## Twelve Years a Slave: Was the Case of Solomon Northup Exceptional?



## **Overall Assessment Answer Sheet**

1. What statement best describes the slave drivers' mindset?

Answer: c. They had their own interests that were different from the Master's or the other slaves.

2. Which of these social, legal and economic conditions created an environment conducive to free black kidnapping in the 19th century?

Answer: e. All of the above

3. By faking whippings of other slaves, what did Northup hope to accomplish?

Answer: e. All of the above

4. Northup stated in his narrative: "I dared not show any lenity ... by refusing to perform the office." Under what condition did he dare not show lenience in whipping other slaves?

Answer: b. When the slave master was close enough to see the slave being whipped

5. Why were free black children especially targeted by kidnappers?

Answer: e. All of the above

6. What is Northup referring to in this quote: "I learned to handle the whip with marvelous dexterity and precision, throwing the lash within a hair's breadth of the back, the ear, the nose, without, however, touching either of them."

Answer: c. How he became so skilled at whipping that he could simulate or "fake" the act so it looked at a distance like he was actually whipping the slave

7. Which of the following experiences was extremely rare for an African Americans to experience in the antebellum period?

Answer: b. Publishing a "slave narrative" about one's life in slavery and freedom

8. Slave narratives had a propagandistic purpose: to convert the hearts and minds of readers to the anti-slavery cause. Research has proven them to be \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: b. Truthful

9. Was Solomon Northup exceptional?

Answer: e. All of the above