# Assessment



Name: Date:

# **"Freedom or Death" Quiz**

**Directions:** Read the article "Freedom or Death" in the March/April 2017 issue of Storyworks. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

#### 1. Which of the following is a main idea of the story "Freedom or Death"?

- A Hundreds of thousands of soldiers died in the Civil War.
- **B** Robert Smalls became a good businessman.
- © Robert Smalls freed himself and other slaves.
- D Piloting a ship is challenging, but Robert Smalls did it.

## 2. Why did the harbor guards watch "in astonishment" as the *Planter* headed out to sea?

- A The ship headed out to sea every day.
- **B** The ship was heading towards enemy ships.
- © Robert had taken off his hat.
- **D** The ship was moving extremely slowly.

#### 3. Why didn't Robert's mother want to try to escape?

- A Trying to escape was dangerous.
- **(B)** No slave had ever managed to escape.
- © Without her, the McKees would starve.
- D Mrs. McKee was her best friend.

#### 4. Which line from the story supports the answer to question 3?

- (A) "He was a piece of property . . ."
- **B** "... for every slave that managed to escape, hundreds more died or were captured . . ."
- © "Slaves could not legally marry . . ."
- **(D)** "Except they weren't slaves anymore."

#### 5. You can infer that Robert's feelings toward Mr. and Mrs. McKee were

- A affectionate; the McKees were kind people
- **B** bitter; he couldn't like slaveholders
- © fearful: the McKees often whipped him
- **(D)** grateful; the McKees gave him his freedom

## 6. Which sentence from the story supports the answer to guestion 5?

- (A) "But Robert's mother made sure that her son understood what it meant to be a slave."
- **B** "With those shots, the Civil War began."
- © "To Robert, this was intolerable."
- **(D)** "He took care of his former owner until she died."

# 7. Which of the following convinced Robert that he had to escape to the North?

- A In the Civil War, Robert was forced to fight against ending slavery.
- © His wife, Hannah, came up with a plan to try to free the family.
- **B** The captain of the *Planter* whipped him.
- **(D)** He wanted to start a business in the North.

## 8. Which of the following did Robert NOT do after the Civil War?

- A run a business
- B serve in the U.S. Congress
- © take care of Mrs. McKee
- **(D)** open a restaurant

# **Constructed Response**

**Directions:** On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with information and details from the article.

9. How did seeing a slave auction when he was a boy affect Robert later in his life?

10. Think about the things Robert did after he gained freedom. What can you infer about the kind of person he was?

