TEACHER'S GUIDE Grades 5 to 12

A. Johnson, Grant, & Hayes Our Presidents in America's History Series

Pre-Viewing Questions:

- 1) Consider the issues the nation faced following the Civil War. How would the South's economy keep going without slave labor? What would become of the recently freed slaves? How would the Southern States be integrated back into the Union? What other issues did the nation face?
- 2) Define the following key terms: onerous, reconstruction, lenient, impeach, Gilded Age, transcontinental railroad, suffrage, suffragettes, Ku Klux Klan, carpetbaggers, memoirs, Jim Crow laws, segregation, temperance, moral, ethical, bandits, phonograph, workers' rights, prejudice, urban squalor

Post-Viewing Questions:

- 1) Why was Andrew Johnson chosen as Lincoln's running mate?
- 2) What was the purpose of Reconstruction? In what specific ways did the South need to be reconciled to the North? How was this accomplished?
- 3) Why was Andrew Johnson impeached?
- 4) What was Ulysses S. Grant's occupation before the Civil War? Why did Grant apologize to the nation before leaving office? What does it mean that his mistakes were errors of judgment, but not intent?
- 5) Describe life for freed slaves during the era of Reconstruction. What types of opportunities were available to them? What challenges did they face?
- 6) How did the settlement of the West affect Native Americans? How did Native Americans respond to American encroachment on their lands?
- 7) What were the circumstances of Rutherford B. Hayes' election to the Presidency?
- 8) From what countries were immigrants coming during this period? What type of life could they expect in the United States?
- 9) What inventions were completed during this time period? How did these inventions alter life in America? How do they affect life today?
- 10) Following Reconstruction, what social issues did the nation face?

Additional Activity:

Write journal entries from the viewpoint of an immigrant in the 19th century. What kinds of opportunities were available to immigrants in the United States? What types of jobs did immigrants usually find? Where did they live? Also discuss your feelings about being in a new county.