

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Biography Week (Distance Learning Week 5)

Instructional Guide: In order to complete this instructional activity on the Civil War, read the articles listed at the bottom of these directions. There is a short multiple-choice quiz to complete at the end of each article.

Student Instructions:

1. Read the content summary.
2. Read the provided articles and complete the story quiz for each article. If you're completing this digitally, you may use Microsoft Word and then submit either on Edmodo or email (depending on your teacher).
4. Everything is to be completed **by Friday, May 22nd by 3:30pm.**

Content Summary: (important people, events, and vocabulary are in **bold**.)

There are many interesting people to learn about from the Civil War period. This week we will look at some important people of the abolitionist movement and the Civil War. Some of the people you'll read about are familiar names like **Frederick Douglass** and **Sojourner Truth**. You may have heard the names, but do you know what they really did and why they're famous? While some names are well known by many, others may be less familiar or even completely unknown. The last two readings are about **Clara Barton** and **Martin Robison Delany**. Douglass and Truth may get all the headlines, but I think you'll find that Barton and Delany made important contributions too!

Questions:

1. You only need to answer the questions at the end of each reading this week!

The articles included in this lesson are:

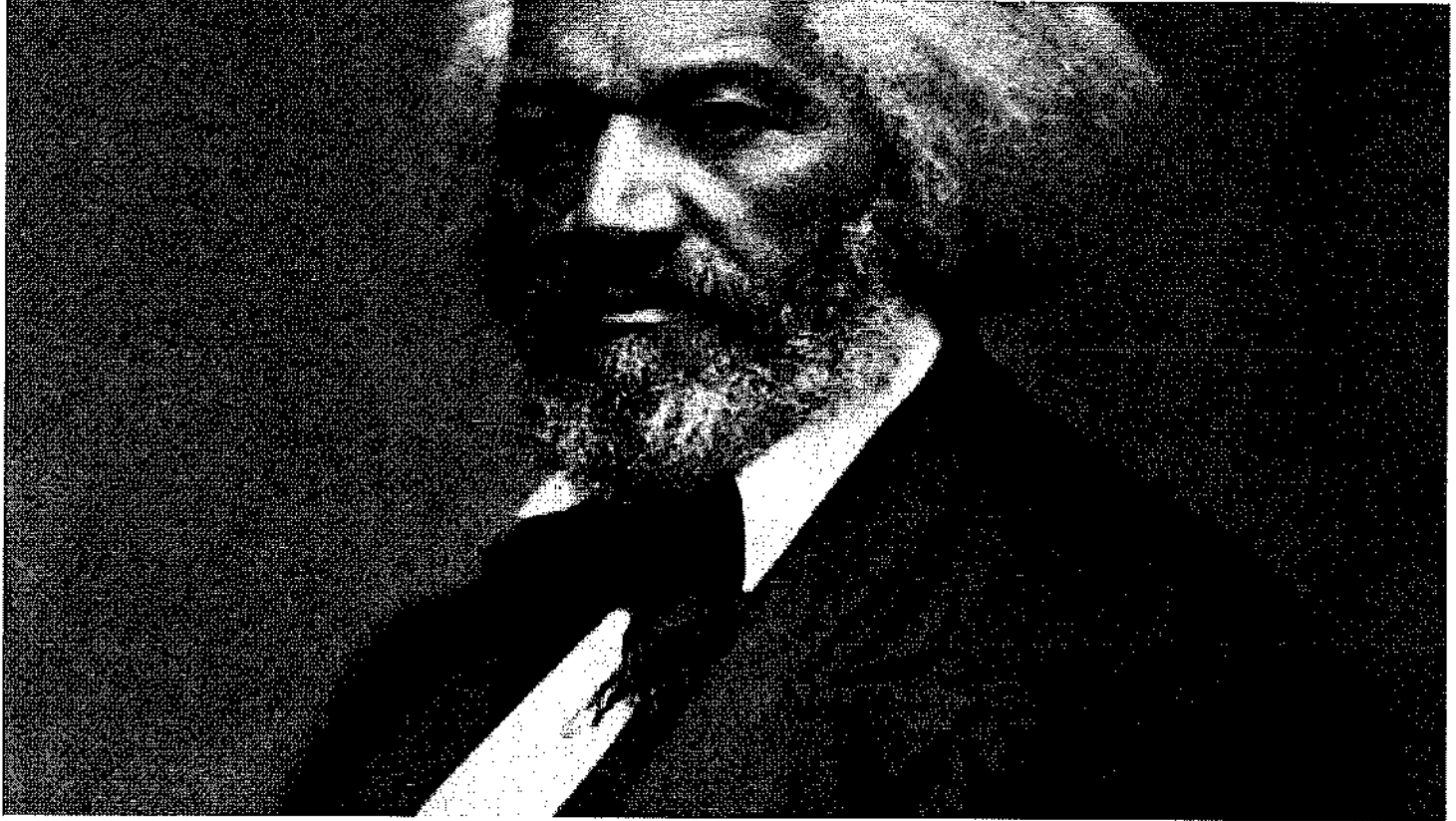
- The Abolitionists: Frederick Douglass
- The Abolitionists: Martin Robison Delany
- The Abolitionists: Sojourner Truth
- Women Leaders: Clara Barton

