

Discover America

Course 14 - Teacher Guide



The End of Slavery

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5th Grade

Teacher Guide



Key Themes

- Freedom
- Dignity
- Self-determination

Core Values

- Faith
- Liberty
- Community
- Life

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Tell what the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments respectively state
- Explain what each of the “reconstruction amendments” did for our nation
- Describe the ratification process of the 13th Amendment



The End of Slavery - 5th Grade

Introduction

TELL Students

Before we jump into the lesson, let's review some key components of the United States Government. America has three branches of government, and a system of checks and balances that limits the powers of each branch. Can you name the three different branches? **(allow students to respond)**

The Executive branch includes Congress which is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate; this branch is responsible for making laws. The Legislative branch includes the President, the Vice President, and all cabinet members; they are responsible for carrying out the laws. Finally, the Judicial branch includes the Supreme Court and other federal courts; this branch is responsible for evaluating the laws.

ASK Students

Why do you think the U.S. Government is split up into three parts like this? What are the pros and cons of dividing the powers between three different entities? **(allow students to respond)**

WATCH

Learn More with Liberty



Episode 14 Cartoon

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Key Terms

- 01 **Congress** - made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate
- 02 **Amendment** - a change or an update made to the Constitution
- 03 **House of Representatives** - made up of 435 elected members, divided among the 50 states in proportion to their total population
- 04 **U.S. Constitution** - outlines the laws everyone in America must follow, including government
- 05 **Senate** - composed of 100 Senators, 2 for each state, elected by voters in each state
- 06 **Ratified** - approved
- 07 **Prejudice** - thinking another person is "less than" because of a certain quality or characteristic, such as skin color, religious beliefs, or gender
- 08 **Abolish** - to get rid of something
- 09 **Abolitionist** - a person who supports the ending of slavery
- 10 **Three Branches of Government** - legislative (Congress), executive (president and his cabinet members), and judicial (Supreme Court) branches all work together to make and enforce laws
- 11 **Checks and Balances** - divides power between three branches of government so that no one branch has all the power to make and enforce laws
- 12 **14th Amendment** - states that any person born in the United States is legally a citizen
- 13 **15th Amendment** - states that any male citizen over 21 has the right to vote, including African Americans
- 14 **Abolition** - the ending of slavery in America
- 15 **Assassination** - the planned act of killing someone, especially someone of importance

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Lesson Guide

TELL Students

The presidential election of 1864 was underway and there was a real possibility that the elimination of slavery – a cause which thousands had given their lives fighting for – would not happen. It was almost time for another presidential election, and if Abraham Lincoln was not reelected, someone else could come along and undo all the progress he made towards his goal of ending slavery for good in America.

Republicans took the risk to make support for the 13th Amendment central to the 1864 campaign. The 1864 Republican Party platform said that “slavery was the cause” of the Civil War and that Republicans supported a Constitutional amendment that would “terminate and forever prohibit” slavery in the United States.

It was with this vision for the future of the country that Lincoln, the Republican candidate, won the 1864 election. It was clear that the majority of voters wanted to abolish slavery in the United States once and for all. Abolitionists viewed this as a mandate from the people and pressured the House of Representatives to pass the 13th Amendment. Lincoln’s efforts convinced eight Democrats to switch their votes from no to yes and secured the support of other members of Congress who had previously not voted.

WATCH

Learn More with Liberty



Constitutional
Amendments

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Lesson Guide

TELL Students

On January 31, 1865, these efforts succeeded, and the 13th Amendment was passed. Lincoln added his signature to the amendment – although this was not required. (Today, it is the only ratified amendment to the Constitution with a signature from the president.)

Now, three-fourths of states had to ratify – or approve – it. At the time of Abraham Lincoln's assassination on April 14, 1865, the required number of states had not yet ratified the 13th Amendment. Vice President Andrew Johnson – who succeeded Lincoln as president – was very supportive of preserving the Union, but was less committed to the cause of abolition.

However, after the war ended and President Johnson mandated that the Southern states ratify the 13th Amendment, it finally became law on December 6, 1865, with Georgia being the 27th state to approve it (out of 36 states at the time).

