Texas History
Civil War and Reconstruction
Content Module

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Note: Arrows have been placed throughout the module to indicate areas where students should interact with the module.

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The following chart contains important vocabulary words from this unit. As you read the terms and their meanings in the chart below, create a picture or symbol for each word in the third column to help you remember that word as you read about the role of Texas in the American Civil War and Reconstruction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Draw It Out!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abolish/Abolitionist</td>
<td>to end or stop/ a person who wants to stop or abolish slavery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blockade</td>
<td>to stop people or supplies from entering or leaving (a port or country)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil War</td>
<td>a war between groups of people in the same country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confederacy</td>
<td>states that separated themselves from the U.S. during the American Civil War</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emancipation Proclamation</td>
<td>the official statement or announcement made by President Lincoln to free slaves in the southern states</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Order</td>
<td>an order that comes from the U.S. President or a government agency and must be obeyed like a law</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Civil War and Reconstruction Vocabulary**

**Draw It Out!** The following chart contains important vocabulary words from this unit. As you read the terms and their meanings in the chart below, create a picture or symbol for each word in the third column to help you remember that word as you read about the role of Texas in the American Civil War and Reconstruction.

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<th>Definition</th>
<th>Draw It Out!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Export</td>
<td>to send a product to be sold in another country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Import</td>
<td>to bring a product into a country to be sold</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Crow Laws</td>
<td>laws were passed that did not give black people the same rights as white people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nullify</td>
<td>a legal decision to make something have no effect</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poll Tax</td>
<td>a tax that each adult has to pay in order to vote in an election</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port</td>
<td>a town or city where ships stop to load and unload cargo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Civil War and Reconstruction Vocabulary

**Draw It Out!** The following chart contains important vocabulary words from this unit. As you read the terms and their meanings in the chart below, create a picture or symbol for each word in the third column to help you remember that word as you read about the role of Texas in the American Civil War and Reconstruction.

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<th>Definition</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reconstruction</td>
<td>the process of putting something that was broken back into good condition such as the period from 1867 to 1877 when the southern states joined the northern states again after the American Civil War</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolt</td>
<td>to fight in a violent way against the rule of a leader or government</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secession</td>
<td>the act of separating from a nation or state and becoming independent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharecropper</td>
<td>a farmer who pays the rent for his land with some of the crops he produces</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>the United States of America</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Civil War and Reconstruction

This guide is designed to help you understand and analyze the causes and effects of Texas’ involvement in the American Civil War. To begin our look at this era of Texas history, let’s start this module by thinking about whether you believe Texas should have left the United States of America and joined the Confederate States of America.

Read the following statement and think about if you agree or disagree with the statement. Below the statement is a line that represents a continuum (scale that measures how strongly you feel about an issue). Think about how strongly you feel about your answer and mark the continuum line with your initials in the place that best represents your opinion. Do not mark the center. You need to form an opinion, either agreeing or disagreeing, and deciding how much you agree or disagree.

Texas should secede (leave) the United States of America (Union) and join the Confederate States of America (Confederacy)

Strongly Agree_____________________X______________________Strongly Disagree

The following paragraph summarizes how Texas was affected by the American Civil War and Reconstruction. As you read it, highlight what you think is most important to remember. Use these ideas to complete the sentences that follow the passage.

When the United States Civil War began, Texas voted to secede from the Union. As a true southern state, the Texas economy relied on agriculture and slave labor. Texas felt its way of life was threatened after the election of President Abraham Lincoln, who wasn’t even on the ballot in many southern states. Although very few Civil War battles took place in Texas, many Texans fought for the Confederacy. However, not everyone in Texas thought it was a good idea to go to war. Governor Sam Houston refused to take an oath of loyalty to the Confederacy and stepped down from office. Others, called Unionists, also disagreed with the war and often suffered hardships and even death as a result of their beliefs. The Civil War ended in 1865, and the 13th Amendment officially ended slavery. During Reconstruction, the United States reunited the nation under new laws, new leadership, and military occupation. Former Confederate States had a long road ahead to rebuild their economies and adjust to political and social change. The United States as a whole continues to suffer the consequences from this period of history.

