

Activity 2. Final Assessment Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teacher: _____

Class: _____

Match the excerpt from Solomon Northup’s narrative (1–3) with the antislavery message to be inferred from it in column 2 (a–c).

Excerpt from <i>Twelve Years a Slave</i>	Message inferred from the text
<p>1. She [Eliza] was the slave of a rich man ... was born ... on his plantation. Years before, he [Mr. Berry, Eliza’s master] had fallen into dissipated habits, and quarreled with his wife ... Leaving his wife and daughter in the house they had always occupied, he erected a new one nearby, on the estate. Into this house he brought Eliza; and, on condition of her living with him, she and her children were to be emancipated. She resided with him there nine years...Emily was his child!</p>	<p>a. Slavery corrupted legitimate marriage not only because enslaved people could not legally marry but also because slave owners sometimes had extra-marital relationships with enslaved women they “owned” and fathered children by them.</p>
<p>2. It has been seen that the jealousy and hatred of Mistress Epps made the daily life of her young [Patsey] and agile slave completely miserable. ... In Epps’ absence the mistress often ordered me to whip her without the remotest provocation.”</p>	<p>b. Enslaved women had no legal right to their own children and therefore were not able to protect them.</p>
<p>3. “There were men enough in New-Orleans who would give five thousand dollars for such an extra, handsome, fancy piece as Emily [Eliza’s child] would be, rather than not get her. No, no, he [the slave trader, Freeman] would not sell her then. She was a beauty—a picture—a doll. ... When Eliza heard Freeman’s determination not to part with Emily, she became absolutely frantic.</p>	<p>c. The wives of slave owners were angered and humiliated by their husbands’ infidelities with enslaved women; however, they frequently blamed the enslaved female victim and her illegitimate enslaved children by the slave master and not the master himself, who was responsible.</p>

4. David Wilson, the ghostwriter of Northup’s narrative justified in the preface that the narrative was accurate and a true reflection of what Northup experienced. Why do you think he felt he had to convince readers he’s telling the truth?

5. List two ways slave narratives were produced, in addition to “as told to a writer,” the manner in which *Twelve Years a Slave* was created: