

Harriet Tubman

Review Key Words

- dangerous** Dangerous means unsafe or likely to cause harm.
- harsh** Harsh means very unpleasant, uncomfortable, or severe.
- reward** A reward is a prize for doing something.
- slave-holding states** Slave-holding states were the states where, before the U.S. Civil War, laws allowed some people to own other people as slaves.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

Life could be **harsh** for **slaves** in the U.S. Slaves had to help their owners even when the owners were **cruel**. In the 1840s, Harriet Tubman was a slave in Maryland. When she was about 20, she had had enough. She escaped. She traveled almost 100 miles to Philadelphia. In Philadelphia, no one was a slave. Harriet was free.

She wasn't **satisfied**, though. She wanted her family—and other slaves—to be free too. Harriet knew it would be **dangerous** to go back for them. Her old owner had put up a big **reward** for anyone who caught her. Still, Harriet left Philadelphia. She traveled back to Maryland to help other slaves **escape**.

Over the next ten years, Harriet made the same dangerous trip 19 times. In all, she helped **emancipate** about 300 slaves.

Harriet got to know the land well from her trips. When the Civil War started, she found another way to help free her people. She was a **scout** and a **spy** for the Union Army. In this way, she helped the Union Army fight the **slave-holding states**.

Harriet **devoted** her life to helping others. Many think of her as one of the bravest people in U.S. history.

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
– number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

Harriet Tubman

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Harriet Tubman helped the Union Army fight the slave-holding states.
 - b. Harriet Tubman traveled back to Maryland many times.
 - c. Harriet Tubman helped slaves escape and used her skills in the Civil War.
2. About how many miles did Harriet travel to escape to Philadelphia?
 - a. 100
 - b. 300
 - c. 20
3. What does the word **emancipate** mean in this story?
 - a. help
 - b. free
 - c. capture
4. How did Harriet help fight the slave-holding states?
 - a. She gave information to the Union Army.
 - b. She traveled back to Maryland 19 times.
 - c. She became a soldier with the Union Army.
5. What made Harriet one of the bravest people in U.S. history?

6. An antonym is a word that has the opposite meaning of another word. Match each word with its antonym.

1. escape	a. ___ kind
2. satisfied	b. ___ remain
3. cruel	c. ___ safe
4. dangerous	d. ___ unhappy

Number Correct: _____

Parent Tips

To help your child to read with expression, remind him what your voice does at each punctuation mark.

A *comma* means to pause while reading. Use a short easy sentence to illustrate and have the child practice. For example: "Sam, come here."

A *period* means to come to a full stop. When students have trouble with this, have them stop and take a breath at each period. Many students will read through the period until they run out of air and then stop for a breath. Instead, teach them to stop at the period and then continue on.