Middle School Social Studies
Grade 7
Texas History
2019 – 2020
Extended Spring Break
Instructional Packet

WEEK 1
The Civil War

Lesson 1: Texas Joins the Confederacy

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How do governments change?

Terms to Know

economy the system by which goods and services are produced, sold, and bought in a country or region

states’ rights the position that the federal government should not interfere with the states exercising their constitutional powers

fundamental of central importance

sectionalism focus on the interests of one’s region

sovereign free from outside control; self-governing

secede to withdraw from a larger unit one belongs to

ordinance a local law or piece of legislation

Where in the world?

[Map showing the United States with states shaded to indicate Union and Confederate states, Border states (slaveholding states remaining in Union), and Territories (Union)]
A Divided Nation

Guiding Question Why issues divided the nation in the time leading up to the Civil War?

Soon after Texas became a state, the issue of slavery divided the country. The South’s economy was based on plantation agriculture. Enslaved workers were an important part of that economy. Many Southerners believed that an end to slavery would end their way of life. The North’s economy was based on small farms and industry. Slavery had been abolished in most Northern states before 1860.

In the 1850s, a new political party arose mainly in the North. This party, the Republican Party, opposed the spread of slavery to new territories. A group within the party hoped to see slavery ended completely. Southerners believed that this anti-slavery group dominated the party. Many worried that if Republicans gained control of the government, they would end slavery.

Other political issues also concerned Southerners. The Republican Party supported raising tariffs on imported goods. Southerners had long opposed high tariffs. The South, unlike the North, had few manufacturers who would benefit from tariffs. In addition, the South imported many of its goods. High tariffs meant that imports would cost more. Southerners believed this would hurt them economically.

States’ rights was another fundamental issue that concerned Southerners. For example, some Southern leaders argued that the states had the right not to follow laws passed by Congress if they disagreed with those laws. This included a tariff law.

Divisions on these issues promoted sectionalism. Sectionalism is a focus on the interests of one’s own region. People in the North and South focused on what would benefit their region rather than the whole nation. Many political leaders pursued sectional, instead of national, interests.

Texas Secession

Guiding Question How did Texans make the difficult decision to secede?

In the 1800s, The United States was known as the Union. For years, Southern leaders argued that they had voluntarily entered the Union as sovereign states. Therefore, they had a right to secede, or leave, the Union if they felt that their rights were threatened.
When Republican Abraham Lincoln won the presidential election in November 1860, many Southerners believed that their way of life was in danger. Rather than wait for Lincoln to end slavery, they acted. By the end of January 1861, South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, and Louisiana had all seceded.

Many Texans urged Governor Sam Houston to call for a convention on secession. People in the state disagreed about this issue. Those who depended on enslaved labor wanted to secede, but other, mostly in northern and western Texas, opposed secession. Houston was devoted to the Union, and so he was an opponent of secession. He also thought it was unwise to enter a war that he believed the South could not win. He refused to call for a convention.

Supporters of secession called for a convention to vote on the issue anyway. They organized elections to choose delegates. Texans who opposed secession felt that this meeting would be illegal and refused to take part in the election. As a result, most of the delegates favored secession.

Although Houston tried to stop the convention, it began in Austin on January 28, 1861. Members of this Texas Secession Convention adopted the Ordinance of Secession. This ordinance claimed that the U.S. government had abused its power. It stated that Texas had the sovereign right to free itself from the United States. About a month after the convention, the people of Texas approved secession from the Union by a vote of 46,153 to 14,747.

Birth of the Confederacy

Guiding Question  How was Texas affected by its decision to join the Confederate States of America?

Delegates at the Texas Secession Convention had also sent delegates to a meeting of the seceded states in Montgomery, Alabama. The Montgomery Convention of February 1861 formed a new country, the Confederate States of America. The convention wrote a constitution. The Confederate Constitution gave more power to the individual states than to the central government. It also guaranteed the protection of slavery.

