Name: _____ Date: _____

HARRIET TUBMAN



Read the biography of Harriet Tubman and answer the comprehension questions using the passage for reference.

Harriet Tubman (c. 1820 – 1913), born Araminta Ross in Dorchester County, Maryland, was an American abolitionist and political activist. Despite the harsh conditions of her enslavement, including a severe head injury suffered as a child, Tubman escaped to freedom in 1849. Her escape marked the beginning of her remarkable journey as a "conductor" on the Underground Railroad.

As a key figure in the Underground Railroad, Tubman returned to the South about 13 times, helping approximately 70 enslaved people, including her family and friends, escape to freedom.

She became known for her strategic planning, use of disguises, and unwavering determination. Despite the increased risks after the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, which forced her to extend her routes to Canada, Tubman never lost a passenger.

During the Civil War, Tubman served as a nurse, scout, spy, and guerrilla soldier for the Union Army. She led the Combahee River Raid, resulting in the liberation of over 700 slaves, and was the first woman to lead an armed expedition in the war.

After the war, Tubman settled in Auburn, New York, where she was active in the women's suffrage movement and cared for her aging parents. Her legacy as a symbol of courage and freedom continues to inspire countless people worldwide.

use the village

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 What were Harriet Tubman's early life conditions, and what injury did she suffer as a child?

2 Describe Harriet Tubman's role and activities in the Underground Railroad.

3 What was Harriet Tubman's life like after the Civil War, and why is she a significant figure in American history?

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