

## **Narrative Life of Frederick Douglass – Comprehension Questions**

### **Chapter 1-3:**

1. Autobiographies often include the author's feelings and ideas about events. Cite three passages that show Douglass's reaction to his master's treatment of Aunt Hester.
2. What set the Lloyd plantation apart from the surrounding farms?

### **Chapter 4-6:**

3. In the cultural context of the South, the murder of a slave was of little consequence. Cite an incident from Chapter 4 that reflects this reality.
4. How, according to Douglass, did going to Baltimore change his life?
5. Write one or two paragraphs comparing and contrasting the treatment of slaves in the

### **Chapter 7-9:**

6. Douglass taught himself to write the letters *A*, *F*, *L*, and *S* by watching the ship carpenters. How did he learn to write the rest of the alphabet?
7. What was Douglass's biggest regret when he was taken away from Master Hugh and sent to live with Master Thomas? Why?
8. Write a paragraph describing the effects of slave ownership on Mrs. Auld.

### **Chapter 10-11 (appendix):**

9. Cite one or more images from the text that reveal Covey's snake-like cunning and omnipresence.
10. What does Douglass feel was the turning point in his life as a slave?
11. Explain why Douglass did not write a detailed account of his escape.
12. In two or three paragraphs, identify and evaluate the author's message in this narrative.

### **Enrichment:**

Write an imaginary letter from Douglass to his former master Hugh Auld. In it, outline Douglass's grievances against Auld and his family for robbing him of his right to freedom.