The Convention chose leaders, too. Jefferson Davis from Mississippi was elected president of the Confederate States of America. Texan John H. Reagan was named postmaster general. He had served as a judge, a member of the Texas legislature, and a member of the U.S. Congress.
The Convention then ordered all state officials to take an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy. Governor Sam Houston believed this oath violated the one he had already sworn to for upholding the U.S. Constitution. He refused to take the new oath, so the Convention removed him from office. President Lincoln offered to send Union troops to keep Houston in office. However, Houston knew that action would lead to violence and declined the offer.

Edward Clark, the lieutenant governor, took the oath of the Confederacy and became governor. Houston gave his last public speech in April 1861. In the speech, he warned that the North was determined to preserve the Union and that, in the conflict to come, the South would be crushed.

In early 1861, the Confederacy seized U.S. arsenals, forts, and navy yards within their borders. South Carolina demanded the surrender of Fort Sumter in Charleston Bay. U.S. troops refused to turn the fort over, however. On April 12, 1861, Confederate troops opened fire on the fort. The next day U.S. troops surrendered the fort. The Civil War had begun. Lincoln called for volunteers to defend the Union. Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina then joined the Confederacy.

The Civil War
Lesson 1: Texas Joins the Confederacy, continued

Identifying Cause and Effect
8. Why was Sam Houston removed from office?

Reading Progress Check
9. How did the Confederate Constitution differ from the U.S. Constitution?

Writing
Check for Understanding
1. Expository How did the Republican Party and the election of 1860 help spark the Civil War?

2. Expository Where and how did the Civil War begin?
The Civil War

Lesson 2: The Lone Star State in the War

ESSENTIAL QUESTION
Why does conflict develop?

Terms to Know

- conscription: the forced enrollment of people into military service
- overall: as a whole or in general
- Unionist: a person who supported the Union cause during the Civil War
- vigilante: a member of a volunteer committee organized to punish criminals
- blockade: using naval vessels to prevent shipment of food and supplies into or out of ports

Where in the World?

[Map of Texas and the surrounding region, showing key locations and symbols indicating Confederate states, Union states and territories, Mexico, railroads, manufacturing and supply centers, centers of trade with Mexico, major battle sites, prisoner of war camps, cotton, and cattle.]
The Civil War

Lesson 2: The Lone Star State in the War, continued

Marking the Text

1. Highlight the provisions of the Conscription Act.

2. Underline the two famous Texas units that fought in the Civil War.

Defining

3. What is a Unionist?

Reading Progress Check

4. Compare the motives of Texans who joined the Confederate cause with those of Texans who sided with the Union.

Texans Go to War

Guiding Question What role did Texans play in the Civil War?

When the Civil War began, about 25,000 Texans volunteered to fight. Thousands joined the army from other Confederate states, too. However, losses were high. To meet the need for soldiers, the Confederate congress passed the **Conscription Act** in 1862. It said that all men between 18 and 35 had to serve in the armed forces.

**Overall** about 70,000 Texans served in the war. About two-thirds of the first Texans soldiers were in the cavalry. They fought on horseback. Thousands of other Texans were foot soldiers in the infantry.

Two well-known units came from Texas. One group, Hood’s Brigade, led for a time by Brigadier General John Bell Hood, fought in most of the major battles in the East. Hood’s Texans met with high casualties. Soldiers died in battle, but many died from disease. Army camps were filthy, food was of poor quality, and good medical care was scarce. Of the more than 700,000 soldiers who died on both sides in the war, two-thirds died from disease or infection.

The other famous Texas unit was Terry’s Texas Rangers, a cavalry force. The Rangers were led by Benjamin Franklin Terry. This unit fought in battles from Tennessee to Georgia.

Although most Texans supported the Confederacy, some did not. Those who supported the federal government were known as **Unionists**. Over 2,000 Texan Unionists joined the Union army. Some Tejanos fought for the Union because they were bitter about their lands being taken and because of ill treatment by Texans. Unionists faced hostility. In 1862, some German settlers were caught trying to flee to Mexico to avoid conscription. Confederate cavalry killed many in a fight near the Nueces River.

Other Unionists tried to escape the draft by hiding. Some were arrested. Others were forced to join the army, and still others were killed by **vigilante** groups. These were citizens who took the law into their own hands. Vigilantes often hanged Unionists without a trial.

