

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF THE PRESIDENTS™

The Fifteenth Amendment

Introduction:

The Fifteenth Amendment is the final of the Civil War amendments and the first of the suffrage amendments. It granted African American men the right to vote. Sadly, it would take nearly 100 years before this right became a true reality.

The text of this amendment reads, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.."

Questions:

1. What right does the Fifteenth Amendment grant?
2. What year was the Fifteenth Amendment ratified?
3. When did African American women gain the right to vote nationwide?
4. Who was the first African American man to serve in Congress?
5. What does "disenfranchisement" mean?
6. What were two methods used in southern states to keep African Americans from voting?
7. What was a "grandfather clause"?
8. What was the Supreme Court's ruling in *Giles v. Harris* (1903)?
9. What was the Voting Rights Act of 1965?
10. What was "reconstructed" with the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments?