**Reconstruction! Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Lots of people had lots of concerns after the Civil War. Try and put yourself in the place of both blacks and whites in the South, and see if you can figure out what some of their questions/concerns might have been.

**1. Blacks**

This group was relieved, of course, to not be enslaved anymore. But imagine you are a member of this group of recently freed black slaves. Make a list of concerns or questions that you might have about your future.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**2. Whites**

This group was devastated to lose slavery. Why? Imagine that you are a white person living in the South. What concerns or questions would you have about the slaves being freed? Try and think in terms of a white person back then, not as you right now.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**3. Read the passage below, which was written by a freed slave:**

Finally the war closed, and…we were told that we were all free, and could

go when and where we pleased… . For some minutes there was great rejoicing,

and thanksgiving, and wild scenes of ecstasy. But there was no feeling of

bitterness. In fact, there was pity among the slaves for our former owners. The

wild rejoicing on the part of the emancipated colored people lasted but for a

brief period, for I noticed that by the time they returned to their cabins there

was a change in their feelings. The great responsibility of being free, of having

charge of themselves, of having to think and plan for themselves and their

children, seemed to take possession of them… .

To some it seemed that, now that they were in actual possession of it, freedom

was a more serious thing that they had expected to find it. Some of the

slaves were seventy or eighty years old… . To this class the problem seemed

especially hard. Besides, deep down in their hearts there was a strange and

peculiar attachment to “old Marster” and “old Missus” and to their children,

which they found hard to think of breaking off…. Gradually, one by one,

stealthily at first, the older slaves began to wander from the slave quarters

back to the “big house” to have whispered conversations with their former

owners as to the future.

— Booker T. Washington

*Up from Slavery: An Autobiography* (1901)

Can you think of a time when you wanted something so badly, that you forgot to think about what it would mean if you actually got it? And then maybe you got the thing you wanted and realized that it was a little scary?

4. The black codes were laws created by the new Southern governments, which limited the rights of blacks. Give some examples of these laws from section 23.2:

5. Using 23.4 and 23.5, explain how things got better for the freedmen, before they got worse again in the 1870's.