After reading the selection above about the Civil War and Reconstruction in Texas,

Three things I learned are…

Two things that were the most interesting are…

One question I still have is …
Texas left the United States of America (USA) and joined ten other former states from the United States to form a new country, the Confederate States of America (CSA). Look at the map below and list the 11 states that formed the new Confederate States of America / Confederacy. Use the key in the bottom right to help you!
Mapping As You Read

As you look at the map below, note the places labeled for you. The following readings mention many of these places in Texas as they played a part in Texas seceding from the Union and fighting with the Confederacy in the Civil War.
Texas in 1860

As you read each passage, you’ll be asked to highlight the places mentioned in that selection in a specific color. NOTE: Be sure to have either highlighters or colored pencils handy!

“Texas Troubles”
The summer of 1860 was extremely hot and dry in Texas. Temperatures topped well over 100 degrees. A series of mysterious fires suddenly erupted around the cities of Dallas and Denton. Other fires began that same day in Milford, Pilot Point, Jefferson, Waxahachie, and Honey Grove. Some believed the fires were caused by a new type of match that spontaneously ignited. However, a newspaper editor in Dallas wrote letters blaming abolitionist preachers of trying to start a slave revolt. His letters were reprinted, warning Texans of a conspiracy spreading throughout the state. Law enforcement agencies stepped aside and let vigilante groups put black and white abolitionists to death. As many as a hundred men were put to death without any clear evidence of guilt. Eventually, news of the 1860 election, and concerns over the possibility of Republican Abraham Lincoln becoming president, replaced the rumors of an abolitionist conspiracy.

Note the underlined word above. Looking at the words around it, What do you think the word vigilante means? (HINT-Look at the words and sentence after the word too!)

I think the word vigilante probably means ____________________________

The year 1860 was filled with a great deal of unrest in Texas. Look back at the Texas map on page 7 and circle or highlight in BLUE the following seven places where the “Texas Troubles” began:

1. Dallas  5. Denton
2. Milford  6. Pilot Point
4. Honey Grove

Think back to your study of the four regions of Texas: Mountains and Basins, Great Plains, North Central Plains, and Coastal Plains. These events all occurred in two of these regions. Can you name them?

1.

2.
As you read about the events below, answer the questions that follow.

Presidential Election of 1860

Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States in 1860. Many southern slave owners feared Lincoln would end slavery in the entire country. Texans were even more upset to hear of his election, because Lincoln was not even included on the ballot in Texas. Texas, along with many other southern states, felt their voice was not heard in Washington, D.C. Southern states began to consider seceding from the United States. They wanted to form their own country that supported their viewpoint and way of life.

What were two reasons many Texans were upset over the election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860?

1. 

2. 

Texas Secession Convention

In 1861, slaves made up approximately one-third of the state’s population. The wealthy in Texas owned slaves. Others who were not wealthy enough to own slaves at the time, hoped to eventually. They believed it would improve their economic situation. Many Texans feared the government was going to take away the right to own slaves. This caused great turmoil in the state, especially among political leaders. In a special session of the legislature, representatives voted to secede from the Union. They planned to join the Confederate States of America, even though the current governor and former president of the Republic, Sam Houston, opposed it. When the issue went to the voters, 76% percent favored secession. In March 1861, Governor Sam Houston refused to take an oath of loyalty to the Confederacy and stepped down as governor. Lieutenant Governor Edward Clark took over as governor during the Civil War.

Note the two underlined words above. Looking at the words around it, what do you think the words opposed and favored mean?

I think the word opposed probably means ____________________________
________________________________________________________________

I think the word favored probably means ____________________________
________________________________________________________________
Seven Principles of Government

In the United States, the set of ideas that form the basis for our government are called Principles of Government. There are seven of them that limit the power of the government. They are listed below along with their definition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principle of Government</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limited Government</td>
<td>Government is not all powerful. It is limited by the rule of law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checks and Balances</td>
<td>Each branch of government has controls (checks) over the other two branches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federalism</td>
<td>Power is divided between national and state government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation of Powers</td>
<td>Power within national government is divided among 3 branches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular Sovereignty</td>
<td>Ultimate power rests with the citizens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republicanism</td>
<td>People use their power by choosing representatives to act or speak on their behalf.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Rights</td>
<td>Freedom, protection, and equality are guaranteed to people in the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and laws that are created.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Review the images and quotes below and identify which Principle of Government is represented. Write your answer on the line below the image.