African Americans supported the Union because a Union victory would mean an end to slavery. Some African Americans from Texas managed to join the Union army. One, Milton M. Holland, led his unit to victory after all the commanders had been killed. For this, he was awarded the Medal of Honor, America's highest military award.
Fighting to Control Galveston

Guiding Question Why was the control of Galveston important to both the Confederacy and the Union?

The Union had a three-part strategy to defeat the Confederacy.

Three-Part Union Strategy

- Cut the Confederacy in two by taking control of the Mississippi River.
- Dividing the Southern troops in the east and the west would weaken both groups.
- Capture the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia.
- Form a naval blockade of the entire Confederate coastline to keep the Confederacy from shipping cotton to Europe in return for supplies.

Because of Texas’s location on the Gulf of Mexico, the effects of the blockade were felt by soldiers and citizens. Texans tried to make their coastline more secure. They had fortifications built along the shore. Heavy cannons were set up. However, in 1862, a small Union fleet sailed into Galveston harbor and forced the city to surrender.

The loss of Galveston was a serious blow to Texas and to the Confederacy. Confederate commanders knew they had to regain the city. General John B. Magruder commanded the Confederate forces in Texas. He was determined to retake Galveston. He gathered infantry, cavalry, and gunboats for the attempt.

On New Year’s Day, 1863, Confederate troops attacked the Union forces at Galveston. The Confederate gunboats forced one Union ship to surrender. Another Union ship was blown up by its own crew after running aground. The rest of the Union fleet steamed away. Several hundred Union soldiers surrendered, and Galveston was again under Confederate control.

The Confederacy held Galveston for the rest of the war, even though the Union blockade outside Galveston remained in effect. Galveston became one of the only ports available to the Confederacy. Ships known as blockade runners continued to bring much-needed supplies for Texas and the Confederacy into Galveston.
The Civil War

Lesson 2: The Lone Star State in the War, continued

Defending Texas

Guiding Question What other battles were fought in Texas?

The Union wanted to gain control of Texas and Confederate lands west of the Mississippi River. They hoped to enter the interior of Texas by controlling Sabine Pass, where the Sabine River flows into the Gulf of Mexico. Fort Griffin was located at the pass. The Union commander in the area wanted to land troops near Sabine Pass, capture the fort, and then march overland to capture Beaumont and Houston.

During the Union attack, Confederates fired on Union ships and captured about 350 Union soldiers. The Union forces retreated, and Sabine Pass stayed under Confederate control.

Texans shipped and received goods throughout the war, despite the blockade. Confederates sold cotton to Europe in return for medicine, ammunition, and other supplies. The city of Brownsville is near Mexico, so Texas traders could send their cotton across the Rio Grande to Matamoros, Mexico. The use of the Mexican port made some trade possible.

The Union army hoped to cut off this valuable supply line. In November 1863, Union forces captured Brownsville and tried to gain more territory. Confederate forces recaptured Brownsville in July 1864. When the war ended, Union troops occupied only Brazos Island at the mouth of the Rio Grande.

Writing

Check for Understanding

1. Expository What were the three parts of the Union strategy in the war?

2. Expository Why was it possible for the Confederacy to ship cotton via European ships docked in Mexico?
The Civil War

Lesson 3: Hardships at Home

ESSENTIAL QUESTION
Why does conflict develop?

Terms to Know
home front  the civilian world in wartime
homespun a coarse, loosely woven, homemade fabric
quinine  drug used for fighting malaria and other fevers
collapse  to break apart or fall down suddenly

What do you know?
In the first column, answer the questions based on what you know before you study. After the lesson, fill in the last column.

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<td>Who were Sam Houston’s successors as governor of Texas during the Civil War?</td>
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<td>What items were scarce during the war?</td>
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The Texas Home Front
Guiding Question  What was the Texas home front like during the Civil War?

After secession, pro-Confederate leaders quickly took control of state offices in Texas. Edward Clark replaced Sam Houston as governor. Clark’s successor was Francis R. Lubbock. He was elected governor in 1861, after having served as lieutenant governor. Lubbock was a lifelong Democrat and was involved in state and local politics.
The Civil War

Lesson 3: Hardships at Home, continued

As governor, Lubbock helped raise troops for the Confederacy and encouraged the growth of Texas factories to make military supplies. When his term ended in 1863, he joined the Confederate army. Pendleton Murrah became governor and held the office until the end of the war.

