Reconstruction Reading Response Questions:

Compare and Contrast: How did Lincoln and Johnson approach Reconstruction differently?

Contextualization: Under what circumstances did the 14th Amendment win passage, and what problems did its authors seek to address?

Change over Time: How and why did federal Reconstruction policies evolve between 1865 and 1870?

Understanding Point of View: Abolitionists and women’s suffrage advocates were generally close allies before 1865. What divisions emerged during Reconstruction and why?

Causation: Why did sharecropping emerge, and how did it affect freed people and the southern economy?

Contextualization: What policies did southern Reconstruction legislators pursue, and what needs of the postwar South did they seek to serve?

Compare and Contrast: Compare the results of African Americans’ community building with their struggles to obtain better working conditions. What links do you see between these efforts?

Understanding Point of View: How did ex-Confederates, freed people, Republicans, and classical liberals view the end of Reconstruction?

Why did Reconstruction falter? To what extent was its failure the result of e vents in the South, the North, and Washington, D.C.?

What goals did Republican policy-makers, ex-Confederates and freed people pursue during Reconstruction To what degree did each succeed