CHAPTER 22
Reconstruction, 1865–1877

4. Military Reconstruction, 1867–1877 (pp. 489–494)
a. Congress finally sent in the troops to occupy ___ (number) military districts in 18___, two years after the war ended. The purpose was largely to enfranchise blacks eventually through passage of the ___ Amendment, and to set up friendly state governments dominated by the Republican Party. This generated massive resentment on the part of white southerners. *** Do you think that military occupation would have been more acceptable in the South if it had been instituted immediately after the war? Why or why not?

b. *** What do you think of the requirement that freed slaves, kept largely illiterate by their former masters, be given immediate voting privileges?

c. After the northern troops left each state, the friendly Republican state governments were replaced by “Redeemer” governments. Who were the “Redeemers”?

d. Why were women’s rights activists such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony upset by the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments?

e. Be careful of the connotations of the words we use. How did southerners define the following terms and how might sympathetic northerners describe the same people?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Southerners</th>
<th>Northerners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) “Scalawags”:</td>
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<td>(2) “Carpetbaggers”:</td>
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f. Try to summarize briefly the authors’ conclusions (pp. 494–495) about the performance of state governments under Radical Reconstruction, during which blacks exercised full political rights.

g. List two methods used by the Ku Klux Klan and others to keep blacks from voting and generally to keep them subservient.

(1)

(2)

5. Impeachment of Johnson (pp. 494–497) (Note: Under the Constitution, a president can be removed for nebulous-ly-worded “high crimes and misdemeanors.” Like “bringing charges” or “indicting” a person in a criminal court, the House first has to approve “impeachment.” Then the Senate acts as a jury in a trial and must vote to “convict” before the president can be removed. Johnson was impeached but not convicted. Nixon was never formally even impeached because he resigned first. Clinton, like Johnson, was impeached by the House but not convicted.)

a. What were the charges brought against Johnson by the House? *** What do you think of those charges?

(1) Charges:

(2) Evaluation:

b. The Radicals failed to convict by only one vote. Why do the authors conclude on p. 495 that the nation “narrowly avoided a bad precedent”? *** How does this assessment apply to Clinton’s impeachment?

6. Reflection (pp. 497)

a. What do the authors mean when they say on p. 497 that the “Republicans acted from a mixture of idealism and political expediency”? 
b. Note the quote from Frederick Douglass: The black man “was free from the individual master, but a slave of society.” In this respect the authors accuse the Moderates of not fully recognizing the magnitude of the task of reforming southern society. Further, they conclude that the Radical program just might have worked had it been fully implemented—land reform, etc. But this, of course, would have made the South even angrier! *** Do you have any reaction to all this? What ideas do you have about what really should have been done?

7. Varying Viewpoints (pp. 498–499) Early historians held the view that Reconstruction was “a kind of national disgrace” foisted on the noble South by a vindictive North. (Note: This view was graphically presented and popularized by the country’s first blockbuster movie, Birth of a Nation, produced in 1915 by D. W. Griffith.) How did the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s affect the way historians have interpreted the Reconstruction period?