The war greatly affected the home front, or the civilian world, in wartime. These effects included

- a scarcity of goods caused by the Union blockade
- a struggling economy
- the need for women, children, and enslaved workers to do most of the farm work during the war while the men fought
- the need for women to do the jobs usually done by men, as well as the ones they had previously done

Some wealthy women helped poorer families. Others helped the soldiers. They cared for soldiers in their homes, turning sheets into bandages and providing comfort and food to the returning soldiers.

The economy of Texas changed during the Civil War. Shortages of war supplies and food influenced how farmers and industries in the Confederacy did their work. Small factories in Austin and Tyler were opened to manufacture weapons and ammunition for the war effort. Southerners had to find ways to produce other war supplies, such as saddles, shoes, tents, and blankets. Women often formed groups to make these goods.

Obtaining cloth was a major problem. Before the war, much of the cloth sold in the South was manufactured in the North. When war broke out, the South was not prepared to manufacture cloth. Instead, women wove a coarse, loosely woven fabric called homespun in their homes and used it to make clothing. This cloth replaced the machine-made fabrics from the North.

Basic food products such as coffee, tea, and flour were also in short supply. Instead of cotton, farmers were encouraged to grow corn and wheat to feed soldiers and civilians. Some Southerners became sick from the lack of healthful food.

There were other major shortages. Newspapers stopped printing due to a shortage of paper. Medicines were also hard to obtain on the home front, because most medical supplies went to the military. For example, a drug called quinine, used to treat the disease malaria, was scarce. Southerners tried find substitutes, but this was difficult. The lack of medicines and the unhealthy conditions of the war allowed diseases to spread quickly.
The War Ends

Guiding Question  What led to the end of the Civil War?

In the end, the Confederacy could not overcome the Union’s advantages, including a larger population and more industry. In April 1865, Union troops entered Richmond, Virginia, the Confederate capital. The Confederate government fled, but President Jefferson Davis was captured. Union troops then surrounded General Robert E. Lee’s army at Appomattox Court House in Virginia. On April 9, 1865, Lee surrendered to Union general Ulysses S. Grant.

Despite the surrender of Confederate armies in the East, nearly a month after Lee’s surrender, General Edmund Kirby Smith declared that he would keep fighting. Smith commanded all Confederate forces west of the Mississippi River, which included Texas.

As a result of Smith’s refusal to stop fighting, the last battle of the Civil War took place in Texas. Union forces believed that the Confederates were withdrawing from Brownsville, so they sent a force to investigate. However, the Confederates were not withdrawing, and the two forces met. After a brief fight, both sides pulled back and waited for reinforcements. More troops arrived, and the two sides clashed again in the Battle of Palmito Ranch in May 1865. Neither side was able to win until the Confederate cavalry arrived. The Union soldiers could not withstand the cavalry and retreated. The battle resulted in only a few casualties, but more than 100 Union soldiers were captured.

A few days later, Confederate governors in Texas and nearby states advised General Smith to end the fighting. Palmito Ranch became the last battle of the Civil War.

The aftermath of the war was challenging for the Confederacy. Many in the South had died and property was in ruins. State governments were able to perform only the most basic functions.

A huge change was that the South could no longer depend on enslaved labor. On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation. This declared that all enslaved people in the Confederate states were free. At the time, the proclamation could not be enforced in most of the Confederacy, but abolition became a major Union goal.

Then, just five days after Lee surrendered to Grant, President Lincoln was assassinated. His killer, John Wilkes Booth, believed he was helping the Confederate cause. Instead, the nation was forced to adjust to a new president at a difficult time. President Andrew Johnson had the huge task of reuniting the country.
The Civil War
Lesson 3: Hardships at Home, continued

As Confederate armies surrendered, the Texas state government collapsed. Governor Murrah and other state officials fled to Mexico to avoid capture by Union forces. This left the state with no government. Groups of armed men attacked citizens.

