Radical Reconstruction:
How the Reconstruction Era Shaped Modern America

Section I — Fill in the Blank – Use the words below to fill in the blanks.

Suffrage	1855	Radical	Slaughterhouse
Black Codes	Freedmen's Bureau	15th	Reconstruction

1. The period immediately following the Civil War during which the federal government attempted to rebuild and reform the South is known as _____.
2. The faction in Congress that pushed for strong federal intervention to protect formerly enslaved people's rights was called the _____ Republicans.
3. The three amendments to the U.S. Constitution passed during Reconstruction are the 13th, 14th, and _____ Amendments.
4. The federal agency created in 1865 to assist freed people with food, education, and legal matters was the _____.
5. Laws passed in Southern states to restrict the freedom of African Americans and force them into labor contracts were commonly called _____.
6. The Reconstruction Acts of 1867 required Southern states to draft new constitutions guaranteeing Black male _____ before readmission to the Union.
7. The Supreme Court decision in 1873 that limited federal protection of civil rights and narrowed Reconstruction-era enforcement was the _____ cases.
8. The end of Reconstruction is commonly marked by the withdrawal of federal troops from the South in _____ (year).

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Section II — Multiple Choice - Choose the best answer.

1. Radical Republicans supported which of the following policies?
   A) Immediate return of all Confederate leaders to office
   B) Stronger protection of African Americans' civil and political rights through federal law
   C) Complete withdrawal of federal troops from the South in 1866
   D) Restoration of pre-war state governments without change
2. The 14th Amendment primarily accomplished:
   A) Abolished slavery nationwide
   B) Gave Congress power over interstate commerce
   C) Established birthright citizenship and equal protection under the law
   D) Created the Freedmen's Bureau
3. Which law made it a federal crime to interfere with a citizen's right to vote and was used to target violent suppression of Black voters?
   A) The Homestead Act
   B) The Enforcement Acts (or Ku Klux Klan Acts)
   C) The Morrill Act
   D) The Compromise Act
4. Sharecropping developed during Reconstruction and after because:
   A) It provided land ownership to formerly enslaved people immediately
   B) It replaced wage labor with guaranteed yearly salaries
   C) It tied laborers to land through credit systems that often led to debt peonage
   D) It was a federally mandated program to redistribute land
5. The political compromise often cited as ending Reconstruction is:
   A) The Missouri Compromise
   B) The Compromise of 1877
   C) The Kansas-Nebraska Act
   D) The Treaty of 1871
6. Which Reconstruction-era institution made lasting contributions by establishing schools for freed people?
   A) The Freedmen's Bureau
   B) The Know-Nothing Party
   C) The Southern Homestead Board
   D) The Reconstruction Court
7. One long-term effect of Reconstruction on modern America is:
   A) Permanent political equality without further struggle
   B) The immediate end of all racial discrimination nationwide
   C) Creation of constitutional amendments and legal precedents that later civil rights movements used
   D) Abolishing the Electoral College
8. Which branch of government played a major role in enforcing Reconstruction policies when presidential efforts failed?
   A) State legislatures only
   B) The judiciary alone
   C) Congress (legislative branch) through statutes and constitutional amendments
   D) Municipal governments

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Section III — Matching: Match the item in Column A with the best description in Column B.

Column A:	Column B:
A. Black Codes	1. White Southern Democrats' term for Northerners who moved South during Reconstruction, often to participate in politics or business
B. 15th Amendment	2. Laws enacted by Southern states after the Civil War to limit African Americans' freedoms and labor choices
C. Carpetbaggers	3. The term for Southern white Democrats' movement to regain political control and roll back Reconstruction reforms
D. Radical Reconstruction	4. A white supremacist organization that used violence and intimidation to suppress Black political participation
E. Ku Klux Klan	5. Federal law declaring all persons born in the U.S. citizens and affirming equal rights regardless of race (precursor to the 14th Amendment)
F. Civil Rights Act of 1866	6. The group of constitutional changes (13th, 14th, 15th) that abolished slavery and aimed to secure civil and political rights for former enslaved people
G. Reconstruction Amendments	7. The federal policy period (roughly 1867–1877) during which Congress imposed military districts and requirements on Southern states
H. Redemption	8. Constitutional amendment (ratified 1870) prohibiting the denial of the right to vote based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude

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