**Reconstruction Cloze Worksheet** **Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Circle the term that best completes each sentence. Once you are done read the entire paper to make sure each sentence is correct.**

Many Americans were relieved once the Civil War ended, but there was still considerable work to do for the nation to recover and heal. This time of recovery and healing is referred to as Reconstruction. Reconstruction began in **( 1860, 1865 )** and ended in **( 1877, 1887 ).** Reconstruction had three major goals. First, the **( North, South )** had to be brought back into the Union. Second, newly freed slaves needed help and protection. Last, many areas in the **(North, South )** had to be rebuilt because of the fighting during the Civil War.

Fortunately for America, several leaders emerged to guide the nation through these troubling times. **(Andrew Johnson, Abraham Lincoln )** was President during the Civil War. His plan for Reconstruction was based on **(punishment, reconciliation )**. Lincoln was unable to fulfill his plan. Tragically, he was assassinated at Ford’s Theater shortly after the end of the Civil War. He was assassinated by **( John Wilkes Booth, Robert E. Lee ).** Vice President **(Rutherford B. Hayes, Andrew Johnson )** took over as President immediately following Lincoln’s death. He proved to be a weak leader at a time when America needed strong leadership. **( Robert E. Lee, Frederick Douglass)** was a Southern General during the Civil War, however he was quick to encourage Southerners to peacefully rejoin the Union. **( Robert E. Lee, Frederick Douglass** ) was a former slave that fought for human and civil rights.

The government implemented numerous policies to help rebuild the nation. Some of those policies were helpful, others were harsh and created problems in the **( North, South ).** The Civil Rights Act of **( 1866, 1877 )** authorized the use of federal troops to enforce rights for African Americans. A government agency called the **( Freedmen’s Bureau, Free Slave Organization )** provided African Americans with help establishing new lives. During Reconstruction former Confederate military leaders **( could, could not )** hold public office, but African Americans **( could, could not )** be elected to public office. Carpetbaggers were individuals from the **( North, South )** that came to the **( North, South)** to take advantage of post-war conditions.

During Reconstruction, three Amendments to the Constitution were created. The 13th Amendment banned **(murdering African Americans, slavery )** in the U.S. and all its territories forever. The 14th Amendment grants **(citizenship, voting rights** **)** to African Americans. The 15th Amendment gives **( citizenship, voting rights )** to African Americans men.

Reconstruction officially came to an end when President **( Andrew Johnson, Rutherford B. Hayes )** removed federal troops from the South in the year **( 1877, 1887 )**. Without the strong supervision of federal troops, most areas in the South reverted, or went back to many of the harsh practices seen right after the Civil War. African Americans continued to **( lose, gain )** rights through Jim Crow laws. Jim Crow laws were state or local laws that helped spread discrimination by limiting many of the rights African Americans had recently gained from the federal government. African American rights continued to be eliminated by the landmark court case of **( Plessy v. Ferguson, Brown v. The Board of Education )**. The Supreme Court case ruled that “separate but equal” was acceptable in America. The Supreme Court defended their ruling by saying that it is acceptable to separate people based on race, as long as both races had access to equal opportunities. This allowed African Americans to be discriminated against by not permitting them to use the same restrooms, restaurants, schools, etc. The facilities African American were given access to were almost always of lesser worth than what whites were given. The Supreme Court decision led to the spreading of **(discrimination, cooties )** in America for many decades to follow.

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