This 13th Amendment reads: Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

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Lesson Guide

TELL Students

The 13th amendment's ratification was a milestone for the United States, permanently abolishing slavery in the United States and freeing four million Blacks (nearly one-third of the South's population) from bondage.

The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution are sometimes known as the "Reconstruction Amendments." These were critical to providing African Americans with the rights and protections of U.S. citizenship. The 14th Amendment established that anyone born in the United States, even if they are African Americans, are counted as equal citizens of the United States. This amendment overturned the 1857 Dred Scott v. Sandford case in which Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger B. Taney had written that black Americans were not citizens and thus had "no rights which the white man was bound to respect."

The 15th Amendment gave anyone over 21, including African American men, the right to vote. Together these three amendments ensured that Blacks who may have formerly been enslaved were given rights and freedoms that all people in America deserve to have. These amendments did not end prejudice in our country, but they were a good start towards equal opportunities in America for all citizens.

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Flash Cards



AMENDMENT

a change or an update made to the Constitution

CONGRESS

made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate

CHECKS AND BALANCES

divides power between three branches of government so that no one branch has all the power to make and enforce laws

ABOLITIONIST

a person who supports the ending of slavery

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Flash Cards



**U.S.
CONSTITUTION**

outlines the laws
everyone in
America must
follow, including the
government

**HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES**

made up of 435
elected members,
divided among the
50 states in
proportion to their
total population

SENATE

composed of 100
Senators, 2 for each
state, elected by voters
in each state

**13TH
AMENDMENT**

states that no form
of slavery shall
exist within the
United States

The End of Slavery - 5th Grade

Flash Cards



ASSASSINATION

the planned act of killing someone, especially someone of importance

RATIFIED

approved

ABOLISH

to get rid of something

**THREE
BRANCHES OF
GOVERNMENT**

legislative (Congress), executive (president and his cabinet members), and judicial (Supreme Court) branches all work together to make and enforce laws

The End of Slavery - 5th Grade

Flash Cards

ABOLITION

the ending of
slavery in America

**14TH
AMENDMENT**

states that any
person born in
the United States
is legally a citizen

**15TH
AMENDMENT**

states that any male
citizen over 21 has the
right to vote, including
African Americans

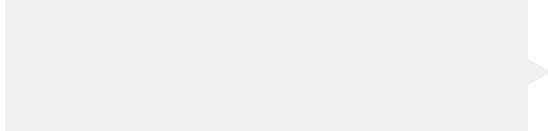
PREJUDICE

thinking another person
is "less than" because of
a certain quality or
characteristic, such as
skin color, religious
beliefs, or gender

The End of Slavery

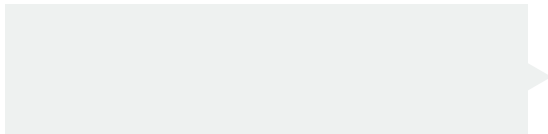
13th Amendment

01. Passed by Congress on this date.

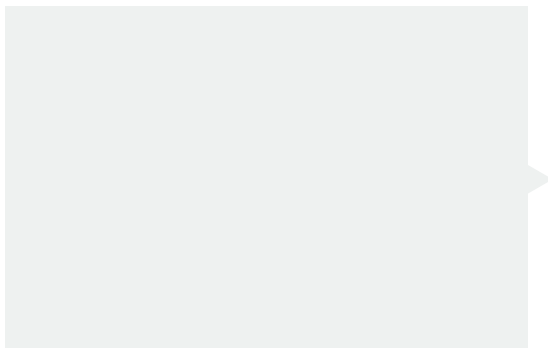


A N S W E R S :

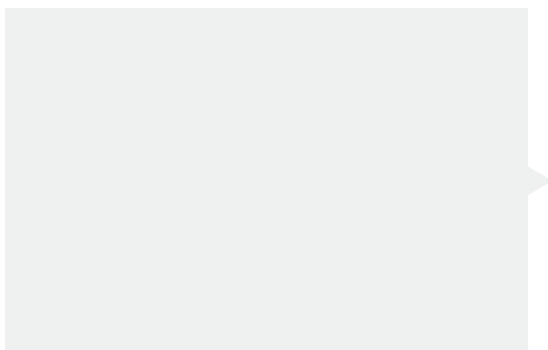
02. Ratified on this date.



03. What it says...



04. What it means...



The End of Slavery - 5th Grade

13th Amendment **Key**

01. Passed by Congress on this date.

A N S W E R S :

January 31, 1865

02. Ratified on this date.

December 6, 1865

03. What it says...

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

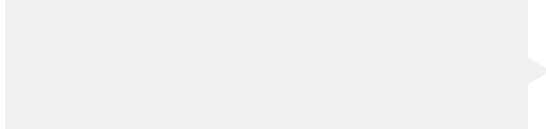
04. What it means...

Means that no form of slavery shall exist within the United States

The End of Slavery

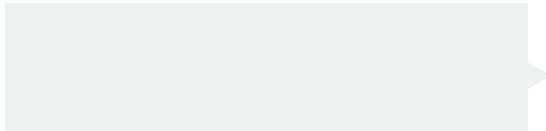
14th Amendment

01. Passed by Congress on this date.

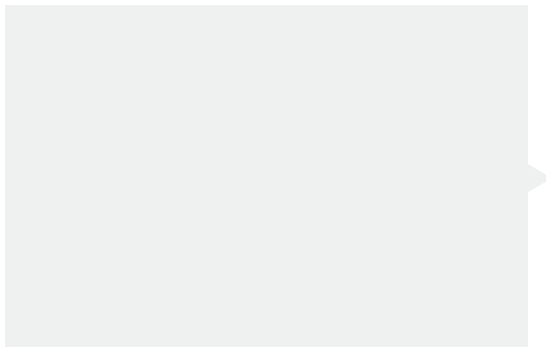


A N S W E R S :

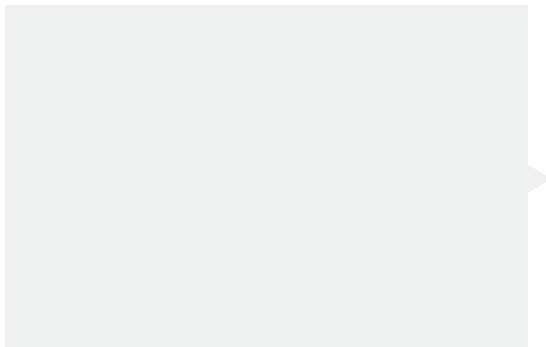
02. Ratified on this date.



03. What it says...



04. What it means...



The End of Slavery - 5th Grade

14th Amendment **Key**

01. Passed by Congress on this date.

A N S W E R S :

June 13, 1866

02. Ratified on this date.

July 9, 1868

03. What it says...

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside.

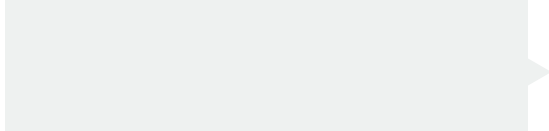
04. What it means...

Means that any person born in the United States is legally a citizen

The End of Slavery

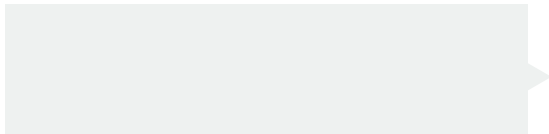
15th Amendment

01. Passed by Congress on this date.

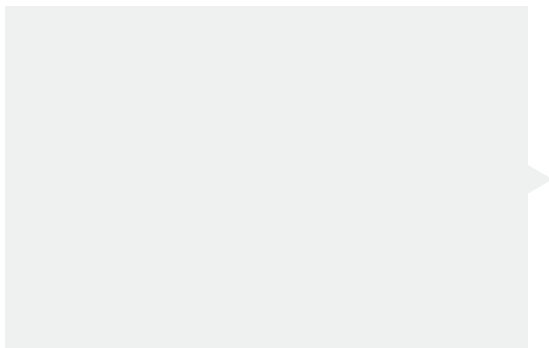


A N S W E R S :

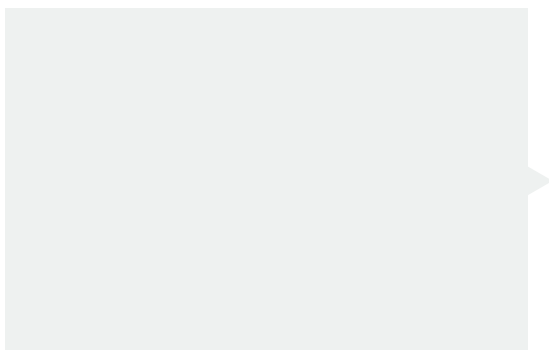
02. Ratified on this date.



