



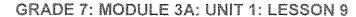
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N	arrative	of the	Life	of Fre	ederic	k Dou	glass	
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Date:		************************				, .,		

Chapter 2, Paragraphs 2-5 (7-8), 10-11

Text		Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
1. C	olonel Lloyd kept from three to four hundred slaves on his	seat of government—	
ho	ome plantation [called Great House Farm], and owned a large		
nı	umber more on the neighboring farms belonging to him. This		
[0	Great House Farm] was the great business place. It was the		
S€	eat of government for the whole twenty farms		

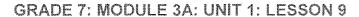


Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
2. Here, too, the slaves of all the other farms received their monthly allowance of food, and their yearly clothing. The men and women slaves received, as their monthly allowance of food, eight pounds of pork, or its equivalent in fish, and one bushel of corn meal. Their yearly clothing consisted of two coarse linen shirts, one pair of linen trousers, like the shirts, one jacket, one pair of trousers for winter, made of coarse negro cloth, one pair of stockings, and one pair of shoes; the whole of which could not have cost more than seven dollars. The	allowance—a set amount provided to someone, often of food bushel—a measure of about 8 gallons coarse—rough, not soft 1. How many pairs of pants did adult slaves have?	1. Why does Douglass describe the clothing that slaves were given in such detail? What is he trying to show?





2. Why were many children	
naked?	
privation—a lack of something	2. Why didn't slaves get
necessary for survival	enough sleep?
want—	
	privation—a lack of something necessary for survival





Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
and cooking to do, and having few or none of the ordinary	facilities—spaces, equipment	
facilities for doing either of these, very many of their sleeping	consumed-	
hours are consumed in preparing for the field the coming day;		
and when this is done, old and young, male and female, married	3. Where do slaves sleep?	
and single, drop down side by side, on one common bed, —the		
cold, damp floor,—each covering himself or herself with their		
miserable blankets; and here they sleep till they are	summoned—	
summoned to the field by the driver's horn. At the sound of		
this, all must rise, and be off to the field.	driver—a person who supervised slaves as they worked; often, a planation would have an	
	overseer and then several drivers who reported to the overseers	

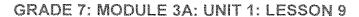




Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
There must be no halting; every one must be at his or her pos	post—the place where you do	
and woe betides them who hear not this morning summon	ns your job	
to the field; for if they are not awakened by the sense of hearing	ng, woe betides them—	
they are by the sense of feeling: no age nor sex finds any favor	. summons—	
Mr. Severe, the overseer, used to stand by the door of the	quarter—the place where slaves	
quarter, armed with a large hickory stick and heavy cowskin	lived	
ready to whip any one who was so unfortunate as not to hear,		
from any other cause, was prevented from being ready to start	who did not get to the field on time?	
for the field at the sound of the horn.		



Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
4. Mr. Severe was rightly named: he was a cruel man. I have seen	privation—a lack of something	
him whip a woman, causing the blood to run half an hour at the	necessary for fiendish barbarity— unpleasant cruelties	
time; and this, too, in the midst of her crying children, pleading	profane—	
for their mother's release. He seemed to take pleasure in		
manifesting his fiendish barbarity . Added to his cruelty, he	commenced—	
was a profane swearer. It was enough to chill the blood and	profanity—	
stiffen the hair of an ordinary man to hear him talk. Scarce a	blasphemy —something you say or do that is insulting to God or	
sentence escaped him but that was commenced or concluded		
by some horrid oath. The field was the place to witness his	5. Paraphrase the sentence "His	
cruelty and profanity . His presence made it both the field of	and profanity . His presence made it both the field of field of blood and of	
blood and of blasphemy .	blasphemy."	

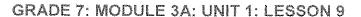




Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
From the rising till the going down of the sun, he was cursing,	6. What was Mr. Severe like?	
raving, cutting, and slashing among the slaves of the field, in the		
most frightful manner. His career was short. He died very soon	manaiful marvidanas a faras	
after I went to Colonel Lloyd's; and he died as he lived, uttering,	merciful providence—a force that is meant to protect us	
with his dying groans, bitter curses and horrid oaths. His death		
was regarded by the slaves as the result of a merciful		
providence.		

