AP US History - Unit 6 Document Based Question

Directions:
The following question requires you to construct an essay that integrates your interpretation of the documents and your knowledge of the period referred to in the question. In the essay you should strive to support your assertions both by citing key pieces of evidence from the documents and by drawing on your knowledge of the period.

PROMPT:

• GO THROUGH THE PLANNING PROCESS:
• Have great Analysis! “So What”????
• Correct 5 Paragraph organization

Statement:
“It is clear that all the lives that were lost in the American Civil War to insure a “new birth of freedom” were in vain. By 1880, the South had defeated the weak Northern Reconstruction efforts in behalf of the freedmen, and had re-enslaved the Negro.”
--Assess the validity of this statement using the documents and your knowledge of US History from 1860-1880.

Document A
Source: Election Results - 1876

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Rutherford B. Hayes</th>
<th>Samuel J. Tilden</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Party</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home state</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running mate</td>
<td>William A. Wheeler</td>
<td>Thomas A. Hendricks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral vote</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States carried</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular vote</td>
<td>4,036,572</td>
<td>4,284,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>47.9%</td>
<td>50.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Document B

AMENDMENT XIV (1868.) All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Section 2. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

Section 3. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

Section 4. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounty for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.
Document C

AMENDMENT XV (1870.)
Section 1. 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.

Document D

Source: Harpers Weekly; October 1874

Document E

“The sweeping revolution of the entire labor system of a large portion of our country and the advance of 4,000,000 people from a condition of servitude to that of citizenship, upon an equal footing with their former masters, could not occur without presenting problems of the gravest moment, to be dealt with by the emancipated race, by their former masters, and by the General Government, the author of the act of emancipation. That it was a wise, just, and providential act, fraught with good for all concerned, is not generally conceded throughout the country. That a moral obligation rests upon the National Government to employ its constitutional power and influence to establish the rights of the people it has emancipated, and to protect them in the enjoyment of those rights when they are infringed or assailed, is also generally admitted. . . .” Rutherford B. Hayes, Inaugural Address, March 5, 1877.

Document F

“Lacking capital, and with little to offer but their labor, thousands of impoverished former slaves slipped into the status of sharecropper farmers, as did many landless whites. Luckless sharecroppers gradually sank into a morass of virtual peonage and remained there for generations. Formerly slaves to masters, countless blacks as well as poorer whites in effect became slaves to the soil and to their creditors. Yet the dethroned planter aristocracy resented even this pitiful concession to freedom. Sharecropping was the "wrong policy," said one planter. "It makes the laborer too independent; he becomes a partner, and has a right to be consulted." Thomas A. Bailey, The American Pageant.
Among the first acts of the new Southern regimes sanctioned by Johnson was the passage of the iron-toothed Black Codes. These laws were designed to regulate the affairs of the emancipated blacks, much as the slave statutes had done in pre-Civil War days. Mississippi passed the first such law in November 1865, and other Southern states soon followed suit. The Black Codes varied in severity from state to state (Mississippi's was the harshest and Georgia's the most lenient), but they had much in common. The Black Codes aimed, first of all, to ensure a stable labor supply. The crushed Cotton Kingdom could not rise from its weeds until the fields were once again put under hoe and plow—and many whites feared that black field hands and plow drivers would not work unless forced to do so.

Severe penalties were therefore imposed by the codes on blacks who "jumped" their labor contracts, which usually committed them to work for the same employer for one year, and generally at pittance wages. Violators could be made to forfeit back wages or could be forcibly dragged back to work by a paid "negro-catcher." In Mississippi the captured freedmen could be fined and then hired out to pay their fines—an arrangement that closely resembled slavery itself. . . . The codes also sought to restore as nearly as possible the pre-emancipation system of race relations. Freedom was legally recognized, as were some other privileges, such as the right to marry. But all the codes forbade a black to serve on a jury; some even barred blacks from renting or leasing land. A black could be punished for "idleness" by being sentenced to work on a chain gang. Nowhere were blacks allowed to vote.” Ken Stampp, *The Era of Reconstruction*.

Against a backdrop of vicious and bloody race riots that had erupted in several Southern cities, Congress passed the Military Reconstruction Act on March 2, 1867. Supplemented by later measures, this drastic legislation divided the South into five military districts, each commanded by a Union general and policed by blue-clad soldiers, about twenty thousand all told. The act also temporarily disfranchised tens of thousands of former Confederates. . . . Congress additionally laid down stringent conditions for the readmission of the seceded states. The wayward states were required to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment, giving the former slaves their rights as citizens. The bitterest pill of all to white Southerners was the stipulation that they guarantee in their state constitutions full suffrage for their former adult male slaves.” Thomas A. Bailey, *The American Pageant*. 