"The greatest [calamity] which could befall [us would be] submission to a government of unlimited powers."--

Thomas Jefferson, Declaration and Protest of Virginia, [1825]
As you read about the Texas State Constitution of 1861, look for evidence of one of the 7 principles of government.

Note: Use page 10 for the definitions. In the box with the star next to each section, write down the principle and your evidence. The first one is done for you. HINT: Sometimes, there might be more than one principle that might work. Choose the one you feel is the best

In connection with the secession of Texas from the United States of America and its alliance with the Confederate States of America, the state adopted the fourth constitution under which it has been governed, The Constitution of the State of Texas of 1861. Basically, this constitution was simply The Constitution of 1845 with a few changes. The three branches of Texas government continued as they had been under The Constitution of 1845 except that, because of the 1850 amendment, most executive and judicial officers were to be popularly elected.

A Governor popularly elected for a two-year term headed the executive branch, but in a six-year period, the Governor could serve no more than four years. The judicial branch consisted of a Supreme Court, District Courts, and such other courts as the legislature might establish.

Before taking office, members of the legislature and officers of all three branches were required to take the following oath: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as , according to the best of my skill and ability, agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, and also to the Constitution and laws of the Confederate States of America, so long as the State of Texas shall remain a member of that Confederacy.”

This constitution repeated the provisions found in the 1845 Constitution relative to slaves but with even more protection given the institution of slavery. It specifically forbade the legislature from emancipating slaves. At the same time, it did authorize the legislature “to pass laws which will oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity.”

This constitution attempted to ease the transition of Texas into the Confederacy. Supporters of this Constitution included supporters of term limits for Governor, slave owners, and slave owners who wanted to immigrate to Texas. It was also supported by those that wanted to secede from the United States.
As you read about the events below, answer the questions that follow.

Battle of Galveston
Galveston was the most important port in Texas. This remained true during the Civil War. The port of Galveston imported and exported goods the Confederacy needed to survive. This made it a prime target for attack by the Union. The Union Navy successfully captured Galveston in October of 1862. When Major General John Magruder replaced the commanding general of the Confederate District of Texas after the battle, he began his plan to take back Galveston. On January 1, 1863, Magruder and his men led an attack. After a short battle, the Confederacy successfully recaptured the port. Texas could once again export and import critical supplies rather than relying on Mexico. Galveston remained in Confederate hands throughout the Civil War.

Why was the port of Galveston, Texas important to the Confederacy?

After losing the port in 1862 to the Union, the Confederacy took it back in January of 1863. Look back at the Texas map on page 7 and circle or highlight in Green the port of Galveston.

Battle of Sabine Pass
The long Texas coast was a Union target throughout the entire Civil War. The Union’s plan was to blockade all ports so the Confederacy could not supply the war effort. The Union also wanted to invade and occupy Texas in order to secure materials they needed. Texas was the largest producer of cotton, and northern textile mills [machines that weaves that cotton into fabric] needed cotton. Sabine Pass was important because it provided access to a railroad straight from the port to Houston. In an attempt to control the port at Sabine Pass, the Union Navy sent four gunboats to attack Confederate Fort Griffin, located near the pass in September 1863. After several hours of bombardment from a distance, Union gunboats attempted to go through the pass to get closer to the fort. As the boats approached, Confederate cannons accurately took out the attacking ships. In the end, the Confederacy captured 2 gunboats and 300 Union soldiers.

The Confederacy held onto their port and continued to import and export supplies through Texas. In order to win the war, the Union had a two-part plan for Texas.

