**Incomplete Notes: 5-1.2** Summarize the provisions of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution, including how the amendments protected the rights of African Americans and sought to enhance their political, social, and economic opportunities.

1**. What did the 13th Amendment do?**

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ slaves everywhere in the U.S., giving all Americans the rights to “life, liberty and the pursuit of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” These rights of African Americans were protected during Reconstruction by the federal government.

**2. What did the 14th Amendment do?**

It gave \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to all African Americans, overturning the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Scott decision. The Fourteenth Amendment recognized the right of all citizens to “due process of law” and “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ protection of the laws.”

**3. What did the 15th Amendment do?**

It gave African American males the right to \_\_\_\_\_\_. This meant that African Americans could also hold political \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Many were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to state and federal legislatures during Reconstruction.

Although these amendments helped give civil rights to freedmen, many places still wouldn’t let them own \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, so they had a hard time earning a living (no economic rights).

**Memory Hint: \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**13 14 15**

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1. What did the 13th Amendment do?

It freed slaves everywhere in the U.S., giving all Americans the rights to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” These rights of African Americans were protected during Reconstruction by the federal government.

2. What did the 14th Amendment do?

It gave citizenship to all African Americans, overturning the Dred Scott decision. The Fourteenth Amendment recognized the right of all citizens to “due process of law” and “equal protection of the laws.”

3. What did the 15th Amendment do?

It gave African American males the right to vote. This meant that African Americans could also hold political office. Many were elected to state and federal legislatures during Reconstruction.

Although these amendments helped give civil rights to freedmen, many places still wouldn’t let them own land, so they had a hard time earning a living (no economic rights).

**Memory Hint: FREE CITIZENS VOTE**

**13 14 15**