

- William A. Dunning, *Reconstruction: Political and Economic* (1907).
 “Few episodes of recorded history more urgently invited thorough analysis than the struggle through which the southern whites, subjugated by adversaries of their own race, thwarted the scheme which threatened permanent subjection to another race. . . . The most rasping feature of the new situation to the old white element of the South was the large predominance of northerners and negroes in positions of political power. . . . The most cunning and malignant enemy of the United States could not have timed differently this period of national ill-repute; for it came with the centennial of American independence. . . .”
- Kenneth Stampp, *The Era of Reconstruction* (1965).
 “Finally, we come to the idealistic aim of the radicals to make southern society more democratic, especially to make the emancipation of Negroes something more than an empty gesture. In the short run this was their greatest failure. . . . Still, no one could quite forget that the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments were now part of the federal Constitution. . . . Thus Negroes were no longer denied equality by the plain language of law, as they had been before radical reconstruction, but only by coercion, by subterfuge, by deceit, and by spurious legalisms. . . . The blunders of that era, tragic though they were, dwindle into insignificance. For if it was worth four years of civil war to save the Union, it was worth a few years of radical reconstruction to give the American Negro the ultimate promise of equal civil and political rights.”

Using the excerpts, answer parts a, b, and c.

- Briefly explain ONE major difference between Dunning and Stamp’s historical interpretation of Reconstruction.
- Briefly explain how ONE development from the period 1865 to 1877 not directly mentioned in the excerpts supports Dunning’s argument.
- Briefly explain how ONE development from the period 1865 to 1877 not directly mentioned in the excerpts supports Stamp’s argument.