

Vocabulary

Vocabulary

Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.

- 13th Amendment** constitutional amendment in 1865 that banned slavery in the United States
- 14th Amendment** constitutional amendment in 1868 that granted citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the United States, including former slaves
- 15th Amendment** constitutional amendment in 1870 that guaranteed African American males over the age of 21 the right to vote in all states
- abolitionist** person who wanted slavery stopped immediately throughout the United States
- Black Codes** series of laws that limited the rights of African-American freedoms; passed by new Southern legislatures after the Civil War
- Bleeding Kansas** a name applied to the Kansas Territory in the years before the Civil War when the territory was a battleground between proslavery and antislavery forces
- cash crop** a crop grown by a farmer for sale, not personal use
- civil war** war between people of the same country

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- Compromise of 1850** series of measures to settle major disagreements between free states and slave states
- Confederacy** the alliance formed in 1861 by 11 Southern states after their secession from the Union: South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia; also known as the Confederate States of America, or the South
- Emancipation Proclamation** declaration issued on January 1, 1863 by President Lincoln in 1862 that freed slaves in the Confederacy
- forum** a meeting to discuss issues or questions of public interest
- Freedmen's Bureau** government agency that helped freed slaves
- Fugitive Slave Law of 1850** law that required citizens to turn in runaway slaves; part of the Compromise of 1850
- Gettysburg Address** a famous speech given by President Lincoln in 1863 at the dedication of a national cemetery on the site of the Battle of Gettysburg
- interposition** doctrine that an individual state may oppose any federal action that it believes is unconstitutional

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- Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)** a law that established the territories of Kansas and Nebraska and gave residents the right to decide whether to allow slavery
- Louisiana Purchase** purchase in 1803 of France's mainland American territories, extending from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains, for \$15 million
- Missouri Compromise** series of laws proposed by Henry Clay in 1820 to maintain the balance of power between slave states and free states
- nullification** declaring a federal law illegal
- Nullification Crisis** tense situation created by South Carolina when it declared the tariffs of 1828 (or Tariff of Abominations) and 1832 illegal
- omnibus** covering many things at once
- popular sovereignty** rule by the people
- Reconstruction** the period of rebuilding that followed the Civil War, during which the defeated Confederate states were readmitted into the Union
- secession** the formal withdrawal of a state from the Union

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- Slave Codes** series of laws that controlled the behavior of slaves and denied slaves basic rights; passed by colonists
- tariff** tax or duty that a government charges on imports or goods coming into a country
- Tariff of Abominations** John C. Calhoun's name for the Tariff of 1828
- Underground Railroad** system of routes along which runaway slaves were helped to escape to Canada or to safe areas in free states
- Union** the separate states gathered together as the United States; the 24 states that remained in the United States after the Southern states seceded; also known as the North