Complete the chart below to answer why.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.Blockade Texas ports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.Invade and occupy Texas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sabine Pass was an important port because there was a ___________ that connected it to Houston. Look back at the Texas map on page 7 and circle or highlight in Green the port of Sabine Pass.
Confederate leaders feared a Unionist uprising in Texas. General Paul Hebert declared martial law [control of an area by military forces rather than by the police] and arrested 150 men for treason against the Confederacy for failure to report to the draft. The men were put on trial. The jury found seven Unionists leaders guilty of treason, and sentenced them to be hanged. Most of the other prisoners were supposed to be released. Violence sprang up all over Cooke and Denton Counties as a result of the verdict. An angry mob killed fourteen more people accused of being sympathetic to the North. As a result of the violence, the leaders decided to put the rest of the prisoners on trial again. Nineteen more were found guilty and hanged. As news of the event spread there were many mixed feelings. Leaders in Texas were very pleased because they believed they had avoided a Unionist uprising. The events embarrassed Confederate President Jefferson Davis. Union newspaper reports of the violence confirmed Northern views of Southerners as lawless, barbaric Rebels. General Paul Hebert was removed as military leader in Texas due to his misuse of power.

Next to each star below, write down the numbers you highlighted above and then next to it, write a complete sentence explaining why the number is important. The first one is done for you.

150 - Because confederate leaders in Texas were afraid of people that supported the Union rising up against the Confederacy, 150 men were arrested for treason because they didn’t sign up for the draft.

At least 40 people were killed in Gainesville, Texas during this time. Look back at the Texas map on page 7 and circle or highlight in Red the city of Gainesville, Texas.
Civil War and Reconstruction

As you read about the events below, answer the questions that follow.

South Texas Campaign
In order to hurt the southern economy, 7,000 Union troops captured Brownsville in 1863. This cut off the trade route between Texas and Mexico. The Union, led by General Banks, then sent troops and successfully captured Corpus Christi, Aransas Pass, and Matagorda Peninsula. Shortly after that however, the Union troops were moved to Louisiana, leaving the captured territory vulnerable to Confederate attacks. By 1864, the Confederacy had taken back almost all of the southern cities and reopened Brownsville for trade with Mexico.

Locate the cities of Corpus Christi and Brownsville on the Map on page 7. Highlight or circle them in Purple.

Why was the city of Brownsville, Texas important in the Civil War?

Red River Campaign
The Union focused its attention on the city of Shreveport, capital of Louisiana, during the spring of 1864. Shreveport was another key Confederate port that provided much needed supplies during the war. The Union had three main goals:

· prevent the Confederacy from forming an alliance with France and Mexico
· stop supplies from getting to the Confederate troops
· capture much needed cotton for Northern factories

General Banks and 12,000 men headed through Louisiana toward Shreveport. They were attacked and defeated by Confederate troops near Mansfield, Louisiana. The Union army experienced great losses. They lost many of their supplies, 1,000 horses and mules ran away, 700 men were killed or wounded, and 1,500 men were taken prisoner. The Confederacy lost 1,000 men to death or injury. The rest of the Red River Campaign consisted mostly of small attacks by the Confederacy as the Union army retreated. The Union army devastated Louisiana by burning every town they passed through.

After reading about the Red River campaign and analyzing this map:

• find Shreveport, Louisiana on the map and circle it.

• Why is Shreveport, La considered a port city?

Battle of Palmito Ranch

As you read the following passage, highlight 5-7 words you think are most important. Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the Battle of Palmito Ranch.

Although the Confederacy won the last land battle of the Civil War, the South had already lost the war. The Battle of Palmito Ranch occurred over a month after General Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse. In the spring of 1865, the Union army offered Texans fighting for the Confederacy a chance to surrender and pledge loyalty to the Union or to leave the country for Mexico. Confederate leaders in Texas refused to stop fighting, despite knowing the war was over. They were aware of Lincoln’s assassination and General Lee’s surrender at Appomattox Court House. On May 1, 1865, the Union Army moved into Brownsville to take control of the town, believing the Confederate Army had abandoned it. When they arrived at Palmito Ranch, 200 Confederate soldiers were waiting. After a small fight, both sides retreated and waited for reinforcements. By May 13, both sides had several hundred men, but the Union army was surrounded by Confederate troops. After a four-hour battle, the Confederacy defeated the Union army.

Summary:

Palmito Ranch is located just outside one of the cities you’ve already located on the map on page 7. Find Palmito Ranch and circle or highlight in Green, Palmito Ranch.

You’ve already read about and identified 3 significant battles of the American Civil War that took place in Texas:

- Battle of Galveston,
- Battle of Sabine Pass, and
- Battle of Palmito Ranch.

