

Paths Back Home

Compare three plans for rebuilding the Union after the Civil War.

SS8H6.b "Explain the key features of the Lincoln, the Johnson, and the Congressional Reconstruction plans."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one requirement or action for each Reconstruction plan. In the margin, number the plans 1 for Lincoln, 2 for Johnson, and 3 for Congress so you can compare who controlled each plan.

Three Reconstruction Plans

- ① During the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proposed the Ten Percent Plan as a quick, forgiving path for Southern states to return. When 10 percent of a state's 1860 voters took a loyalty oath and accepted the end of slavery, those voters could create a new state government. Lincoln offered pardons to many Confederates, though some leaders were excluded. He wanted the Union restored quickly and believed a mild plan would weaken support for the Confederacy.
- ② After Lincoln was assassinated, President Andrew Johnson used another presidential plan. Southern states had to cancel their ordinances of secession, reject Confederate debts, and ratify the Thirteenth Amendment, which ended slavery. Many former Confederates could receive pardons by taking a loyalty oath. However, wealthy planters and important Confederate officials had to ask Johnson personally for pardons. Johnson's plan let Southern states form governments quickly, and several of those governments passed Black Codes that restricted African Americans' freedom.
- ③ Congress rejected the lenient approach and passed the Reconstruction Acts in 1867. These laws placed the former Confederate states, except Tennessee, in five military districts governed by Union generals. To regain representation in Congress, each state had to write a new constitution that protected Black male suffrage and ratify the Fourteenth Amendment, which defined national citizenship and required equal protection. Congressional Reconstruction gave Congress and the Army more control than either presidential plan. Its stricter rules aimed to protect the rights of formerly enslaved people.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What had to happen before a Southern state could create a new government under Lincoln's Ten Percent Plan?

2 Name two requirements Johnson placed on Southern states and identify one group that needed a personal pardon from him.

3 How did the Reconstruction Acts change control of the former Confederate states, and what were two steps states had to take to regain representation?

4 Which Reconstruction plan was stricter than the other two? Use one detail from the passage to explain your answer.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly four sentences comparing the three Reconstruction plans. Include one accurate feature of Lincoln's plan, Johnson's plan, and Congressional Reconstruction, then explain which plan gave Congress or the Army the most control.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one requirement or action for each Reconstruction plan. In the margin, number the plans 1 for Lincoln, 2 for Johnson, and 3 for Congress so you can compare who controlled each plan. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What had to happen before a Southern state could create a new government under Lincoln's Ten Percent Plan?	Ten percent of the state's 1860 voters had to take a loyalty oath and accept the end of slavery.
2	Name two requirements Johnson placed on Southern states and identify one group that needed a personal pardon from him.	States had to cancel secession ordinances, reject Confederate debts, and ratify the Thirteenth Amendment. Wealthy planters or important Confederate officials needed personal pardons.
3	How did the Reconstruction Acts change control of the former Confederate states, and what were two steps states had to take to regain representation?	The acts placed the states, except Tennessee, in military districts governed by Union generals. States had to write constitutions protecting Black male suffrage and ratify the Fourteenth Amendment.
4	Which Reconstruction plan was stricter than the other two? Use one detail from the passage to explain your answer.	Congressional Reconstruction was stricter because it placed former Confederate states under military control and required new constitutions and ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Lincoln's Ten Percent Plan allowed a state to form a new government after 10 percent of its 1860 voters took loyalty oaths and accepted the end of slavery. Johnson required states to cancel secession ordinances, reject Confederate debts, and ratify the Thirteenth Amendment. Congressional Reconstruction placed former Confederate states, except Tennessee, in military districts and required new constitutions protecting Black male suffrage. Congressional Reconstruction gave Congress and the Army the most control because Union generals governed the military districts.

Accept equivalent wording for the listed requirements and comparisons when it matches the passage. For the open response, check that all three plans are accurately represented and that the student identifies Congressional Reconstruction as giving Congress or the Army the most control.