To restore order, President Johnson named Andrew Jackson Hamilton as provisional governor of Texas. Hamilton was a Unionist and a Democrat. During the war, when his life was threatened because of his support of the Union, he had fled to Mexico. Then he toured the North, giving speeches critical of the South and slavery. In the North, he was a hero, but to most Texans he was a traitor.

It would be many years before the South was rebuilt and the nation fully reunited. Still, the war was over, and soldiers could return to their homes in Texas.

Writing
Check for Understanding

1. Expository  Why was the Battle of Palmito Ranch the last battle in the Civil War?

2. Persuasive  If you were a post-Civil War Texan, would you have supported Andrew Jackson Hamilton as governor? Why or why not?
Reconstruction

Lesson 1: Presidential Reconstruction

ESSENTIAL QUESTION
How do governments change?

Terms to Know

Reconstruction the effort, after the Civil War, to reorganize the seceded states and bring them back into the Union
pardon an official release from punishment for a crime
provisional government a temporary government
nullify to cancel
Juneteenth June 19th, the date celebrated as the anniversary of Emancipation Day for enslaved people in Texas
freedman a formerly enslaved person
demonstrate to show, prove, or make clear
black codes laws limiting the rights of African Americans passed by Southern governments after the Civil War
restrict to place a limit on a person or action

What do you know?
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<td>What is Juneteenth?</td>
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Texas and Reconstruction

Guiding Question What plans did Lincoln and Johnson have for restoring the Union after the Civil War?

After the Civil War, much of the South lay in ruins. The region's transportation system, plantation system, and economy in general had nearly collapsed. The president and Congress led the efforts to restore the South to the Union. This process is called Reconstruction.

Defining

1. What was Reconstruction?
   ______________
   ______________
   ______________
President Lincoln hoped to restore the Union as quickly as possible. He believed that punishing the South would only delay healing the nation. The president offered a **pardon** to all Southerners who were willing to swear an oath of loyalty to the United States. When 10 percent of a state's voters had taken the oath of loyalty, the state could form a new government and return to the Union.

Lincoln was assassinated in April 1865 and his vice president, Andrew Johnson, took over as president. Johnson followed a Reconstruction plan very similar to Lincoln's. Johnson set up a **provisional government** in each former Confederate state. He appointed government officials and ordered federal troops to protect them. The provisional government would stay in place until the state was readmitted to the Union.

Under Johnson's plan, each former Confederate state could rejoin the Union after it met three conditions. Each state was required to:

- **nullify**, or cancel, its act of secession
- acknowledge that the U.S. government would not pay its Civil War debts
- ratify the Thirteenth Amendment

The United States Congress had passed the Thirteenth Amendment in early 1865. It abolished slavery throughout the nation.

Johnson also set requirements for voting. To regain the right to vote, most white Southerners only had to swear an oath of loyalty to the United States. However, Confederate leaders and wealthy Southerners needed a special pardon from the president. Johnson's plan and the period when it was put into practice are called **Presidential Reconstruction**.

**Texas Reconstruction Begins**

**Guiding Question** *What changes did Presidential Reconstruction bring to Texas?*

Reconstruction began in Texas in June 1865. On June 19th, a Union force led by General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston to take control of the state.

Granger's first act was to announce the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that all 250,000 enslaved Texans were free. In the years that followed, African Americans in Texas observed the date as **Juneteenth**, or Texas Emancipation Day. It became a legal state holiday and the oldest-known observance marking the end of slavery.
Reconstruction

Lesson 1: Presidential Reconstruction, *continued*

Granger urged the *freedmen* to continue to work for their former slaveholders for pay. Most freed people tried to do this. However, a large number moved almost immediately. Some did so just to *demonstrate* their freedom. Others left to search for family members from whom they had been separated during slavery.

Most freed people wanted to live peacefully and support their families. Most hoped to own and farm some land. They also wanted an education for themselves and their children.

To help freed people build a new life, Congress created the Freedmen’s Bureau. The Bureau helped freed people find jobs. It gave food and clothing to the sick, aged, and poor. It also founded schools. Texas’s size and poor transportation and communications systems made the work of the Freedmen’s Bureau challenging. In addition, many whites resented the aid the Freedmen’s Bureau gave to African Americans.

