

GUIDED READING**CHAPTER 13: WEST VIRGINIA AND RECONSTRUCTION****Section 3: The Rise of Labor Unions**

Directions: Use the information from pages 494-499 to complete the following statements.

Introduction

1. Labor unions evolved as _____ searched for ways to work with _____
_____ to protect themselves from _____ and sometimes
_____ situations.
2. Before being hired, all miners had to sign _____ contracts by which they
pledged not to join a _____.
3. If workers complained about conditions, they were _____ and their names were placed on
a _____.
4. Sometimes companies even used a _____ to keep their workers from their _____.
5. Workers who joined together could stop _____ until the employer treated them fairly.
Such an action was called a _____.

The First Strike

6. In 1873, a disastrous _____ spread across the country, causing an _____
tailspin. The decline in production led to rising _____.
7. Because times were hard, _____ often broke out.
8. In July 1877, the _____ announced a cut in _____ for the fourth time in seven years.
9. Workers became angry and left their _____ to go on strike. After the company hired
new _____ to run the trains, the strikers gathered on the _____ and
refused to allow the trains to operate.
10. By law, the _____ was required to protect the _____ property, and he
immediately ordered the state _____ to Martinsburg.

Name: _____

Date: _____

11. The governor turned for help to President Rutherford B. _____, who sent two hundred _____.
12. Federal troops arrived in _____ on July 19, and the _____ ended the next day.
13. The workers accomplished _____ by their strike, and their wages were further _____ when they returned to their jobs.

Early Labor Unions

14. If workers went on strike in one area, _____ could still operate in other areas, which _____ the power of the strike.
15. Workers fought back by forming nationwide _____ organizations.
16. The first national federation was the Noble and Holy Order of the _____.
17. The union's goal was to unite all workers regardless of _____, _____, or _____.
18. For a period in the 1870s and 1880s, the Knights of Labor was the _____ labor federation.
19. By 1887, the union was _____ members.
20. The American Federation of Labor (AFofL), as it became known in 1886, was a loose _____ of other national unions. Workers joined their _____ union, which in turn became an _____ (branch) of the AFofL.
21. The founder of the AFofL, Samuel _____, helped _____ American unionism.

Unionism Comes to West Virginia

22. Nonunion _____ posed a threat to the good _____ earned by union members.
23. Companies fought strikers with what the miners called the “_____ four”: (1) the state _____, which often arrested law-abiding strikers; (2) _____ (orders issued by local _____ that stop a particular action or force a particular action); (3) the companies’

Name: _____

Date: _____

private armed _____, who _____ strikers; and (4) _____
(people willing to _____ for the companies when regular workers went on _____).

24. The United Mine Workers of America was organized in 1890 in Columbus, _____, when
the National Miners' Union _____ with an affiliate of the Knights of Labor.

25. Despite many obstacles, the _____ won some agreements. These agreements were
often _____.

26. Honest check _____ were important because miners were paid according to the
number of _____ of coal they mined.

27. Such simple contracts were major victories for the _____. At the other end of the spectrum
were contracts negotiated by the unions of skilled _____.

28. These craft unions also strictly _____ who could become _____. As a
result, it was especially difficult for _____ and _____ to gain entrance.