

Voices In Reconstruction Answer Key

1. Lincoln

Meaning: He wanted peace and forgiveness after the Civil War.

Connection: He believed the country should reunite without revenge against the South.

2. Johnson

Meaning: Southern states must accept the end of slavery and other changes.

Connection: He expected the South to follow new laws in order to rejoin the Union.

3. Douglass

Meaning: Freedom means having equal political rights, including voting.

Connection: He fought for African American civil rights during Reconstruction.

Short response: Answers will vary but should include reasoning about lasting change.

Teacher's Guide

- Preview each leader's main ideas and goals before beginning the activity.
- Model interpreting one quote aloud, focusing on language clues.
- Encourage students to cite specific words that reveal the speaker's viewpoint.

Differentiation

- **Support:** Provide sentence starters for meaning and connections.
- **Challenge:** Have students research one additional quote from a Reconstruction leader and analyze it.

Engagement Ideas

- **Quick warm-up:** Students match photos of leaders to short fact cards.
- Small group discussion after each quote to compare interpretations.

Extension Idea

- Write a persuasive paragraph from the perspective of one leader, arguing what Reconstruction should look like.