The Abolitionists: Frederick Douglass

By Biography.com Editors and A+E Networks, adapted by Newsela staff on 07.20.16

Word Count 1,012

Level 940L



Frederick Douglass Frederick Douglass Portrait, National Archives and Records Administration

Synopsis: Frederick Douglass was born into slavery around 1818 in Maryland. He became a free man and an abolitionist, speaking out against slavery. He was one of the most famous thinkers of his time. He gave advice to presidents and spoke before thousands about slavery and women's rights. Douglass wrote several books describing his experiences in slavery and his life after the Civil War, including the well-known "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave." He died on February 20, 1895.

Life In Slavery

Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey was born a slave on a plantation in Maryland around 1818. He lived with his grandmother, Betty Bailey. At a young age, he was sent to live in the home of the plantation owner, and it was believed that this man might have been his father. His mother died when he was about 10 years old.

Douglass was 12 when he was sent to the Baltimore home of Hugh Auld. Auld's wife taught him the alphabet even though it was against the law to teach slaves to read and write. When Auld found

out about the lessons, he stopped them, yet Douglass continued to learn from white children around him.

By reading newspapers and books, Douglass learned that slavery was wrong. "The Columbian Orator" was a schoolbook that taught reading and had speeches about freedom. Douglass shared what he learned with other slaves.

Next he was moved to a plantation owned by William Freeland where he taught others on the plantation to read the Bible at weekly church services. Often, as many as 40 slaves would attend lessons. Local slave owners became angry and they stopped the church meetings with clubs and stones.

Douglass was then sent to work for Edward Covey, who was known as a "slave-breaker." Covey was cruel to the 16-year-old, but Douglass fought back and Covey never beat him again.

Freedom And Abolitionism

Douglass wanted to be free and his third attempt to escape was a success. He had fallen in love with Anna Murray, a free black woman in Baltimore, who promised to help him. On September 3, 1838, Murray gave him money, a sailor's uniform and papers from a free black seaman. Douglass got on a train in Maryland and made his way to the safe house of David Ruggles in New York in less than 24 hours. Ruggles was an abolitionist who worked to end slavery.

Murray joined Douglass in New York and they were married on September 15, 1838. The couple used the name Johnson so no one could find them. They settled in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and it was there that they chose the name Douglass as their new married name. It came from a poem, "Lady of the Lake," by Sir Walter Scott. Douglass joined a black church and attended abolitionist meetings. He also read William Lloyd Garrison's weekly paper, *The Liberator*. Garrison began writing about ending slavery in 1831.

Douglass was asked to tell his story at abolitionist meetings and Garrison wrote about him in his paper. A few days later, Douglass gave his first speech at a Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society convention. His became famous and started speaking across the country, though some crowds were not friendly. In 1843, Douglass was chased and beaten by an angry mob. He was saved by a Quaker family. Quakers are religious people who believe strongly in peace.

Garrison wanted Douglass to write his life story about growing up as a slave. "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave," was published in 1845, and was popular in the United States and in Europe. Some felt that a former slave could not write such a book. Douglass then published more books.

In 1845, Douglass had to leave the country because some people wanted to capture him and send him back to Maryland. He sailed to Ireland and England and stayed for two years, speaking to large crowds about slavery. Money was being raised to pay his owner for his freedom and in 1847, he returned to the United States a free man.

Back home, he produced five different newspapers that spoke out against slavery and supported women's rights. In 1848, he was the only African-American to attend the first women's rights convention at Seneca Falls, New York. Douglass told the crowd that as a black man, he could not accept the right to vote if women could not vote as well.

