



Name:



Date:

Kids Britannica Voting Rights Act Guided Practice - **Answer Key** ([Source](#))

Instructions: Read the article and complete the guided practice.

- 1) In 1965 the United States enacted the **Voting** Rights Act.
- 2) It aimed to stop state and local **governments** from passing laws that kept **African Americans** from **voting**.
- 3) The **Fifteenth Amendment** (1870) to the **U.S. Constitution** granted African American men the right to vote.
- 4) It guaranteed that the **right to vote** would not be denied “on account of **race**, color, or previous condition of servitude.”
- 5) In some states of the former **Confederacy**, African Americans made up a **large** portion of the voters.
- 6) Some white leaders used **intimidation** and fraud to keep African Americans from registering to vote and from voting.
- 7) As whites regained power in state legislatures, they enacted legislation to disqualify African Americans from voting. These laws included **poll taxes** (requiring people to pay a tax in order to vote), literacy tests, and whites-only primaries.



- 8) By the early 1960s, voter registration rates among African Americans were much **lower** than among whites.
- 9) During the **civil rights movement**, African American **activists** worked to secure equal-rights legislation.
- 10) In the 1950s and early 1960s, **Congress** enacted laws to protect the voting rights of African Americans.
- 11) In **1964** the **Civil Rights Act** was passed. It was intended to end discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin.
- 12) In 1965 President Johnson called for comprehensive **federal** legislation to protect voting rights. The result was the Voting Rights Act.
- 13) The Voting Rights Act dramatically **increased** the number of African American voters.