03. What it says...



04. What it means...



The End of Slavery - 5th Grade

15th Amendment **Key**

01. Passed by Congress on this date.

A N S W E R S :

February 26, 1869

02. Ratified on this date.

February 3, 1870

03. What it says...

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

04. What it means...

Means that any male citizen over 21 has the right to vote, including African Americans

The End of Slavery - 5th Grade

Assessment

1. The Executive branch includes Congress which is made up of the Senate and the _____.
- a. House of Representatives
 - b. Judicial
 - c. Legislative
 - d. House of Congressmen

2. The Legislative branch includes the President, the Vice President, and all _____ members.
- a. Supreme Court
 - b. Senate
 - c. Cabinet
 - d. Executive

3. The Judicial branch includes the _____ and other federal courts.
- a. Vice President
 - b. Supreme Court
 - c. Congress
 - d. Executives

4. A system of Checks and Balances divides _____ between three branches of government.
- a. Power
 - b. Fame
 - c. The Cabinet
 - d. Congress

5. On January 31, 1865 the _____ was passed.
- a. 13th Amendment
 - b. 14th Amendment
 - c. 15th Amendment
 - d. 16th Amendment

6. On December 6, 1865 the _____ was ratified, permanently abolished slavery in the United States.
- a. 13th Amendment
 - b. 14th Amendment
 - c. 15th Amendment
 - d. 16th Amendment

7. The _____ states that any person born in the United States is legally a citizen.
- a. 13th Amendment
 - b. 14th Amendment
 - c. 15th Amendment
 - d. 16th Amendment

8. The _____ states that any male citizen over 21 has the right to vote, including African Americans.
- a. 13th Amendment
 - b. 14th Amendment
 - c. 15th Amendment
 - d. 16th Amendment

9. The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution are known as the _____ Amendments.
- a. Revitalization
 - b. Congressional
 - c. Slavery
 - d. Reconstruction

10. When another person is considered “less than” because of a certain quality or characteristic.
- a. Prejudice
 - b. Ratify
 - c. Slavery
 - d. Reconstruction

The End of Slavery - 5th Grade Assessment Key

1. The Executive branch includes Congress which is made up of the Senate and the _____.
- a. **House of Representatives**
 - b. Judicial
 - c. Legislative
 - d. House of Congressmen

2. The Legislative branch includes the President, the Vice President, and all _____ members.
- a. Supreme Court
 - b. Senate
 - c. **Cabinet**
 - d. Executive

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- a. **Prejudice**
 - b. Ratify
 - c. Slavery
 - d. Reconstruction

The End of Slavery

Resource List

- 01 <https://www.nps.gov/inde/learn/historyculture/stories-libertybell.htm>
- 02 <https://librarycompany.org/geniusoffreedom/northern-blacks-and-the-reconstruction-amendments/>
- 03 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/our-government/the-legislative-branch/>
- 04 <https://bensguide.gpo.gov/j-ways-to-amend-constitution>
- 05 <https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/13th-amendment-constitution-united-states>
- 06 <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/republican-party-platform-1864>
- 07 <https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/13th-amendment-constitution-united-states>
- 08 <https://bible.org/seriespage/5-moses-leads-people-out-egypt-exodus-14>
- 09 https://www.senate.gov/civics/constitution_item/constitution.htm
- 10 <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/us-history/civil-war-era/slavery-and-the-civil-war/a/the-emancipation-proclamation>
- 11 <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-resources/spotlight-primary-source/ratifying-thirteenth-amendment-1866>
- 12 https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/american_originals_iv/sections/preliminary_emancipation_proclamation.html
- 13 <https://www.senate.gov/about/origins-foundations/senate-and-constitution/senate-passes-the-thirteenth-amendment.htm>

