Name: _____ Mr. Ott

U.S. History Vocabulary Terms - Part 1

Lincoln	After his election southern states seceded from the Union, Believed that southern states had never left the union legally and fought south until they surrendered. Issued the Emancipation Proclamation. First Republican President
secede	to formally break away from
Civil War	The War between the Confederate States of America (South) (1861-1865) and the (Northern) United States over the issues of states' rights and slavery.
Republican Party	Political party formed to oppose extending slavery in the territories
Emancipation Proclamation	Lincoln's 1863 declaration freeing slaves in the Confederacy
Homestead Act	1862 - provided free land in the west as long as the person would settle there and make improvements in five years
Reconstruction	the period after the Civil War in the United States when the southern states were reorganized and reintegrated into the Union
Radical Republicans	Political party that favored harsh punishment of Southern states after civil war
Freedmen's Bureau	Organization created at end of Civil War that aided southerners (mainly former slaves) with education, finding food, shelter and employment.
Thirteenth Amendment	abolished slavery
Fourteenth Amendment	citizenship to "all persons born naturalized in the U.S." and promised "equal protection of the laws."
Fifteenth Amendment	states that no one can be kept from voting because of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude."
black codes	Southern laws designed to restrict the rights of the newly freed black slaves
sharecropping	Common form of farming for freed slaves in the South; received a small plot of land, seed, fertilizer, tools from the landlord who decided what and how much should be planted; landlord usually took half of the harvest.
poll taxes	taxes that required voters to pay a fee everytime they voted, since freedmen could barely afford these, they didn't vote abolished by 24th amendment
literacy tests	Tests of a voter's ability to read and write, which were often used to keep recent immigrants and blacks from voting.
grandfather clauses	Provided that an individual could qualify to vote, if his grandparent could have voted (excluded former slaves and descendants).
Jim Crow laws	Laws designed to enforce segregation of blacks from whites
Plessy v. Ferguson	Supreme Court case (1896) Legalized segregation under the Constitution with the concept of "separate but equal."
segregation	separation based on race