

## **You Be the Historians!**

Each person in your group is a leading historian who has researched Reconstruction. Your team of historians is responsible for writing the article in the newest U.S. History textbook about the lives of former enslaved people after receiving their freedom at the end of the Civil War.

**Task:** Write a textbook passage entitled “Life in the South after the Civil War.”

### **Steps:**

1. Each member of your group should read one of the primary sources. Be prepared to answer the two questions at the bottom of the page.
2. In your group, each person will share information about their primary sources. Explain what your primary source is and tell your group the answers to the two questions.
3. As a group, write a textbook passage about “Life in the South after the Civil War.” Make sure to include information gathered from each of the four primary sources. Consider the following questions.
  - What did Americans (Northern and Southern, black and white) think of the government during Reconstruction – military occupation of the South, civil rights laws, and the president’s plans?
  - How did the views of white and black Southerners differ concerning the future of African Americans?
  - For African Americans in the South after the Civil War, what help did they receive? What challenges did they face?