

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass
Chapter 10 and 11 Discussion Questions

Narrative

Autobiography

Nonfiction

Describe Edward Covey.

Discuss Mr. Covey's use of a breeder.

Describe Frederick's experience at Covey's. How is he broken?

Who is Sandy Jenkins? How does this man compare to Jim from *Huck Finn*?

How does Frederick succeed in becoming a man again?

Why doesn't Mr. Covey turn him in?

Where does Frederick go after his year with Mr. Covey?

What is his life like at the new place?

Describe Frederick's plan to escape and what happens.

Frederick is sent back to Baltimore to live with Hugh and Sophia Auld. How is his life different now?

For what two reasons does Frederick tell us that he cannot relate the means of his escape?

What arrangement does Frederick make with Hugh Auld?

When and to where does Frederick run away?

Who helps Frederick in New York? How?

What is his life like in the North?

Throughout the narrative Douglass discusses many ironies. Discuss the meaning of the word irony and provide some examples.

How did the narrative make you feel?

Why did Frederick write this narrative? What was the danger in writing it? When did Frederick conceive that freedom was a possibility?

Why is this narrative still read today? Are there any lessons in it for you? Are there any lessons for the country?

Who is more effective in showing slavery is wrong, Twain or Douglass? Why?

What connections can you make to *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*?

Look at the two poems. Discuss if they do Frederick Douglass justice.