Amendment XIV

Section 1.

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 5.

The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

*Ratification was completed on July 9, 1868. Not all states approved of this amendment, some did not ratify this amendment until 1976.*

**Directions:** After reading and annotating the text, answer the following questions below in your I.N. (Interactive Notebook) in complete sentences as well as using evidence from the text when necessary.

1. How does a human become a citizen of the United States of America?
2. Can states create or enforce any law which stops or limits privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States of America?
3. What does the phrase, “due process” mean?
4. How can states legally limit a citizens civil liberties?
5. Who has the power to enforce this amendment?
6. Do you think that because the words, “equal protection of the laws” is written down, that ALL people in America experienced equality, why or why not?

Amendment XV

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.

Section 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

*Passed by Congress February 26, 1869. Ratified February 3, 1870.*

**Directions:** After reading and annotating the text, answer the following questions below in your I.N. (Interactive Notebook) in complete sentences as well as using evidence from the text when necessary.

1. What right is this amendment defining?
2. What can states or the federal government NOT use to limit this right?
3. What does the phrase, “previous condition of servitude” mean?
4. Who has the power to enforce this amendment?
5. When was this amendment ratified?
6. Do you have evidence which demonstrates that this amendment was not honored in all states? If so, in DETAIL explain your evidence. HINT…you should have evidence…