Review your highlighted map on page 7 (These battles are in green.) and review the passages about each before answering the following question.

Which one of these battles do you think was the most significant? Why? There isn’t one correct answer-- so be sure to give your reasons for your choice!
Juneteenth

The Emancipation Proclamation, an Executive Order issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, officially freed slaves in the rebelling southern states of the Confederacy. That proclamation was finally read to the Texas public in Galveston, on June 19, 1865, by Major General Gordon Granger. This officially freed the slaves in Texas. To recognize the date of the reading on June 19th, Juneteenth is celebrated throughout Texas with parades, parties, and educational activities for communities.

After reading about Juneteenth and analyzing these two photos from celebrations honoring this day, choose one of the photos and imagine you are one of the persons being photographed.

Describe what it feels like to celebrate this holiday. What are your hopes? What are your fears?


Martha Yates Jones (left) and Pinkie Yates (right), daughters of Rev. Jack Yates, in a decorated carriage parked in front of the Antioch Baptist Church located in Houston’s Fourth Ward, 1908

https://cdm17006.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/search/searchterm/juneteenth/page/1
The Freedmen’s Bureau came to Texas five months after the Civil War ended. Its purpose was to help freed slaves find work, homes, schools, and legal protection. The Bureau’s efforts were not as successful as originally hoped because it lacked funding and personnel, and it was unable to overcome prejudice and racism in the South. Plantation owners started the tenant, or sharecropping, system. Sharecropping kept freed slaves in debt to the landowners. Schools did not receive enough funding to educate all students. The legal system remained unfair due to Jim Crow laws designed to prevent freedmen from obtaining equal rights. For example, African Americans had to pay a poll tax and pass a literacy test to vote. Both of these laws made it more difficult for freedmen to participate in the legal system. They did not have extra money and most had not yet had the opportunity to learn to read and write.

Look at your highlighted words and classify them in the T-chart below as something that was helpful or was an obstacle for the newly freed slaves.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Help for Freed Slaves</th>
<th>Obstacles for Freed Slaves</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Presidential Reconstruction

When the Civil War ended the United States faced the difficult challenge of reuniting the country. Prior to his assassination, President Lincoln devised a plan that was fairly lenient to Southern states. His policy was based on forgiveness and reuniting the country as quickly as possible. His plan included the following details:

- states must abolish slavery
- all Confederates, except high ranking officers, would be pardoned
- states that seceded would be allowed back into the United States when 10% of the voters took the oath of loyalty to the United States,

After the assassination of President Lincoln, Vice President Andrew Johnson became president. Andrew Johnson also had a moderate plan that did not punish the South, though many believed he would be tougher on the South. Instead he followed President Lincoln’s lead. His plan required Southern States to:

- acknowledge secession was wrong
- ratify the 13th Amendment ending slavery
- take an oath of loyalty to the Union
- accept the debt for the war

Note the underlined word above. Looking at the words around it, what do you think the word lenient means? (HINT-Look at the words and sentence after the word too!)

I think the word lenient probably means ________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

United States Presidents’ Lincoln and Johnson both had plans to bring the country back together after the war. Look at the list below and decide whose plan each statement describes, or if it is in both plans. Check the correct box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>President Lincoln</th>
<th>President Johnson</th>
<th>Both Lincoln and Johnson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSA citizens except some officers would be officially forgiven (pardoned).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All CSA states must admit it was wrong to leave the Union.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South must pay for the war.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States must end slavery.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States must approve (ratify) the 13th amendment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voters must take loyalty oath to the United States of America.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Presidential Reconstruction in Texas

During Presidential Reconstruction, President Andrew Johnson appointed Andrew Jackson Hamilton as the provisional governor of Texas until Texas was fully admitted as a state. Governor Hamilton called for a state constitutional convention. During the convention, Texas leaders had to acknowledge secession was wrong, ratify the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery, accept the debt for the war, and take an oath of loyalty to the Union. Once the citizens voted on the work of the convention, Texas would elect a governor, congressmen, and a state legislature. Then, Texas would be admitted to the United States. However, very little actually changed. Many of the former Confederate leaders were back in charge. Very little had been done to grant equal rights to the new freedmen.

