

A Strong Leader

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3 and 4.

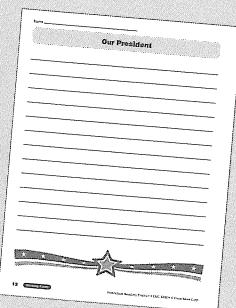
1. The president of the United States is chosen every _____ years.
Ⓐ two
Ⓑ four
Ⓒ six
2. The group of people who work together to run the United States is called the _____.
Ⓐ government
Ⓑ country
Ⓒ president
3. What are two powers the Constitution gives to the president?

4. What is the main idea of the text?

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Write to tell about the president. How does he or she work for the United States and the world?



Harriet Tubman

Level 1 ■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

An American Hero

Long ago in the United States, some people enslaved African people. They called them "slaves." Slaves lived and worked on large farms. They worked hard, but they didn't get paid. They didn't get to choose how to live their lives. Farmers who owned slaves could sell them whenever they wanted. It was a horrible life.

Harriet Tubman was an enslaved African. She lived in Maryland, which was a state in the South. Tubman knew that slaves should be free in northern states. Harriet Tubman wanted to be free, so she secretly ran away to the North. It was a long way to the North. If she were caught, she would be sent back.

Harriet Tubman made it to Pennsylvania, a northern state. She was free! But Tubman wanted to help other slaves leave. So she went back to the South to help more slaves leave. She went back and forth many times. Tubman helped almost 300 slaves get to the North. She helped them become free. Today, Tubman is remembered as a great American hero.

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24 Harriet Tubman 2
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24 Harriet Tubman 3
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Level 2 ■ ■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

A Brave Escape

Long ago, there were large farms in the southern United States. These farms were called plantations. The plantation owners grew many crops and needed a lot of workers. They bought enslaved African people to do the work. They called them "slaves." The slaves were forced to work for nothing. Slaves had very hard lives. If they tried to escape, they would be caught and punished. Slaves who ran away were putting themselves in danger.

Harriet Tubman lived in the South. She was a slave on a plantation in Maryland. Tubman knew that slaves should be free in the North. She ran away from her plantation. The road to freedom was scary and difficult. Tubman had to walk through dark woods and swamps. She had to hide during the day and run at night. She made it all the way from Maryland to Pennsylvania. She was free!

Harriet Tubman wanted more than her own freedom. She wanted to help other slaves get to the North, too. She went back and forth from the North to the South 17 more times. Tubman cared more for the freedom of others than for her own freedom. She was a true hero.

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25 Harriet Tubman 2
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25 Harriet Tubman 3
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Level 3 ■ ■ ■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

Fighting for Freedom

Harriet Tubman was born on a plantation in Maryland in about 1820. The plantation was a large farm. Maryland was a southern state, where the law allowed farmers to own enslaved African people. They called "slaves." Harriet Tubman and her family were slaves.

Lots was hard. There was a lot of work on the plantation. Slaves were forced to do farm work without being paid. The slaves were not free to live their own lives. They were punished if they tried to escape.

Harriet Tubman was very brave. She decided to run away and live in the North. She knew that slaves wanted to be free there. Tubman escaped from the plantation and found freedom in Pennsylvania. She wanted to do more. Harriet Tubman wanted other slaves to be free, too.

Many slaves went back again and again to the South and secretly guided slaves to the North. They traveled on the Underground Railroad. This wasn't a real railroad, and it wasn't underground. The Underground Railroad was a number of safe houses on the trip north. Kind people in it guided 300 slaves to freedom. It was said that she never had a passenger. She was a strong and brave woman.

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26 Harriet Tubman 2
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26 Harriet Tubman 3
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Assemble the Unit

Reproduce and distribute one copy for each student:

- Visual Literacy page: Harriet Tubman's Escape to Freedom, page 21
- Level 1, 2, or 3 Reading Selection and Reading Comprehension page and the corresponding Words to Know list
- Graphic Organizer of your choosing, provided on pages 180–186
- Writing Form: Harriet Tubman, page 22

Introduce the Topic

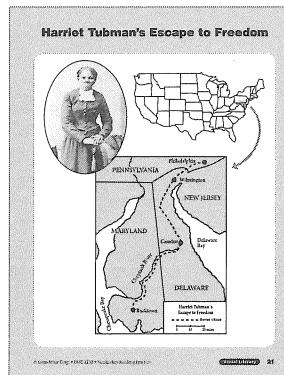
Present the map to students. Explain that Harriet Tubman walked the route shown in order to be able to live a free life. Explain how long this journey was and how difficult the trip would have been in hiding.

Read and Respond

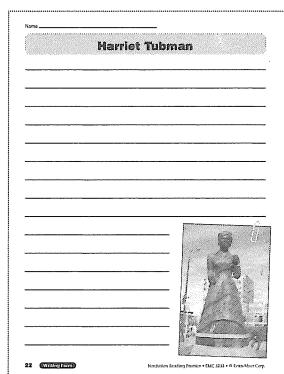
Form leveled groups and review the Words to Know lists with each group of students. Instruct each group to read their selection individually, in pairs, or as a group. Have students complete the Reading Comprehension page for their selection.

