Tenure of Office Act, limiting the President's power to dismiss his own Cabinet members. Johnson refused to obey this law, which he believed was unconstitutional.



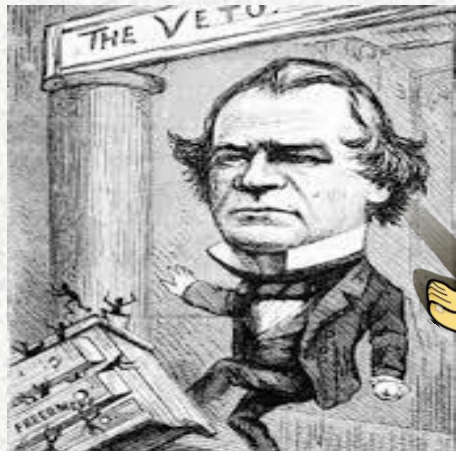
We, Radicals,
limit Johnson's
duties as
president!!



Johnson Impeached

- Who replaced Johnson as president?

When Johnson dismissed his Secretary of War, Congressional leaders moved to remove Johnson from office through the process of impeachment. Shortly after removing Johnson from office, Ulysses S. Grant, was elected President. Although Grant had been a brilliant general, his administration was characterized weak leadership during Reconstruction.



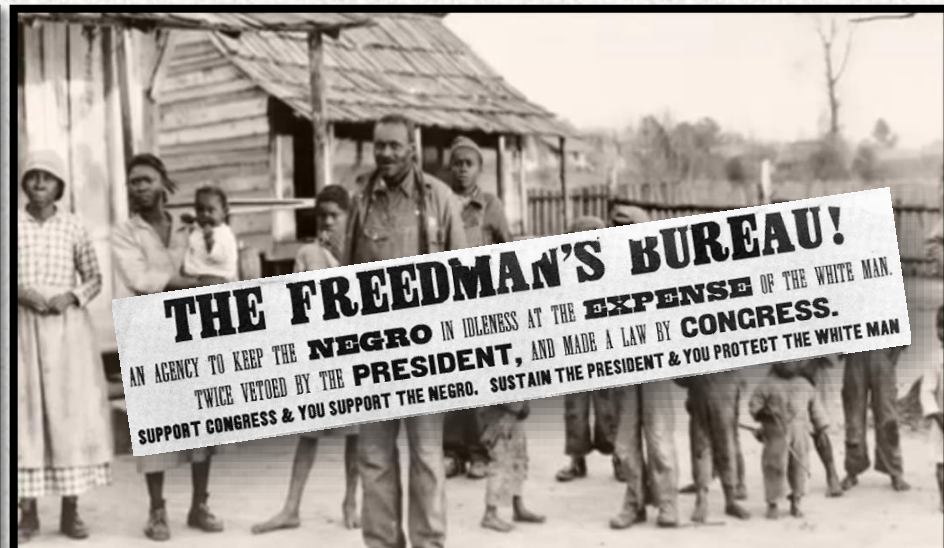
President during Reconstruction isn't easy..



Freedmen's Bureau

- What did Congress established for the freedmen?

While new governments were being formed across the South, freedmen, as former slaves, were testing the meaning of freedom. Many freedmen began their lives with nothing. Congress established the Freedmen's Bureau to help the freed slaves with food, clothing, and medical care.



Freedmen's Bureau

- What rights were granted for the freedmen?

The bureau also searched for lost family members, made slave marriages legal, opened schools to teach former slaves to read and write, and organized to demand their civil rights. Some freedmen called for Southerners to give them their own land and tools – “20 acres and a mule” as payment for years unpaid labor. But Southern governments refused to do so.



Reconstruction Amendments

- Which Constitutional amendments did the Radical Republicans introduce?

Following the Civil War, the Radical Republicans in Congress introduced three new Constitutional amendments: the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments, known as the Reconstruction Amendments. Their purpose was to abolish slavery, provide citizenship to freedmen, and guarantee their civil rights.