Civil War And Reconstruction

During the U.S. Civil War, Douglass was one of the most famous black men in the country. In 1863, he worked with President Abraham Lincoln for better treatment of black soldiers, and later worked with President Andrew Johnson on black voting rights.

President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which began January 1, 1863, freed all slaves in the South. However, Lincoln did not say freed black men could vote. In 1865, slavery in the United States was ended.

After the war, Douglass was president of a bank and represented the United States government in the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

Douglass became the first African-American nominated for vice president of the United States on the Equal Rights Party ticket in 1872.

In 1877, Douglass visited his former owner, Thomas Auld. Douglass had met with Auld's daughter years before. The visit was important to him, but others criticized Douglass for forgiving Auld.

Family Life And Death

Frederick and Anna Douglass had five children: Rosetta, Lewis Henry, Frederick Jr., Charles Redmond and Annie. Charles and Rosetta worked on their father's newspapers.

After his wife's death, Douglass married Helen Pitts, who was the daughter of an abolitionist who had worked with Douglass. She was a college graduate and worked hard for women's rights. Their marriage upset many, including their children, since Pitts was white and nearly 20 years younger than Douglass.

On February 20, 1895, Douglass returned home after a meeting of the National Council of Women in Washington, D.C., and died suddenly of a heart attack or stroke. Douglass was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery in Rochester, New York.

Quiz

- 1 Which detail from the text BEST supports the article's central idea?
- (A) Auld's wife taught him the alphabet even though it was against the law to teach slaves to read and write.
 - (B) He was saved by a Quaker family. Quakers are religious people who believe strongly in peace.
 - (C) Back home, he produced five different newspapers that spoke out against slavery and supported women's rights.
 - (D) During the U.S. Civil War, Douglass was one of the most famous black men in the country.
- 2 Which of the following options BEST summarizes the section "Life In Slavery"?
- (A) Douglass was taught how to read and write during his childhood as a slave. He then taught other slaves how to read.
 - (B) Douglass struggled during his childhood as a slave. The slave owners he worked for treated him badly.
 - (C) Douglass taught himself how to read and write. He was badly punished for breaking the rules.
 - (D) Douglass had a tough childhood as a slave. He became involved in church and Bible meetings as he grew older.
- 3 What is the MOST likely reason the author included details about Douglass' life during the Civil War and Reconstruction era?
- (A) to demonstrate the problems in the United States at the time
 - (B) to show how Douglass became a free man
 - (C) to explain why Douglass did not fight in the Civil War
 - (D) to give examples of Douglass' accomplishments
- 4 Which answer choice accurately characterizes the way that Douglass reacted to becoming a free man?
- (A) He spoke out against his former slave owner.
 - (B) He helped others fight for their rights.
 - (C) He moved out of the United States.
 - (D) He got married and started a family.

The Abolitionists: Martin Robison Delany

By Biography.com Editors and A+E Networks, adapted by Newsela staff on 02.16.18

Word Count 669

Level 800L



A painting of Martin Robison Delany from 1865. Delany was a doctor, social reformer and soldier, and served as a surgeon with the 54th Massachusetts Volunteers in the Civil War. In 1865, he became the first African-American to be commissioned as a major in the United States Army.

Synopsis: Martin Robison Delany was one of the most famous abolitionists of the 1800s. Abolitionists were men and women who worked to end slavery. Delany was also a successful doctor, a writer and a major in the U.S. Army.

Early Life

Delany was born on May 6, 1812, in Charles Town, West Virginia. He was the grandson of an African prince. His father, Samuel, was a slave. His mother, Pati, was a free black woman. Because Pati was free, Delany was born free too.

Pati was determined to educate her five children. However, Virginia was a slave state, and she was reported to the sheriff for teaching her children to read and write.

Following this blow, Pati and her children moved to Pennsylvania. A year later, they were joined by Samuel, who had bought his own freedom.

When Delany was 19, he began attending Jefferson College. He also began studying medicine with several abolitionist doctors.

Life Of Activism

Before long, Delany had become an abolitionist himself. Among other things, he led the Vigilance Committee, which helped family members find runaway slaves. He also joined an armed militia that helped defend blacks against white mob attacks.

In 1843, Delany married Catherine Richards. The two later had 11 children together.

Also in 1843, Delany started a newspaper called *The Mystery*. His articles about the anti-slavery movement were published by other newspapers and his fame began to spread. However, Delany was forced to sell the paper after he was sued in court by someone he had called a slave catcher.