Write About the Topic

Read aloud the leveled writing prompt for each group. Tell students to use the Graphic Organizer to plan their writing. Direct students to use their Writing Form to respond to their prompt.

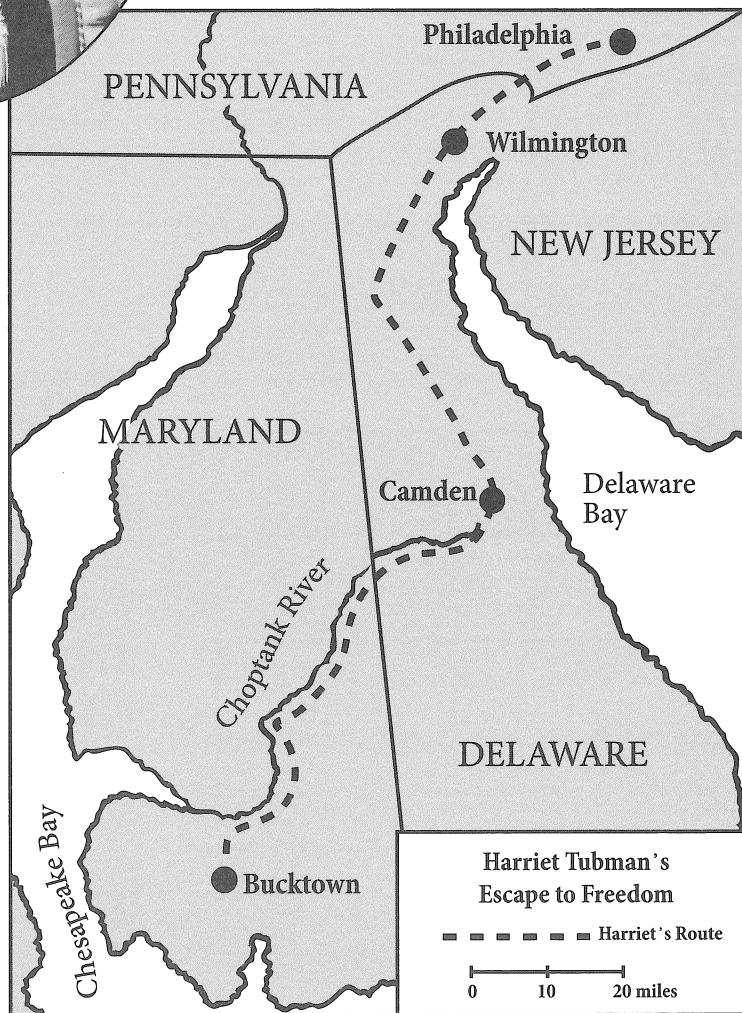


Visual Literacy



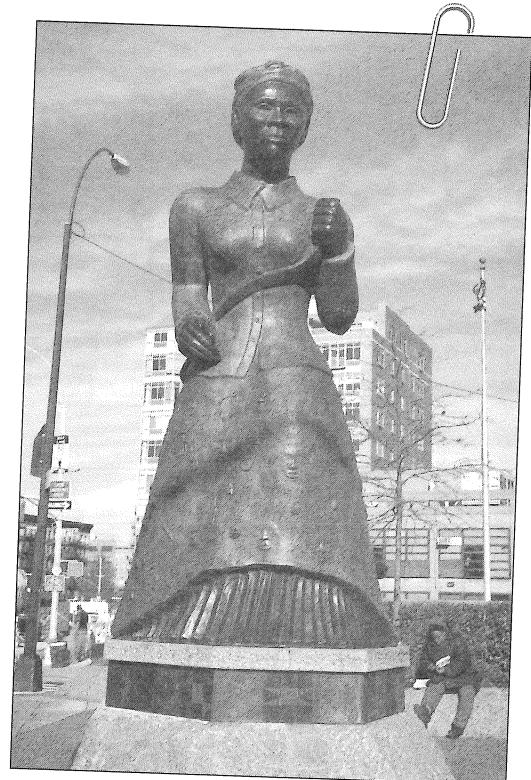
Writing Form

Harriet Tubman's Escape to Freedom



Name _____

Harriet Tubman



Words to Know

An American Hero

enslaved

slaves

owned

horrible

Harriet Tubman

South

free

secretly

danger

North

caught

hero

Words to Know

A Brave Escape

southern

plantations

crops

enslaved

slaves

forced

escape

punished

danger

Harriet Tubman

North

freedom

hero

Words to Know

Fighting for Freedom

Harriet Tubman

plantation

southern

enslaved

slaves

forced

punished

escape

freedom

guided

Underground Railroad

Harriet Tubman ■

Harriet Tubman ■ ■

Harriet Tubman ■ ■ ■



An American Hero

Long ago in the United States, some people enslaved African people. They called them “slaves.” Slaves lived and worked on large farms. They worked hard, but they didn’t get paid. They didn’t get to choose how to live their lives. Farmers who owned slaves could sell them whenever they wanted. It was a horrible life.

