American History I Page \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit 6 Study Guide

**Reconstruction**

1. Which law formally abolished slavery?

2. Define sharecroppers and tenant farmers. Why did many African Americans end up back on the same plantation where they were once enslaved?

3. Who supported the Democratic party in the South? Who supported the Republican party?

4. Which law made “all persons born or naturalized in the United States” citizens of the nation?

5. Why did the federal government divide the former Confederacy into five military districts?

6. Explain Lincoln’s plan for Reconstruction. Why did he want it to be more lenient?

7. What was the 15th Amendment? What group of people gained rights with the 15th Amendment?

8. What was the Freedmen's Bureau?

9. Why did Radical Republicans think the Freedmen’s Bureau was necessary?

10. Explain the Radical Republicans’ plan for Reconstruction.

11. What were poll taxes, literacy tests, and grandfather clauses used to do?

12. Why did many scalawags join the Republican Party?

13. How did southern Democrats oppose Reconstruction?

14. What was the Tenure of Office Act? How did it lead the House to attempt impeachment?

15. What organization was founded by Confederate veterans to resist Reconstruction and terrorize freedmen?

16. What are slave narratives? When were many of them created? Why are they important for understanding American history?

**The West**

1. What was the Homestead Act? How did it encourage the settlement of the West?

2. Who were the Exodusters?

3. How did railroads affect the settlement of the West?

4. Why did settlers on the Great Plains live in sod houses?

5. Why did the need for cowboys decrease in the West after the late 1800s? What invention went along with their demise?

6. Which famous battle was known as “Custer’s Last Stand”?

7. What was the Dawes Act?

8. What famous event marked the end of the Indian Wars?