It's easy to confuse the two men discussed in the passage above. Create a symbol (an object or picture that represents something else) for each man to help you remember their names and what they did. If needed you may add a couple of words to your symbol.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Andrew Johnson</th>
<th>Andrew Jackson Hamilton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Congressional Reconstruction in Texas

Congress created its own plan that was much more harsh on Southern States. In response to the Confederate leadership, which prevented the country from progressing, Congress passed the First Reconstruction Act on March 2, 1867. This phase of Reconstruction nullified the governments created under Presidential Reconstruction just a year earlier. It divided the former Confederacy into five military districts. Texas was in the fifth. Texas's governor, James Throckmorton, who was elected under Presidential Reconstruction, was removed from office. Other local leaders who had served in the Confederacy and still held onto pre-Civil War beliefs were also removed from office. Texas held another constitutional convention in which all members had to be elected by male voters of both races. They had to pass the 14th Amendment. This was the first election in Texas in which black male voters were able to participate. After a long convention and public vote, the new Texas Constitution was ratified on January 11, 1870. On March 30, 1870, Texas was accepted back into the Union.

The first Reconstruction Act was created by Congress and was much harsher than the Presidential Reconstruction plans. List three of the conditions mentioned above.

1.

2.

3.
As you read about the Texas State Constitution of 1876, look for evidence of one of the 7 principles of government.

Note: Refer back to page 10 for the definitions if needed. In the box with the star next to each section, write down the principle and your evidence. HINT: Remember, sometimes, there might be more than one principle that might work. Choose the one you feel is the best.

The voters of Texas in February, 1876, overwhelmingly ratified the eighth (and last) constitution under which Texas has existed, The Constitution of the State of Texas of 1876. The framers of this 1876 constitution wrote it as they did largely in reaction to E. J. Davis’ term as Governor of Texas from 1870-1874. Most of the framers were white Democrats, non-native Texas from rural, agricultural areas of the state, and members of the Grange, an agricultural organization dedicated to the cause of limited government. The constitution is sometimes referred to as “the Redeemer Constitution” because it reflected Texans’ dislike for their previous constitution and its strong, active state government and because it resulted in the return to power of the men who had controlled Texas government before and during the Civil War.

The Preamble reads as follows: “Humbly invoking the blessing of Almighty God, the people of the State of Texas do ordain and establish this Constitution.” This new constitution reduced the Governor’s term of office from four to two years (although an amendment has since restored it to four years). The framers placed severe restrictions on the powers of all three branches of state government but particularly those of the Governor. They limited the Texas Legislature by providing that it can only meet in regular session biennially in odd-numbered years only and then only for 140 days. They provided for the popular election of all Texas judges and created not one but two highest state courts: the Supreme Court for civil cases only and the Court of Criminal Appeals for criminal cases only.

Article I of the constitution contains the Texas Bill of Rights which, with a few exceptions, protects the same rights that are protected by the Bill of Rights of the U. S. Constitution. One difference is that the Texas Bill of Rights, unlike the U. S. Bill of Rights, has a lengthy section dealing with “the rights of crime victims.” The Texas Constitution also contains lengthy, detailed discussion of several specific policy issues. Because of its lengthy, detailed nature, it has been amended over 450 times since its adoption in 1876.
Important Individuals

As you read the following seven biographies of important people from the Civil War and Reconstruction Era in Texas, complete a 3-2-1 summary:

3 Highlight/underline three key ideas about the person
2 Circle two words that best describe the person’s role in the Civil War and/or Reconstruction (what did they do or what were they responsible for)
1 Write one question you would like to ask the person if they were alive today?

When he was elected Governor of Texas in 1890, James Stephen Hogg was the first governor, who was actually born in the state. He was known for his populist beliefs and reforms he felt were necessary to protect the common people from giant corporations. As Texas Attorney General, Hogg pushed legislation forward to regulate railroads and to limit the development of trusts or monopolies. He felt monopolies undermined the free enterprise system. The Texas Anti-Trust Law (1888) was only the second such piece of legislation passed in the country. As governor, Hogg increased funding for public schools and colleges and supported other pieces of reform legislation. He did name his daughter Ima Hogg, but contrary to legend, she did not have a sister named Ura. James Hogg died in his sleep in 1906.