President Johnson tried to appoint Unionists—southerners who opposed secession—to lead the provisional governments. In Texas, he turned to Andrew J. Hamilton. Hamilton’s opposition to the Confederacy had forced him to flee Texas during the war. Now he returned as the new provisional governor in July 1865.

Hamilton wanted Texas to rejoin the Union quickly and peacefully. He called for a the election of delegates to a constitutional convention. This convention would write a new state constitution as the first step in meeting President Johnson’s conditions for rejoining the Union.

The convention met in Austin in February 1866. Nearly all the delegates had supported the Confederacy. There were no African American delegates and few others who favored giving African Americans any rights.

**Texas Government Restored**

**Guiding Question**  *How did Texas government change after the Constitution of 1866?*

Instead of writing a new constitution, the convention delegates amended the constitution Texas had before the Civil War. The amendments nullified secession and the state’s war debt and abolished slavery. However, the new Constitution of 1866 did not grant African Americans equal rights. Freed people could own property and sign contracts. However, they could not vote, hold public office, serve on juries, or testify in court against a white person.
The voters of Texas approved the constitution in June 1866 and elected a new state government. Many Confederate leaders returned to power. The new state legislature passed black codes that restricted the rights of freed people. Other Southern states passed similar laws. As a result, African Americans across the South could not vote, serve on juries, or testify against whites in court. In addition, African Americans could hold only certain types of jobs.

The Reconstruction era was also a time of opportunity and hope in Texas. The state still had public lands available for farmers. Many African Americans and whites from the older Southern states faced economic problems after the war. They saw opportunity in Texas and its public lands. European immigrants also came to Texas.

People moved within the state, too, usually from the countryside to towns and cities. More than 90 percent of the population in Texas was still rural, but urban centers such as Galveston and San Antonio were growing. However, some Texans left the state, including Confederates who refused to take the oath of loyalty to the United States. A few of these individuals moved to Brazil, where slavery was still legal. Other former Confederates moved to Mexico.

**Writing**

**Check for Understanding**

1. **Expository** What voting requirements did President Johnson set for former Confederates?

2. **Expository** What were the black codes and what was their purpose?
Reconstruction

Lesson 2: Congressional Reconstruction

ESSENTIAL QUESTION
How do governments change?

Terms to Know
Radical Republican a Republican who believed that Congress should direct Reconstruction
register to record a person officially as eligible to vote
Ku Klux Klan a secret organization of white men formed after the Civil War that used violence and terror against African Americans
carpetbagger a Northerner in the South working for a Reconstruction government
scalawag a white Southerner who supported Reconstruction
cease to end; to stop doing an action
compulsory required

When did it happen?

1866:
Republicans gain control of U.S. Congress; launch their Reconstruction plan

1867:
Congress divides the South into five military districts

1868: About 50,000 freedmen are registered to vote in Texas

1869:
Texas delegates produce Constitution of 1869

1870:
Reconstruction officially over in Texas

1873:
Democrats control all state offices in Texas

1866: 1867: 1868: 1869: 1870: 1873:
Congress Takes Control

Guiding Question How and why did Congress take control of Reconstruction from the president?

Because Southern states had seceded, many Northern leaders argued that they must apply to rejoin the Union. The U.S. Constitution gives Congress, not the president, the power to admit new states. For that reason many Northerners believed that Congress should oversee Reconstruction. Also, they saw that President Johnson’s Reconstruction plan had produced few changes in the South.

In the South, former Confederates filled top state government posts. Every Texan elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1866 had been either a secessionist or a Confederate army officer. Texas sent Oran Roberts, president of the Texas Secession Convention, to the U.S. Senate.

