

Legacy Voices

Trace how Civil War and Reconstruction leaders shaped the nation.

USII.2.c “describing the legacies of Abraham Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address, Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, Hiram Revels, and Frederick Douglass;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each person's name. Underline one phrase for each person that explains a lasting influence, or legacy, on the United States.

Leaders and Lasting Influence

- ① During the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln worked to preserve the United States. His Emancipation Proclamation changed the war by declaring freedom for enslaved people in Confederate-held areas. In 1863, after a costly battle in Pennsylvania, Lincoln gave the Gettysburg Address. In this short speech, he honored the dead and said the nation should have “a new birth of freedom.” His words strengthened the idea that the United States should be united and dedicated to equality.
- ② Ulysses S. Grant led Union armies to victory and later served as president during Reconstruction. As president, he used federal power to protect the civil rights of formerly enslaved people. His administration supported the Fifteenth Amendment, which protected Black men’s voting rights. Hiram Revels showed another change after the war. In 1870, Mississippi sent Revels, a Black minister and educator, to the U.S. Senate. He became the first African American to serve in Congress.
- ③ Robert E. Lee commanded the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. After the war, he became president of Washington College, later named Washington and Lee University. He encouraged students to rebuild their lives and the country, yet his Confederate leadership remains tied to the cause of secession and slavery. Frederick Douglass, a formerly enslaved writer and speaker, pressed for equal rights. During Reconstruction, he supported voting rights, education, and full citizenship for African Americans. His speeches continued to challenge the nation to live up to its ideals.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What message from the Gettysburg Address became part of Abraham Lincoln's legacy?

2 How did Ulysses S. Grant use the power of the federal government during Reconstruction?

3 Why was Hiram Revels's service in the U.S. Senate an important legacy of Reconstruction?

4 How were Robert E. Lee's and Frederick Douglass's legacies different?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum label about Abraham Lincoln and Hiram Revels. Explain one lasting influence of each person and what their legacies show about changes in the United States.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each person's name. Underline one phrase for each person that explains a lasting influence, or legacy, on the United States. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What message from the Gettysburg Address became part of Abraham Lincoln's legacy?	The address honored the dead and called for a new birth of freedom, unity, and equality.
2	How did Ulysses S. Grant use the power of the federal government during Reconstruction?	He used federal power to protect the civil rights of formerly enslaved people and supported the Fifteenth Amendment.
3	Why was Hiram Revels's service in the U.S. Senate an important legacy of Reconstruction?	He became the first African American to serve in Congress, showing a major political change after the war.
4	How were Robert E. Lee's and Frederick Douglass's legacies different?	Lee's Confederate leadership remained connected to secession and slavery, although he later encouraged rebuilding. Douglass fought for equal rights, voting rights, education, and full citizenship for African Americans.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

An exhibit about Abraham Lincoln and Hiram Revels shows two changes in the United States. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address called for a new birth of freedom and linked the nation to equality. Revels's election to the Senate showed that an African American could hold national office during Reconstruction.

Accept equivalent descriptions of each person's influence that use accurate details from the passage. For the museum label, accept three sentences that explain a legacy for both Lincoln and Revels and connect them to national change.