

## To Be a Slave Section Questions

### Section 1: page 1-38

1. Based on information from the Prologue, what were conditions like on a slave ship? Provide at least 4 details.
2. What does the author mean when he states on page 28 that “they were not slaves...their condition was slavery”?
3. The author states that a slave’s attitude toward slavery and toward death can be “summed up” with the interview on page 38. In your interpretation, what is a slave’s attitude toward slavery? What is a slave’s attitude toward death?

### Section 2: page 39-58

1. For what reasons might a slave be sold? Site specific reasons from the text.
2. What effects were associated with family members being sold? Provide details from the text to support your answer.

### Section 3 pg. 59-76

1. Why does the author state on page 62 “the houses of slaves were generally more fit for animals than for human beings”? Provide specific details in your response.
2. Besides working in the fields, what other duties did a slave need to complete on a daily basis? Please provide specific duties from the text.

### Section 4: page 76-93

1. What can you infer about a slave’s personal sense of identity? Include information from the text in your response.
2. What role did religion play in slavery? How was religion used to perpetuate slavery?
3. How is a slave who was born in Africa different from a slave who was born in the United States? Include two main differences and explain why those differences occurred.

## **Section 5 Pg. 93-117**

1. There were some slaves who would serve their master no matter what and other slaves who would try and sabotage their masters. Provide one SPECIFIC example of a slave who served their master even against his or her own best interest, and one SPECIFIC example of a slave who tried to sabotage their master.
2. What were two differences between a field slave and a house slave? (Aside from where they physically worked).
3. Why was music so important to a slave? Provide at least two reasons.

## **Section 6: page 117-129**

1. If a slave did not like his position in life, what could he do to affect change? List all the possibilities and then interpret how effective each possibility would be.

## **Section 7: page 130-144**

1. How did the slaves react to hearing the news that they were free? Please provide specific examples and quotes.
2. Interpret the quote on the bottom of page 137 when he states “no matter how good you treat it- it wants to be free.” What did Tom mean by this?

## **Section 8: page 145-156**

1. What problems did former slaves face after emancipation? Provide at least two examples
2. Describe how a slave’s reaction from the section titled “Emancipation” changed in the section titled “After Emancipation”? Compare and contrast at least two examples.