The election of ex-Confederates angered Northerners in Congress. The South’s defiance of federal control, especially in its political leaders and in the black codes, led many Northerners to attack President Johnson’s Reconstruction plan. These acts of the Southern states strengthened a group of Republicans in Congress. They were known as the Radical Republicans. Radical Republicans wanted to:

• place tougher requirements for the Southern states to rejoin the Union
• protect the rights of freed people
• win the votes of freed men

President Johnson did not want to give up control of Reconstruction. In late 1866, however, the congressional elections gave Radical Republicans two-thirds control of both houses of Congress. With the power to override any veto, they launched their own Reconstruction plan.

Radical Reconstruction Begins

Guiding Question How did Congressional Reconstruction in Texas differ from Presidential Reconstruction?

Radical Reconstruction, also known as Congressional Reconstruction, was harsh. In March 1867, Congress divided the South into five military districts and put a general in charge of each. Texas and Louisiana made up the Fifth District, controlled by General Philip Sheridan.
Under Congress's plan, the military would rule the districts until states met certain requirements. The Southern states had to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment. Some states, including Texas, had to ratify the Fifteenth Amendment, too. This guaranteed African American men the right to vote. States had to write new constitutions giving African American men the right to vote and hold public office. They also had to repeal the black codes.

General Sheridan assigned control of Texas to General Charles Griffin. Griffin used the army and the Freedmen's Bureau to register male freedmen to vote. He also removed former Confederates from the voting rolls. When Governor Throckmorton complained, Sheridan removed him and replaced him with Unionist Elisha Pease. Griffin replaced hundreds of other officials with Republicans. He then set an election for delegates to a constitutional convention.

Across Texas, freedmen registered other freedmen to vote. By 1868 nearly 50,000 freedmen had been registered. This figure represented nearly one-half of all Texas voters.

Some whites tried to prevent freedmen from exercising their rights. A group called the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) used violence and terror to block Reconstruction and to prevent African Americans from voting. The Klan threatened and attacked freedmen and Freedmen's Bureau workers. They also attacked carpetbaggers and scalawags.

- **Carpetbaggers** were Northerners who hurried to the South after the war to work for the government.
- **Scalawags** were white Southerners who supported Reconstruction.

In 1868, Texans elected delegates to the constitutional convention. Many freedmen voted for the first time. Republicans won 78 of 90 seats. Ten of the delegates were African Americans. The convention produced the Constitution of 1869. It declared that no one could be prevented from voting because of race. It gave freedmen the rights to hold office and to attend public schools. It also strengthened the governor's power. Texans approved this constitution and elected a governor and other leaders. Eleven African Americans were elected to the state legislature.

The new governor was Republican Edmund J. Davis. Republicans also controlled the state legislature. Texas ratified the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments. Now the state had met all requirements. Reconstruction in Texas was ended.
Lesson 2: Congressional Reconstruction, *continued*

**Marking the Text**

9. Underline two positive changes Governor Davis made in Texas.

**Reading Progress Check**

10. Describe the 1873 election for Texas governor and its outcome.

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**The End of Reconstruction**

**Guiding Question** *How did Reconstruction in Texas come to an end?*

Reconstruction in Texas ceased in March 1870. Governor Davis still exercised great power, however. He and the legislature improved Texas roads and set up compulsory public schools for African American and white children. A state police force was created and placed under Davis’s control. Government spending rose, and so did taxes. Many Texans protested the higher taxes. Many white Texans disliked the state police.

Many freed people formed their own small rural communities. Others settled near towns, taking jobs in the homes and businesses of whites. However, some freed people started businesses, and others worked on ranches or in the lumber industry.

In 1872 Democrats won a majority of the seats in the state legislature. They immediately reduced the governor’s power and abolished the state police. In 1873 election for governor, Davis ran against Democrat Richard Coke. Some Democrats used threats and violence to keep freedmen from voting. Coke easily won the election, and Democrats won all other state offices.

Some Republicans thought the election had been unfair and appealed to the Texas Supreme Court. The Court nullified the election results, so Davis refused to step down. However, Democrats were determined to put Coke in office. Davis asked President Grant to send troops to keep him in power. When Grant refused, Davis resigned. Republican control of Texas was over.

**Writing**

**Check for Understanding**

1. **Expository** Why did Northerners think President Johnson’s Reconstruction plan was a failure?

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2. **Expository** Who were the Ku Klux Klan, and what were their goals and methods?

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