What would you ask this person if they were alive today?

Lawrence Sullivan “Sul” Ross was born in 1838. He became a soldier, statesman, and university president. Reared in Waco, a city founded by his family, he became a Texas Ranger and spent time fighting the hostile Comanche Indians. It was during one of those conflicts that he rescued Cynthia Ann Parker who had been kidnapped as a child by the Indians. When Texas seceded from the United States, Ross joined the Confederate army and became a Brigadier General in 1864. After the war, he helped write the document that governs Texas today, the Constitution of 1876. In 1887, he became the 19th Governor of Texas. He retired from state politics to become the Chancellor of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas which is today Texas A&M. After he died in 1898, the Texas legislature created Sul Ross University in his honor.

What would you ask this person if they were alive today?
John Bell Hood graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1853. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and transferred to the 2nd U.S. Calvary unit in Texas. He resigned from the U.S. Army after Fort Sumter. He joined the Confederate army as a captain. In 1862 he was promoted to Brigadier General and put in command of what was known as Hood’s Texas Brigade. He served with Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia. His bravery was soon noted, and he was promoted to Major General. His division fought at Second Manassas (Second Bull Run), Sharpsburg (Antietam), Fredericksburg, and Gettysburg. At Gettysburg, Hood was seriously wounded. He was relieved of command at his own request on January 23, 1865. Hood surrendered to federal authorities. He died in New Orleans from yellow fever on August 30, 1879. Hood county and Fort Hood are both named in his honor.

What would you ask this person if they were alive today?

Born in Virginia, John Magruder was appointed to the United States Military Academy and graduated fifteenth in his class. He resigned from the US Army to take a commission as Lt. Colonel in the Confederate Army. Magruder’s greatest feat was the recapture of Galveston from Union forces. After the Civil War, he fled to Mexico where he served in the Emperor Maximilian’s army. He later returned to Texas to make his home in Houston where he died in 1871.

What would you ask this person if they were alive today?

Francis Richard Lubbock was born in Beaufort, South Carolina in 1815 and came to Texas in 1836. During the Texas Revolution, Sam Houston appointed him comptroller. In 1857 he was elected Lieutenant Governor of the State, and in 1861 he was elected Governor. An active supporter of the government of the Confederate States of America, he joined the Confederate forces after his term as governor ended. He was commissioned as a lieutenant colonel, and served as assistant adjutant general on the staff of Maj. Gen. John Bankhead Magruder. Lubbock also served as aid-de-camp for Jefferson Davis and was captured with him at the end of the war. He was imprisoned at Fort Delaware and kept in solitary confinement for eight months before being paroled. From 1878 to 1891 he was Treasurer of the state of Texas and then lived in Austin until his death. The city of Lubbock is named in his honor.

What would you ask this person if they were alive today?
Thomas Green came to Texas in time to assist in the Texas Revolution, serving at the Battle of San Jacinto. At that battle, he operated the only cannons in Sam Houston’s army. After the revolution, he served in various government positions in the Texas Republic. In the Mexican American war, he helped Zachary Taylor capture Mexico City. When the Civil War broke out, he served in the Confederate army under General Sibley. In 1863, he was promoted to Brigadier General and participated in the Battle of Galveston. At the Battle of Blair's Landing on the Red River on April 12, 1864, he was killed by cannon fire from a Union gunboat.

What would you ask this person if they were alive today?

John Reagan was born in Tennessee in 1818 but moved to Texas in 1839. He soon became a leader in the Texas Democratic Party and served Texas in the United States House of Representatives from 1857 to 1861 when he resigned his seat in order to join the Confederate States of America. At the end of the Civil War, Reagan was captured with President Jefferson Davis. Reagan drafted a letter urging Texans to renounce slavery and secession and recognize the authority of the United States. As a result of this letter, many Texans shunned him, and for a time, his political career came to an end. However, in 1875, he was once more elected to represent Texas in the U. S. House of Representatives where he remained until 1887. He died in 1905 and became known as the “Old Roman” who had sacrificed his political future for the good of his state.

What would you ask this person if they were alive today?

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