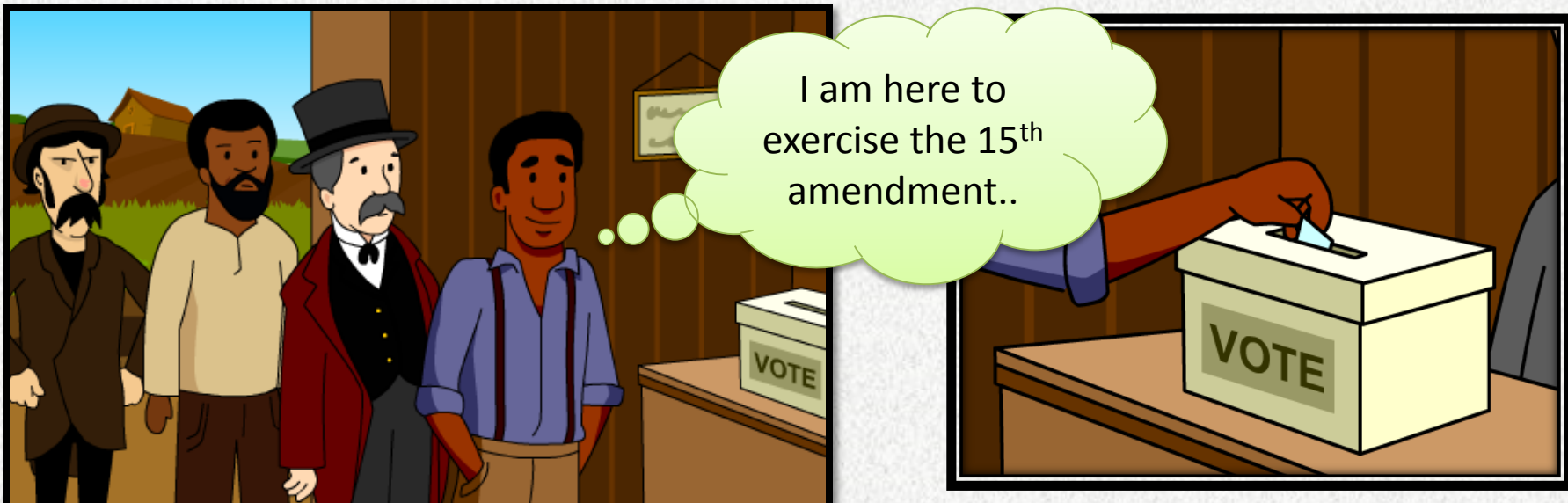
I have waited
all my life for
freedom..



Reconstruction Amendments

- What did each reconstruction amendment guarantee? (13th, 14th, & 15th)
- Who did not receive these rights?

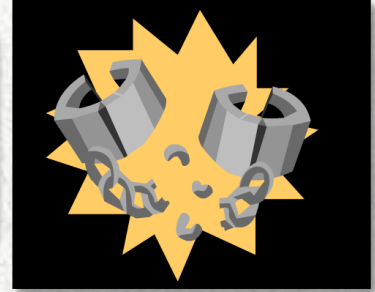
As the 13th amendment abolished slavery, it failed to give slaves equal protection under the law. The 14th amendment granted U.S. citizenship to all former slaves. The Fifteenth amendment, guaranteed voting rights to former slaves. (Note: women and Native Americans did not receive any rights under any of these amendments.)



Reconstruction Amendments

13

Abolish slavery



14

**Provide citizenship
to freedmen**



15

**Guarantee voting rights
to freedmen (only males)**



Racial Tensions

- What are “Black Codes”?
- Which civil right were Black Codes violating?

Southern states passed “Black Codes”, to regulate the lives of the freedmen. The aim of these codes was to preserve traditional Southern society despite the abolition of slavery. “Black Codes” made it illegal for freedmen to hold public office, to travel freely or to serve on juries. These laws led to the imprisonment of African Americans.



Black Codes
should be
illegal!!



Racial Tensions

- Which two state laws were passed that prohibited the African Americans to vote?

Many southern states passed laws requiring citizens who wanted to vote to pay a poll tax. The tax was set high enough that voting, made voting difficult. Southerners also required citizens to pass a literacy test to show that they could read before allowing them to vote. These test were set up to fail any African American, regardless of his education.

