***Prompt: Some historians have argued that Reconstruction should be deemed a failure. Support, modify, or refute this interpretation providing specific evidence***

US History

Due 2/11 in class

100 formal points

**Minimum requirements for a quality (A or B) paper**

* 5 paragraphs
* 850+ words
* A strong thesis statement which answers your historical research question
* 2 pieces of *specific* historical background information in the introduction
* 2 pieces of *specific* (and parenthetically cited) pieces of historical evidence supporting your thesis in each body paragraph
  + at least one primary source cited per paragraph
* A strong conclusion which makes historical connections to the present day

**Minimum requirements for a passing grade (60%+)**

* 5 paragraphs and 750 words.
* 6 parenthetical citations supporting your thesis with at least two in each body paragraph
* 3 primary sources cited

**Minimum requirements to not receive a 0%** . **If you do not meet the minimum requirement your grade is 0%. I will not read it.**

* 5 paragraphs and 650 words
* 6 parenthetical citations supporting your thesis with at least two in each body paragraph
* Quotations cannot make up more than 20% of your paper

**Your Historical Evidence (all other sources must be approved)**

* RG pages 600-627
* James MacGregor Burns, [“Reconstruction: The Revolution that Failed”](http://www.gcisd-k12.org/cms/lib4/TX01000829/Centricity/Domain/2830/Reconstruction-%20The%20Revolution%20That%20Failed%20article-1.pdf)
* In class Activities 1/21
  + PPT: [Reconstruction Lecture RG Discussion](http://dkuluris.weebly.com/uploads/3/7/7/3/37733977/reconstruction__regular_.pptx)
  + [Reconstruction Primary Set # 1](http://dkuluris.weebly.com/uploads/3/7/7/3/37733977/legacy_of_reconstruction.docx)
  + [Reconstruction Primary Set # 2](http://dkuluris.weebly.com/uploads/3/7/7/3/37733977/reconstruction_primary_sources_1_.pdf)
* Document Presentations 1/28
  + [Freedman Primary Sources﻿](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bxm10D7sShO6NGY5N3RoT3VpcTg/view?usp=sharing)
  + [Radical Republicans Primary Sources](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bxm10D7sShO6bkE0cDY5MVh5QWc/view?usp=sharing)
  + [Redeemer Governments Primary Sources](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bxm10D7sShO6RkNicVBDb1BlZHc/view?usp=sharing)
  + Reconstruction Presidents Primary Sources

Rubric for Essay

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Thesis: **20 points**

* 16-20 points: Thesis directly addresses a historical research question. The thesis is debatable and the author clearly takes a side. The thesis clearly states what evidence will be used to support their argument.
* 10-15 Points- Thesis is weak, and does not clearly take a side or provide evidence to support the argument
* 5-9 point- Thesis is confusing
* 0 points- no thesis

\_\_\_\_\_ Introduction: **20 Points**

* 16-20 points: Introduction has an engaging opening sentence and provides accurate and specific historical background information (at least two pieces of historical evidence)
* 10-15 points: Introduction has an engaging opening sentence and provides accurate and specific historical background information (at least two pieces of historical evidence) but the paragraph is somewhat confusing.
* 0-9 point: Introduction does not provide at least two pieces of historical evidence

\_\_\_\_\_Content and Accuracy (body paragraphs): **30 points: 10 points each**

* 9-10 Paper skillfully covers the topic and contains ALL of the following: a clear and encaging topic sentence, two academic citations offering relevant historical evidence that supports the thesis (one primary), author commentary on all evidence making a clear link to your thesis. Each paragraph must bring in one piece of outside information. NO factual errors/inaccuracies.
* 7-8: Paper skillfully covers the topic and contains ALL of the following: a clear and encaging topic sentence, two academic citations offering relevant historical evidence that supports the thesis, author commentary on all evidence making a clear link to your thesis. The paper may have a few minor factual errors/inaccuracies.
* 5-6: Paper skillfully covers the topic and contains ALL of the following: a clear and encaging topic sentence, two academic citations offering relevant historical evidence that supports the thesis, author commentary on all evidence making a clear link to your thesis. The paragraph contains one major historical inaccuracy
* 5 or below: The content and accuracy is unacceptable. Or less than two citations are provided

\_\_\_\_\_ Conclusion: **20 Points**

* 16-20 points: Conclusion restates the thesis and recaps the main points of the paper. Conclusion makes connections to the present day
* 10-15 points: Conclusion restates the thesis and recaps the main points of the paper but is somewhat confusing
* 5-9 point: Conclusion does not clearly restate the thesis or recap the main arguments
* 0-5 Conclusion is confusing

\_\_\_\_\_ Grammar, Mechanics and syntax : **10 Points**

* 10 points: Paper is flawless. There are no grammatical, syntax or mechanical errors
* 5-9 points: There may be a few grammatical, syntax or mechanical errors but they do not detract from the overall argument
* 0-5: A lack of proofreading is evident

\_\_\_\_\_/100 **Total points**