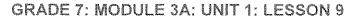


Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
5. The home plantation of Colonel Lloyd wore the appearance	wore the appearance of—	
of a country village It was called by the slaves the <i>Great</i>		
House Farm. The slaves selected to go to the Great House	reverberate—echo	
Farm, for the monthly allowance for themselves and their	7. What do the slaves do as they	
fellow-slaves, were peculiarly enthusiastic. While on their way,	walk to the Great House Farm?	
they would make the dense old woods, for miles around,		
reverberate with their wild songs, revealing at once the		
highest joy and the deepest sadness. They would compose and		
sing as they went along, consulting neither time nor tune		





Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
6. I did not, when a slave, understand the deep meaning of those	incoherent—	3. What emotions did
rude and apparently incoherent songs. I was myself within the	8. To what does "they" in the	Douglass say that the songs sung by slaves
circle; so that I neither saw nor heard as those without might see	third sentence refer?	conveyed?
and hear. They told a tale of woe which was then altogether	woe-sorrow	
beyond my feeble comprehension; they were tones loud, long,	anguish—	
and deep; they breathed the prayer and complaint of souls	9. How did Douglass feel when he heard the slaves singing?	4. Why does Douglass
boiling over with the bitterest anguish . Every tone was a		explain that even thinking
testimony against slavery, and a prayer to God for deliverance		about the songs now makes him sad? How does
from chains. The hearing of those wild notes always depressed		that help convince his audience?
my spirit, and filled me with ineffable sadness. I have	ineffable—too great to be described in words	audiciico:
frequently found myself in tears while hearing them. The mere		
recurrence to those songs, even now, afflicts me;	afflicts—	





Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
and while I am writing these lines, an expression of feeling has	conception—	
already found its way down my cheek. To those songs I trace my first glimmering conception of the dehumanizing character of slavery. I can never get rid of that conception. Those songs still follow me, to deepen my hatred of slavery, and quicken my	dehumanizing—to treat people so badly that they lose their good human qualities quicken—to make grow brethren—member of a group	
sympathies for my brethren in bonds. If any one wishes to be impressed with the soul-killing effects of slavery, let him go to	obdurate—stubborn, hard	
Colonel Lloyd's plantation, and, on allowance-day, place himself in the deep pine woods, and there let him, in silence, analyze the sounds that shall pass through the chambers of his soul,—and if he is not thus impressed, it will only be because "there is no	10. If someone listens to the songs and is not moved by them, what does Douglass suggest that person is missing?	
flesh in his obdurate heart."		



Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
7. I have often been utterly astonished, since I came to the north	astonished—very surprised	
to find persons who could speak of the singing, among slaves, as	conceive—	
evidence of their contentment and happiness. It is impossible to	11. What root and prefix is the	
conceive of a greater mistake. Slaves sing most when they are	word desolate made up of? Based	
most unhappy. The songs of the slave represent the sorrows of	on the meanings of those word roots, what do you think the	
his heart; and he is relieved by them, only as an aching heart is	word desolate means?	
relieved by its tears. At least, such is my experience. I have ofter	prompted—	
sung to drown my sorrow, but seldom to express my happiness.		
Crying for joy, and singing for joy, were alike uncommon to me	12. Does happiness or sorrow prompt slaves to sing?	
while in the jaws of slavery. The singing of a man cast away		
upon a desolate island might be as appropriately		



GRADE 7: MODULE 3A: UNIT 1: LESSON 9

Excerpt 2 Text and Questions

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass

Text	Second Read Questions	Third Read Questions
considered as evidence of contentment and happiness, as the		
singing of a slave; the songs of the one and of the other are		
prompted by the same emotion.		

Whole Excerpt

PURPOSE: How does this excerpt support the two positions Douglass held about slavery that are listed below?

- 1. Slavery is terrible for slaves.
- 2. Slavery corrupts slave holders.