In 1847, famous abolitionist Frederick Douglass hired Delany to write for his own newspaper, *The North Star*. However, the two men didn't always agree with each other. Their partnership ended after five years.

In 1850, Delany was one of the three first black men to enter Harvard Medical College. Unfortunately, white protest forced him to leave after a few months.

Following this, Delany returned to writing. One book he published was "The Condition, Elevation, Emigration and Destiny of the Colored People of the United States" in 1852. It explored the possibility of blacks returning to Africa. Delany had started to believe that whites would never let blacks become leaders. So, Delany suggested blacks should leave and start a new country elsewhere.

In the mid-1850s, Delany traveled to the African country of Nigeria. He went there to search for land that could be settled by African-Americans.

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. Lincoln's announcement declared an end to slavery. However, slaves in the Southern states would not actually win their freedom until the end of the Civil War in 1865.

Union Troop Commander

Still, Lincoln's proclamation gave Delany hope that it might not be necessary for blacks to move to Africa. He soon began pushing for the use of African-Americans in the Union Army.

The Union Army was the army of the Northern states. It was fighting against the army of the Southern Confederate states, which wanted to keep slavery.

Early in 1865, Delany met with President Lincoln to discuss the possibility of African-American officers leading African-American troops. Lincoln was very impressed with Delany. Shortly afterward, Delany was given command of the 104th Regiment of the United States Colored Troops. Now a major, Delany was the highest-ranking African-American soldier ever.

After the war, Delany became a judge. He also ran to become lieutenant governor of South Carolina, though he didn't win.

With the end of slavery, black men had won the vote. However, Southern states made it almost impossible for blacks to vote. Delany soon gave up any hope that blacks would ever gain equal rights in the United States. Instead, he turned his attention back to plans to help African-Americans return to Africa.

Delany died on January 24, 1885. He had been many things during his lifetime. He had been a publisher, a writer, a doctor, a judge, and a U.S. Army major. Most of all, he had been a fighter for black rights.

Quiz

1 Why did Delany feel disappointed after the Northern states won the Civil War?

- (A) because not enough African-Americans joined the Union Army
- (B) because it ended the possibility of blacks returning to Africa
- (C) because blacks were having a hard time gaining equal rights
- (D) because he was no longer able to run his newspaper

2 How did Delany FIRST become involved in fighting for African-American rights?

- (A) He was one of the first black men to attend Harvard.
- (B) He met with President Lincoln to discuss the Army.
- (C) He started a newspaper writing anti-slavery articles.
- (D) He helped find and protect runaway slaves.

3 Read the section "Life of Activism."

Select the sentence from the section that shows that Delany's writing was respected by other abolitionists.

- (A) Also in 1843, Delany started a newspaper called The Mystery.
- (B) However, Delany was forced to sell the paper after he was sued in court by someone he had called a slave catcher.
- (C) In 1847, famous abolitionist Frederick Douglass hired Delany to write for his own newspaper, The North Star.
- (D) However, the two men didn't always agree with each other.

4 Read the paragraph from the section "Union Troop Commander."

Early in 1865, Delany met with President Lincoln to discuss the possibility of African-American officers leading African-American troops. Lincoln was very impressed with Delany. Shortly afterward, Delany was given command of the 104th Regiment of the United States Colored Troops. Now a major, Delany was the highest-ranking African-American soldier ever.

What is the MOST accurate explanation of this paragraph?

- (A) Delany was successful in his goal of convincing Lincoln that African-American officers should lead troops.
- (B) Many other African-American soldiers also became majors after Delany went to talk to Lincoln.
- (C) Delany had proven to Lincoln that he had a lot of experience as a leader of troops in the Union Army.
- (D) Many other officers met with Lincoln to support Delany's argument that he should lead Union troops.

The Abolitionists: Sojourner Truth

By Biography.com Editors and A+E Networks, adapted by Newsela staff on 08.05.16

Word Count 664

Level 890L



Synopsis: Sojourner Truth was an African-American activist who fought against slavery. She also fought for women's rights and other causes. Born into slavery around 1797, she escaped to freedom in 1826. She delivered her famous speech "Ain't I a Woman?" at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention in 1851. She died before women were given the right to vote.

Born Into Slavery

Born as Isabella Baumfree around 1797 and later changing her name to Sojourner Truth, she was one of as many as 12 children of James and Elizabeth Baumfree. Her father and mother were both slaves. The Baumfree family was owned by Colonel Hardenberg and lived in New York.

