**GUIDED READING EXERCISE**

**Chapter 16—Reconstructing a Nation, 1863–1877**

* **What were the achievements and failures of Reconstruction?**

***Download and save this document so you can return to it to take notes and later use it for studying.*** *As you read the chapter, fill in the chart below to remind yourself of the achievements and failures of Reconstruction. If you copy and paste from the text, make sure you place quotation marks around the copied material; if you are able to describe the achievements and failures in your own words, however, you should do so.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Achievements** | **Failures** |
| **Why did Congress object to Lincoln's wartime plan for reconstruction?** |  |  |
| **How did the North respond to the passage of black codes in the southern states?** |  |  |
| **How radical was congressional reconstruction?** |  |  |
| **What brought the elements of the South's Republican coalition together?**  |  |  |
| **Why did reconstruction collapse?** |  |  |

*After you have read the chapter, use your notes to compose an essay that answers the following question:*

* **What were the achievements and failures of Reconstruction?**

*Be sure to include an opening, introductory paragraph in which you state your thesis. Then use the body of your essay to provide evidence from the chapter to support that thesis. When thinking about how to organize this essay, you might want to consider the achievements of wartime, presidential, and congressional reconstruction and then consider the failures of each facet of Reconstruction. Reflect on the social changes that occurred between 1863 and 1877 and think about how they contributed to Reconstruction’s achievements and failures. End by writing a clear conclusion to your essay.*