

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Writing a Summary

A summary is a short retelling of the most important parts of a story. It should include the information that someone would need to know to understand the story, without minor details or your own opinion.

**Directions:** Complete the summary below, using the prompts in the margins to help you.

## Summary of "Freedom or Death"

"Freedom or Death" is about \_\_\_\_\_

At that time, millions of enslaved black men, women, and children suffered from cruel treatment, including \_\_\_\_\_

Although Robert and his mother were treated well compared with other slaves, he was haunted by the memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In 1861, the Civil War started because \_\_\_\_\_

Robert was forced to \_\_\_\_\_

He could not tolerate this, so he \_\_\_\_\_

Robert was an instant hero, and after his escape, he \_\_\_\_\_

1. Begin with a topic sentence that tells what the story is mainly about and when it takes place.

3. What terrible thing did Robert see at the slave auction?

5. What did Robert have to do during the war?

7. What did Robert achieve in his life after his escape?

2. Describe what Robert's mother told him about the lives of other slaves.

4. What did the South fear would happen?

6. What risk did Robert take?