

Freedom's Ripple Effect Answer Key

1. Enslaved people in Confederate states were declared free by law.
2. Many people remained enslaved until Union soldiers arrived to enforce the order.
3. Enslaved people in Texas finally learned they were free, marking the first Juneteenth.
4. Annual celebrations began, honoring freedom and community unity.
5. It encouraged ongoing movements for equality and recognition, leading to its establishment as a national holiday.

Teacher's Guide:

- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Grades 5-6: Offer sentence starters (e.g., "This caused..." or "As a result...").
 - Grades 7-8: Have students expand each effect into a short paragraph describing social, emotional, or historical impacts.
 - Support vocabulary with key terms like *emancipation*, *proclamation*, and *justice*.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Act out the "freedom chain" with students each representing a key event or figure.
 - Use a "domino of history" activity where students verbally link one cause to the next.
 - Play soft drum or rhythm music while students read the passage to evoke the idea of movement and momentum.
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Write a short story or poem from the viewpoint of someone hearing the news of freedom for the first time.
 - Compare the impact of Juneteenth to another holiday celebrating independence, like July 4th.
 - Have students research how different states recognized Juneteenth before it became a federal holiday.