

Grading notes
10/1 essay assignment

...choose three government actions...that limited the civil rights policies put in place by the Reconstruction Amendments and by the principal laws made pursuant to their enforcement clauses... . In each case, describe, as best you can from the information given by Klinkner, the policies that were weakened, how they were weakened, and by whom.

Some essays struggled to draw a connection between the events described and the Reconstruction policies mentioned in the prompt. In this essay, simply detailing the historical details of the three events was not sufficient. The crucial part of the essay was to use those details to explain how the events weakened the goals of Reconstruction policies.

Relatedly, some attempts at connections were too vague. Saying “the Chinese Exclusion Act conflicted with the original intent of the 14th Amendment” does not adequately engage with either the details of the act (particularly the C.E.A. which is not obviously related to Reconstruction) or the opinions of Klinker and Smith.

There were a few timeline errors in the essays. It is not necessary to know the exact year of every Supreme Court case mentioned in the readings, but it is important to know what major legislation was valid/invalid at the time of a ruling.

Lastly, when drawing on readings both from class and from outside sources, provide in-text citations to let us know specifically where you are referencing a source. Then, at the end of the document, provide the full citation.