

Name _____

Module 19: Reconstruction Essays

Assigned: Monday, August 19

Due: Friday, August 23

Essential Question Writing Activity

PROMPT

Historical Context

In this module you've learned about the political struggle for control of the Reconstruction effort and its effect on a newly freed African American population. Now it's your turn to demonstrate your understanding of the module content by writing an essay.

Task

Write a persuasive essay that answers this question:

To what extent did Reconstruction achieve its goals?

1. Your essay should include key people, events, and turning points in the political battles over Reconstruction.
2. Cite evidence to support your position.
3. Organize your essay into an introduction, body, and conclusion.

Name _____

Document-Based Investigation Writing Activity

PROMPT

Historical Context

Historians still argue about the success of Reconstruction. On one hand, the government did achieve its most important goal—the reunification of the nation. On the other hand, despite significant progress, Reconstruction failed to secure equal rights for African Americans.

Task

Reconstruction resulted in three constitutional amendments and government efforts such as the Freedmen’s Bureau to promote equal rights in the South. This era, however, also witnessed a determined southern campaign to block racial equality. *Write an argument in which you support a claim about the impact Reconstruction had on African Americans.*

Complete the following steps as you plan and compose your essay.

1. Review your notes and sources before you start writing.
2. Use at least *three* of the sources in Part 1, and develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen text evidence from the documents.
3. Cite specific text evidence from each of the sources in your response.
4. Plan your essay so that it includes an introduction, several body paragraphs, and a concluding paragraph.
5. Express a strong standpoint and support your position with reasons and evidence.
6. Organize your essay in a clear and logical way that effectively builds your argument.
7. Write a conclusion that sums up your ideas and supports the information you present.