**Module 5.3**

**Key Concept 5.3:** The Union victory in the Civil War and the contested Reconstruction of the South settled the issues of slavery and secession, but left unresolved many questions about the power of the federal government and citizenship rights.

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| **Pre-Assessment** | Complete formative quiz 5.3 |
| **Reading Activity** | Watch this short video to review the concept of Reconstruction before you begin reading: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5sYrwXRlDY>Read the Introduction below then follow the link to “[*A Ku Klux Threat, 1868*](https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/reconstruction/resources/ku-klux-klan-threat-1868)*”* (a primary source by the KKK). **Introduction:***Reconstruction politics was a catalyst for widespread racism and hatred that freed people experienced throughout the South. The Ku Klux Klan, founded by a Confederate general in 1866, became known as the “invisible empire of the South” in which members represented the ghosts of the Confederate dead returning to terrorize African Americans and Republicans. Although it was a covert organization, the Klan’s displays of violence and intolerance were anything but discreet. Many murders and beatings were never reported due to fear of reprisal from the Klan. This document is an example of the type of threats for which the KKK became known. In this case, the target was Davie Jeems, a black Republican recently elected sheriff in Lincoln County, Georgia. The language of the document evokes a ghostly menacing presence; even the handwriting is reminiscent of a ransom note. The word “notice” and the two holes at the top indicate that it was most likely posted in a public place. Someone has written on the back of the sheet that “similar threats have prevented all the other Republican officers to take their [commissions].” With the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1871, the already weakened Klan became dormant, but it resurfaced again in 1915.*Type the following questions in Word format and save.1. Why was this notice addressed to Davie Jeems? Explain why the notice was apparently posted publicly.
2. How did the author(s) of the note use fear of the supernatural to frighten the reader?
3. To what extent does this note show the frustration and anger of some white Southerners to the policies of the Radical Republicans?
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| **Writing Activity** | After completing your own research using your classroom textbook and the Internet, briefly answer the following questions as a Long Essay Question. Type your response in Word format and save. *How effective was federal and state legislation in providing equal rights for African-Americans from 1860-1896?* |
| **Student Product** | Organize students into their accountability groups and assign specific eras of the KKK to each group. Students may use additional resources such as the textbook and internet to complete the chart.  |