

Name: _____ Date: _____

Finding and Using Text Evidence

Directions: Read "Escape From Slavery." Then complete the activity below.

1. Imagine that you are writing a paragraph explaining what the life of an enslaved person was like.

A. Which of the following would be the BEST topic sentence for your paragraph?

- Ⓐ Families were broken up when family members were sold off by their owners.
- Ⓑ Historical records about slaves and their families are incomplete.
- Ⓒ Enslaved people had no control over their lives and could be treated inhumanely.

B. Which information from the article BEST supports the sentence you chose in part A?

- Ⓐ Many enslaved people, including Tubman, did not know their actual birthdays. (p. 6)
- Ⓑ It's likely that Tubman's mother, Rit, and her father, Benjamin, had at least nine children. (p. 6)
- Ⓒ As a child, Tubman was forced to work for a cruel woman who regularly beat her. (p. 7)

C. Which of the following BEST explains why the text evidence you chose in part B is relevant?

- Ⓐ It describes how many family members Tubman had.
- Ⓑ It provides an example of an enslaved person being treated inhumanely.
- Ⓒ It shows an example of the kind of historical information that wasn't kept about enslaved people.

2. Choose the piece of text evidence that BEST supports the statement below. Then complete the sentence to explain your choice.

People who worked in the Underground Railroad were brave.

- Ⓐ "Between her journeys, Tubman worked at hotels and restaurants, saving the money she would need to buy food and other supplies for her rescue missions." (p. 8)
- Ⓑ "... by 1850, helping a runaway slave was against the law, even in free states. If you were caught, you would most certainly be fined and possibly sent to jail" (p. 9)
- Ⓒ "Hundreds of people were part of the Underground Railroad" (p. 8)

I chose ___ because _____

3. A. Choose the THREE pieces of text evidence that BEST support the statement below.

During Tubman's time, many people in the U.S. believed slavery was wrong.

- Ⓐ "Rit and Benjamin's owner, Edward Brodess, didn't believe that selling the girls was wrong though." (p. 6)
- Ⓑ "They described escape routes and the kind people who opened their homes to men, women, and children on the run." (p. 7)
- Ⓒ "At the time, many fugitive slaves took refuge in Philadelphia, where there was a strong abolitionist movement." (p. 8)
- Ⓓ "Hundreds of people were part of the Underground Railroad, a diverse group that included wealthy white people, Christian ministers, farmers, free black people, and many others." (p. 8)
- Ⓔ "To be truly safe, many who had escaped slavery traveled all the way to Canada, where slavery was entirely outlawed." (p. 9)

B. Select one piece of INCORRECT evidence from above and explain why it does NOT support the statement.

Evidence ___ does not support the statement because _____

4. Choose the paragraph that correctly uses text evidence from “Escape From Slavery” in the form of a direct quotation.

- Ⓐ The Southern economy was dependent on slavery. Agriculture had become a “lucrative business” in the South and plantation owners relied on slaves for cheap labor. In other words, slaves played a large role in supporting the agricultural industry in the South.
- Ⓑ The Southern economy was dependent on slavery. In her article “Escape From Slavery,” author Lauren Tarshis explains that agriculture was a prosperous industry in the South and that plantation owners relied on slaves as a source of cheap labor (7).
- Ⓒ The Southern economy was dependent on slavery. Author Lauren Tarshis explains that agriculture had become a “lucrative business” in the South and that “plantation owners relied on slaves for cheap labor” (p. 7). In other words, slaves played a large role in supporting the agricultural industry in the South.

Explain why the two answers you did NOT choose are incorrect: _____

5. Choose the paragraph that correctly uses text evidence from “Escape From Slavery” in the form of a paraphrase.

- Ⓐ It was extremely risky for slaves to try to escape. Slaves “would surely be whipped—or worse” if they were caught trying to escape. In other words, slaves who tried to escape risked facing severe punishment if they failed.
- Ⓑ It was extremely risky for slaves to try to escape. In her article “Escape From Slavery,” Tarshis explains that if caught, slaves who tried to escape could be whipped or even put to death (p. 6). In other words, slaves who tried to escape risked facing severe punishment if they failed.
- Ⓒ It was extremely risky for slaves to try to escape. Slaves who tried to escape could be whipped or even put to death.

Explain why the two answers you did NOT choose are incorrect: _____
