REVIEW QUESTIONS FOR NARRATIVE OF THE LIFE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS

CHAPTER I

1. When is Frederick’s birthday?
2. What sort of relationship did he have with his parents?
3. What are the “advantages” for the slave owner to have mixed race children?
4. What did Frederick see happen to his Aunt Hester? Why did this happen?

CHAPTER II

1. What do the slaves receive each year as their clothing “allowance”?
2. What is the monthly food allowance for slaves?
3. What do children who do not work in the fields receive as clothing allowance?
4. What were the living conditions like for the slaves?
5. Why did the slaves sing? How did this affect Douglass?

CHAPTER III

1. What is the penalty for telling the truth about the conditions that slaves endure?
2. What is ironic about the slaves when they talk about their masters with other slaves?

CHAPTER IV

1. Describe the type of overseer Mr. Gore was.
2. What happened with Demby?
3. What other acts of murder happened to slaves? What happened to the people who killed them?

CHAPTER V

1. What news did Douglass receive that excited him? Why?
2. What are his new duties?
3. What was different about meeting Mrs. Sophia Auld?

CHAPTER VI

1. What does Mrs. Auld expose Frederick to?
2. Why is she so nice to him at first?
3. What important “lesson” does he learn from Mr. Auld?
4. How is life different for the slaves in Baltimore?
CHAPTER VII

1. How long did Frederick live at Master Hugh’s?
2. How did he continue with his lessons?
3. What does he use to pay for his lessons?
4. What book does he read that impacts him greatly?
5. What effect does reading this book have on him?
6. What impact does talking to the Irishmen have on Frederick?
7. How does he learn to write?
8. What other ways does he use to improve his literacy?

CHAPTER VIII

1. What happens after the old master dies?
2. What happens to Frederick’s grandmother?
3. Why does Frederick go to live with Master Thomas?

CHAPTER IX

1. What is different about eating at Master Thomas’?
2. Who are the worst types of slave owners?
3. Why was Frederick sent to Master Covey?

CHAPTER X

1. What is Frederick’s occupation now?
2. Why was he whipped for the first time?
3. How often is Frederick whipped?
4. Do they have enough to eat?
5. Why do they call Covey the snake?
6. What happens to Douglass when he gets sick while working?
7. What does he do in response to this attack?
8. How does Sandy Jenkins impact Douglass?
9. What happens the Monday after Douglass returns to the farm?
10. How does Frederick’s treatment differ after this incident?
11. What are the Holidays like for the slaves? What types of activities do they engage in?
12. How does Master Freeland differ from Covey?
13. What is ironic about the religious slave owners?
14. What does Douglass do on Sundays?
15. How often does Freeland beat Frederick?
16. How does he feel about his fellow slaves?
17. What does Frederick decide to do?
18. What happens to his plan?
19. Where does Frederick end up? Why?
20. What happens when he gets to his new job? Does he learn a new trade right away?
21. How does Master Hugh react to his beating?
22. What trade does Douglass learn after his beating?

CHAPTER XI

1. Why does Douglass fail to give all the details of his escape?
2. Why does he look down upon the people of the Underground Railroad?
3. What does hiring himself out entail for Frederick?
4. What does Douglass do when he gets to New York? How does his life change?
5. Does the North live up to Douglass’ expectations? Why or why not?
6. What trade does he practice in New Bedford?
7. How does he become involved in the Abolitionist movement?