

Unit 4 Important Dates and Chronological Review

Keep in mind that memorizing dates is not required, however sometimes significant years do pop up on tests. Far more important is reviewing general chronology. You are expected to understand chronology, so use this list to help you review sequencing. **Add notes to make this timeline more complete.**

- 1619 **The first slaves arrive in Jamestown**, although they are not slaves... they are indentured servants who happen to be African American
- 1676 **Bacon's Rebellion**... leads to a drop in indentured servitude and increased slavery... which leads slavery to be defined as a permanent status and defined by race.
- 1776 **The Declaration of Independence**... **slavery clause** removed in order to get all 13 colonies on board.
- 1785 **Northwest Ordinance** (no slavery in new territories... Ohio Valley)
- 1789 **The Constitution** includes several compromises including the **3/5 Clause** outlining slave count for the purpose of representation in Congress... as the country grows... this becomes even more significant. Another compromise is that the slave trade will cease in 20 years.
- 1793 **Eli Whitney** invents the **Cotton Gin**; an invention that makes cotton production easier... leading the South to become home to **King Cotton**. **Cottonocracy** develops as the South becomes dramatically more dependent on the **peculiar institution** of slavery.
- 1803 **Louisiana Purchase**; President **Thomas Jefferson** purchases from Napoleon... doubling the size of the United States... paving the way for more southern states and expansion of slavery
- 1820 **Missouri Compromise**
- 1828-1833 **Nullification Crisis**
- 1836 Republic of Texas
- 1845 **Texas annexed**
- 1846 **Mexican – American War**
Wilmot Proviso
- 1848 **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo**
- 1850 **Compromise of 1850**
- 1852 **Uncle Tom's Cabin**
- 1854 **Ostend Manifesto**
Kansas-Nebraska Act
- 1857 **Dred Scott v Sandford**
- 1858 **Lincoln-Douglass Debates**
- 1859 **John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry**
- 1860 **Abraham Lincoln** elected and South Carolina seceded
- 1861 11 states seceded and formed the CSA
Fort Sumter and Bull Run
- 1863 **Emancipation Proclamation**
Battle of Gettysburg and Battle of Vicksburg
Gettysburg Address
- 1865 **Appomattox Courthouse** surrender
Abraham Lincoln assassinated; **Andrew Johnson** sworn in
- Thirteenth Amendment** approved in January. Ratified in December. Abolished slavery in the United States.
Congress establishes **Freedmen's Bureau** in March to provide assistance to the emancipated slaves.
President Johnson presents plans for Reconstruction.
Benjamin Butler, notorious Union General in the Civil War and advocate of rights for African Americans, elected to Congress as a radical member of the Republican party.
Mississippi enacts **Black Codes**. ... **Ku Klux Klan** created in Tennessee.
Joint Committee of Fifteen on Reconstruction created.

- 1866 **Civil Rights Act** passed despite Johnson's earlier veto.
Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution approved by Congress.
Memphis race riot/Massacre (May 1).
Freedmen's Bureau responsibilities and powers expanded by Congress. Legislation is vetoed by Johnson but Congress overrides his veto.
New Orleans Race Riot/Massacre (July 30).
- 1867 **First Reconstruction Act** passed over Johnson's veto.
Second Reconstruction Act passed over Johnson's veto.
Third Reconstruction Act passed over Johnson's veto.
Republican convention in New Orleans. Party platform includes equality for African-Americans.
- 1868 Former slave, Oscar J. Dunn, elected lieutenant governor of Louisiana.
Fourth Reconstruction Act passed.
Fourteenth Amendment ratified. Entitles all persons born or naturalized in the United States to citizenship and equal protection under the laws of the United States.
Francis L. Cardozo elected secretary of state in South Carolina. Holds office from 1868 to 1872.
Thaddeus Stevens, radical republican and supporter of land for Freedmen, dies.
John W. Menard of Louisiana elected to the United States Congress. Menard is barred from his seat by white members of Congress. When Menard pleaded his case to be seated, he became the first Black representative to speak on the floor of the House.
James J. Harris and P.B.S. Pinchback are the first African American delegates to a Republican convention. They support the nomination of Ulysses S. Grant for president.
- 1869 Former Union General **Ulysses S. Grant** becomes president.
- 1870 **Hiram Revels** elected to U. S. Senate as the first black senator.
Jasper J. Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme court.
Fifteenth Amendment ratified. The Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gave the vote to all male citizens regardless of color or previous condition of servitude.
Joseph H. Rainey, first black member sworn in as member of U. S. House of Representatives.
- 1870 - 71 Forty-first Congress. Two black members in the House of Representatives including Robert Brown Elliot from the 3rd District in South Carolina.
- 1871 Forty-second Congress. Five black members in the House of Representatives: Benjamin S. Turner of Alabama; Jos T. Walls of Florida; and Robert Brown Elliot, Joseph H. Rainey and Robert Carlos DeLarge of South Carolina.
Act to Enforce Fourteenth Amendment (Ku Klux Klan Act).
- 1872 **Freedmen's Bureau abolished.**
- 1872 - 1873 **P. B. S. Pinchback**, acting governor of Louisiana from December 9, 1872 to January 13, 1873. Pinchback, a black politician, was the first black to serve as a state governor, although due to white resistance, his tenure is extremely short.
- 1874 **Blanche K. Bruce** elected to U. S. Senate.
Robert Smalls, black hero of the Civil War, elected to Congress as representative of South Carolina.
- 1873 - 75 Forty-third Congress. Six black members in House the House of Representatives.
- 1875 - 77 Forty-fourth Congress. Six black members in the House of Representatives.
- 1875 March 1--**Civil Rights Act** enacted by Congress. It provides blacks with the right to equal treatment in public places and transportation. The **Supreme Court later declared this Act unconstitutional.**
Blanche Kelso elected as Senator of Mississippi. He is the first African-American Senator to serve a complete six year term.
- 1876 U. S. Senate votes not to seat **P. B. S. Pinchback.**
Wade Hampton inaugurated as governor of South Carolina. The election of Hampton, a leader in the Confederacy, confirms fears that the South is not committed to Reconstruction. **Redeemer.**
- 1877 **Rutherford B. Hayes inaugurated President of the United States. The Compromise of 1877.**
- 1877-79 Forty-fifth Congress. Four black members in House.
Last federal troops leave South Carolina effectively ending the Federal government's presence in the South