The Baumfree family was separated in 1806. At 9 years old, Truth was sold at an auction with a flock of sheep for \$100. She was sold twice more over the following two years. She finally came to live on the property of John Dumont in West Park, New York.

Becoming A Wife And Mother

Around 1815, Truth fell in love with a slave named Robert from a neighboring farm. The two had a daughter named Diana. However, Robert's owner forbade the couple to be together and they never

saw each other again. In 1817, Dumont forced Truth to marry an older slave named Thomas and they had two sons and two daughters together.

Early Years Of Freedom

Truth and her baby daughter escaped slavery in late 1826, shortly before the state of New York freed all slaves on July 4, 1827. After she was free, Truth learned that her 5-year-old son Peter had been illegally sold to a man in Alabama. She took the issue to court and eventually Peter returned from the South. The case was one of the first in which a black woman successfully challenged a white man in a United States court.

Fighting For Abolition And Women's Rights

By 1843, she had started going by the name Sojourner Truth. She devoted her life to Christianity and getting rid of slavery. In 1844, she joined the Northampton Association of Education and Industry. Founded by people who were against slavery, the group supported many causes including women's rights and pacifism.

In 1850, Truth published her life story in the book *The Narrative of Sojourner Truth: A Northern Slave*. That same year, she spoke at the first National Women's Rights Convention in Massachusetts. Truth soon began traveling to speak to large crowds about slavery and human rights.

In 1851, Truth delivered a speech at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention in Akron. The improvised speech would come to be known as "Ain't I a Woman?" It was printed in many newspapers and other sources in the years that followed.

Truth continued to travel around Ohio from 1851 to 1853, working to end slavery. She also fought for equal rights for women.

Advocacy During The Civil War

Truth put her reputation to work during the Civil War (1861-1865), in which the South was trying to separate itself from the North. One way she did this was by helping to sign up black troops for the North's army. She also met and spoke with then-President Abraham Lincoln, who was also against slavery.

Truth stuck by her beliefs. She continued to fight for change even after Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. This 1863 document officially freed all the slaves in the United States. Truth fought to help former slaves get their own land from the government. She said this would help African-Americans become independent and successful.

Death And Legacy

As she grew older, Truth continued to speak passionately about equal rights and justice. She died at her home in Battle Creek, Michigan, on Nov. 26, 1883.

Truth is remembered as one of the leaders of the country's antislavery efforts and an early supporter of women's rights. Unfortunately, only some of her dreams came true in her lifetime. Women did not win the right to vote until 1920, almost 40 years after her death.

Quiz

- 1 Based on information in the biography, which of these statements is TRUE?
- (A) Truth and her children were sold into slavery when she was an adult.
 - (B) Truth was freed from slavery after the North won the Civil War.
 - (C) Truth was the first black woman to win a court case against a white man.
 - (D) Truth began fighting for women's rights only after slavery ended.
- 2 Which sentence from the biography BEST supports the idea that Truth worked to improve the lives of African-Americans after slavery ended?
- (A) In 1850, Truth published her life story in the book "The Narrative of Sojourner Truth: A Northern Slave."
 - (B) Truth continued to travel around Ohio from 1851 to 1853, working to end slavery.
 - (C) She also met and spoke with then-President Abraham Lincoln, who was also against slavery.
 - (D) Truth fought to help former slaves get their own land from the government.
- 3 Which of the following are TWO main ideas from the biography?
- (A) Truth was born as Isabella Baumfree and eventually changed her name to Sojourner Truth. She fought for the freedom of her son, Peter.
 - (B) Truth was born into slavery and eventually escaped. She devoted her life to many causes, especially antislavery efforts and women's rights.
 - (C) Truth traveled around Ohio in the 1950s making speeches about her life to large crowds. She is famous for her speech "Ain't I a Woman?"
 - (D) Truth worked to get the government to give land to former slaves. She was also a member of the Northampton Association of Education and Industry.
- 4 Which detail BEST reflects the main idea that Truth was a talented public speaker?
- (A) She won a court case to free her son Peter from slavery.
 - (B) She joined the Northampton Association of Education and Industry.
 - (C) She made speeches about slavery that drew large crowds.
 - (D) She spoke to President Abraham Lincoln about her beliefs.

Women Leaders: Clara Barton

By Biography.com Editors and A+E Networks, adapted by Newsela staff on 12.07.16

Word Count 593

Level 810L



Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross. Photo: Library of Congress/Corbis/VCG via Getty Images.