Harriet Tubman was an enslaved African. She lived in Maryland, which was a state in the South. Tubman knew that slaves could be free in northern states. Harriet Tubman wanted to be free, so she secretly ran away. She had to hide because she was in danger. It was a long way to the North. If she were caught, she would be sent back.

Harriet Tubman made it to Pennsylvania, a northern state. She was free! But Tubman wanted to help other slaves, too. So she went back to the South to help more slaves leave. She went back and forth many times. Tubman helped almost 300 slaves get to the North. She helped them become free. Today, Tubman is remembered as a great American hero.



Harriet Tubman was born around 1820 and died in 1913.

An American Hero

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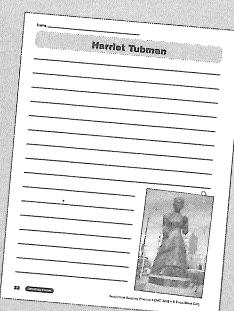
1. Slaves were people who had to _____.
Ⓐ work for no pay
Ⓑ travel to other states
Ⓒ own other people
2. Harriet Tubman was able to be free in _____.
Ⓐ Maryland
Ⓑ the South
Ⓒ Pennsylvania
3. What was Tubman's trip to Pennsylvania like?

4. Even more than being free, Harriet Tubman wanted other slaves to be free. How do you know?

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

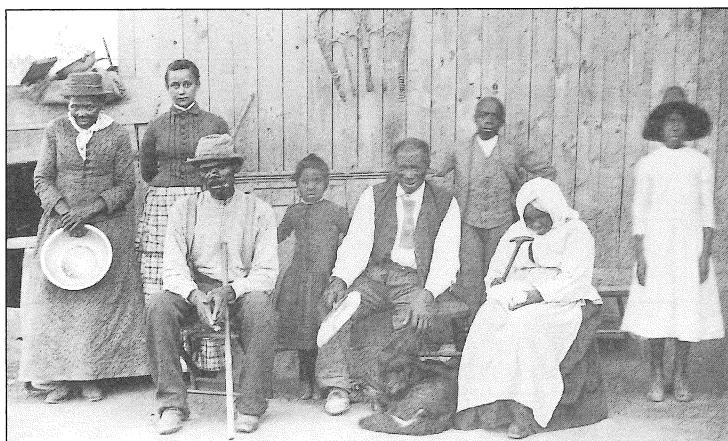
Write to tell what Harriet Tubman's life was like before and after she became free.



A Brave Escape

Long ago, there were large farms in the southern United States. These farms were called plantations. The plantation owners grew many crops and needed a lot of workers. They bought enslaved African people to do the work. They called them “slaves.” The slaves were forced to work for no pay. Slaves had very hard lives. If they tried to escape, they would be caught and punished. Slaves who ran away were putting themselves in danger.

Harriet Tubman lived in the South. She was a slave on a plantation in Maryland. Tubman knew that slaves could be free in the North. She ran away from her plantation. The road to freedom was scary and difficult. Tubman had to walk through dark woods and swamps. She had to hide during the day and run at night. She made it all the way from Maryland to Pennsylvania. She was free!



Harriet Tubman (far left) with her family, who were also former slaves, at her house in Auburn, New York, in 1887.

Harriet Tubman wanted more than her own freedom. She wanted to help other slaves get to the North, too. She went back and forth from the North to the South 17 more times. Tubman cared more for the freedom of others than for her own freedom. She was a true hero.

A Brave Escape

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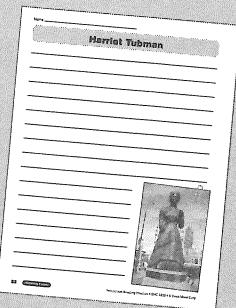
1. Slaves were forced to work in _____.
Ⓐ Pennsylvania
Ⓑ Maryland
Ⓒ dark woods and swamps
2. A plantation is a _____.
Ⓐ big swamp
Ⓑ dark woods
Ⓒ large farm
3. What usually happened if slaves tried to escape from their farm?

4. How do you know Harriet Tubman cared more about others than about herself?

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Write to tell about Harriet Tubman. How did she help other people? Why did she help them?



Fighting for Freedom

Harriet Tubman was born on a plantation in Maryland in about 1820. The plantation was a large farm. Maryland was a southern state, where the law allowed farmers to own enslaved Africans called “slaves.” Harriet Tubman and her family were slaves.

Life was hard. There was a lot of work on the plantation. Slaves were forced to do farm work without being paid. The slaves were not free to live their own lives. They were punished if they tried to escape.

Harriet Tubman was very brave. She decided to run away and live in the North. She knew that slaves could be free there.

Tubman escaped from the plantation and found freedom in Pennsylvania. But she wanted to do more. Harriet Tubman wanted other slaves to be free, too.

Tubman went back again and again to the South and secretly guided slaves to the North. They traveled on the Underground Railroad. This wasn’t a real railroad, and it wasn’t underground. The Underground Railroad was a number of safe houses on the trip north. Kind people in the Underground Railroad hid the slaves in their homes. Tubman guided 300 slaves to freedom. It was said that she never lost a passenger. She was a strong and brave woman.



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Harriet Tubman was the first African American woman to be shown on a United States stamp, in 1978.