Synopsis: Clara Barton was born in 1821 in Massachusetts. She became a teacher, worked in the U.S. Patent Office and was a nurse during the Civil War. She worked with a relief group known as the International Red Cross in Europe during a war between France and Germany. This gave her an idea. Barton worked to get an American branch when she returned to the United States. The American Red Cross began in 1881 and Barton was its first president.

Early Life

Clara Barton was born Clarissa Harlowe Barton on December 25, 1821, in Oxford, Massachusetts. Barton spent much of her life in service to others and created a group that still helps people in need today. It is called the American Red Cross.

Barton was the youngest of five children and a shy child. She discovered her natural ability to help others at a young age. She helped to care for her brother David after an accident. Barton continued being helpful to others as a teenager. She became a teacher at age 15. Later, Barton opened a free public school in New Jersey. She moved to Washington, D.C., in the mid-1850s. She worked there

in the U.S. Patent Office as the first woman clerk. This office is where inventors can tell the government about their inventions and ideas to make them official.

"Angel Of The Battlefield"

Barton helped during the U.S. Civil War (1861-1865) in any way she could. First, she collected and distributed supplies for the Union Army. These were the soldiers from the North. Barton wanted to do more, so she started working as a nurse. She was not afraid of being close to war. Her first battle as a nurse was in Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1862. She also helped soldiers wounded at the Battle of Antietam in Maryland. This battle is known as the bloodiest day of fighting in U.S. history. More than 22,000 people died that day.

Barton was nicknamed "the angel of the battlefield" for her work.

After the war ended in 1865, Clara Barton worked for the War Department. She helped to reunite missing soldiers and their families. She also helped find out more about those who were missing. Barton became a popular speaker and crowds of people would turn up to hear her talk about her war experiences.

The American Red Cross

While visiting Europe, Barton worked with a relief organization known as the International Red Cross during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871. This gave her an idea. After returning home to the United States, she began working to convince others to start this organization in America.

The American Red Cross Society was founded in 1881 and Barton served as its first president. The Red Cross provides help during emergencies and disasters, such as an earthquake or a hurricane. As its leader, Barton was in charge of relief work for the victims of disasters, such as the 1889 Johnstown Flood in Pennsylvania and the 1900 Great Galveston Hurricane in Texas.

Later Years And Death

Barton resigned from the American Red Cross in 1904 during a power struggle within the organization. Barton never took a salary for her work with the Red Cross and sometimes used her own money to pay for supplies and relief efforts.

After leaving the Red Cross, Barton remained active, giving speeches and lessons. She also wrote a book titled "The Story of My Childhood," which was published in 1907. Barton died at her home in Glen Echo, Maryland, on April 12, 1912. She was 90 years old.

Quiz

- 1 According to the article, how did Clara Barton come up with the idea for the American Red Cross?
- (A) She was inspired by an organization she worked with while she was in Europe.
 - (B) She learned about similar organizations while she was employed as a teacher.
 - (C) She heard about a group of people trying to start an organization while working in the patent office.
 - (D) She was asked to start it by people who were missing loved ones during the Civil War.
- 2 Based on information in the article, which of these statements is TRUE?
- (A) The Red Cross relies on volunteers because it does not have the money to pay a staff.
 - (B) Clara Barton gave speeches to wounded soldiers in order to motivate them to keep fighting.
 - (C) Clara Barton worked hard to help soldiers on the battlefields during the Civil War.
 - (D) The International Red Cross was started to help American soldiers recover from the war.
- 3 Based on the article, why is the American Red Cross an important organization?
- (A) It allows America to help European countries suffering due to emergencies and disasters.
 - (B) It helps soldiers and families reunite after times of war.
 - (C) It provides help to Americans who are suffering due to emergencies and disasters.
 - (D) It assists European soldiers who need expensive medical care.
- 4 Select the sentence from the section "Later Years And Death" that shows how Clara Barton kept the American Red Cross going during difficult times.
- (A) Barton resigned from the American Red Cross in 1904 during a power struggle within the organization.
 - (B) Barton never took a salary for her work with the Red Cross and sometimes used her own money to pay for supplies and relief efforts.
 - (C) After leaving the Red Cross, Barton remained active, giving speeches and lessons.
 - (D) She also wrote a book titled "The Story of My Childhood," which was published in 1907.

8th grade Social Studies Story Comprehension Quiz Answers- Week 5

Story: Frederick Douglass...

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Story: Sojourner Truth...

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Story: Martin Robison Delany...

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Story: Clara Barton...

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

