

	Prof. :	Date : 08 /01/2022	Form : T A2	Duration : 2h
	<b>DEVOIR D'ANGLAIS</b>			

I was born a slave on a plantation in Franklin County, Virginia. I am not quite sure of the exact place or exact date of my birth, but at any rate I suspect I must have been born somewhere and at some time. As nearly as I have been able to learn, I was born near a cross-roads post-office called Hale's Ford, and the year was 1858 or 1859. I do not know the month or the day. The earliest impressions I can now recall are of the plantation where the slaves had their cabins.

[...]

I was born in a typical log cabin, about fourteen by sixteen feet square. In this cabin I lived with my mother and a brother and sister till after the Civil War, when we were all declared free.

Of my ancestry I know almost nothing. In the slave quarters, and even later, I heard whispered conversations among the coloured people of the tortures which the slaves, including, no doubt, my ancestors on my mother's side, suffered in the middle passage of the slave ship while being conveyed from Africa to America. I have been unsuccessful in securing any information that would throw any accurate light upon the history of my family beyond my mother. She, I remember, had a half-brother and a half-sister. In the days of slavery not very much attention was given to family history and family records—that is, black family records. My mother, I suppose, attracted the attention of a purchaser who was afterward my owner and hers. Her addition to the slave family attracted about as much attention as the purchase of a new horse or cow.

[...]

I had no schooling while I was a slave, though I remember on several occasions I went as far as the schoolhouse door with one of my young mistresses to carry her books. The picture of several dozen boys and girls in a schoolroom engaged in study made a deep impression upon me, and I the feeling that to get into a schoolhouse and study in way would be about the same as getting into paradise.

So far as I can now recall, the first knowledge that I got of the fact that we were slaves, and that freedom of the slaves was being discussed, was early one morning before day, when I was awakened by my mother kneeling over her children and fervently praying that Lincoln and his armies might be successful, and that one day she and her children might be free.

**Extracts from Chapter I, A slave Among Slaves, Up from Slavery,  
Booker T. Washington, first published in 1901.**

## Comprehension check

### Part one :

A- The words in column A have their synonyms in column B. Match them as example 1. **Example : 1 – c**, one synonym in B is not concerned.

- |                 |                                                                   |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1- Slave        | a- The half part of something.                                    |
| 2- Earliest     | b- To someone that somebody or something belongs.                 |
| 3- Whispered    | c- Someone who's life is ruled by a master.                       |
| 4- Conveyed     | d- Got up from sleeping.                                          |
| 5- Beyond       | e- Heaven.                                                        |
| 6- Purchaser    | f- A slave ship.                                                  |
| 7- Owner        | g- Sent to.                                                       |
| 8- Paradise     | h- Over.                                                          |
| 9- Awakened     | i- Made understand.                                               |
| 10- Middle      | j- Trader.                                                        |
| 11- Half-sister | k- Very soon.                                                     |
|                 | l- Female person with whom we have not the same mother or father. |

### B- Give short answers to these questions.

- 1- Was the writer born free? Justify your answer.
- 2- Have the writer and his brother and sister the same parents? Justify your answer.
- 3- Why the writer was too glad to feel getting in paradise?
- 4- Why does the writer's mother pray that Lincoln and his armies might be successful?

### C- Say if these statements are True (T) or False (F)

- 1) The Narrator doesn't know when He was born.
- 2) His father was not a slave.
- 3) His mother was tortured on the slave ship from Africa.
- 4) He wasn't able to attend school when He was a child.
- 5) He received an education later in the life.
- 6) The Narrator wrote this story when He was still a slave.

## **Part two :**

This is an history about slavery. Put the verbs into brackets at appropriate tense.

**Example: Was**

Kaduka (**1- to be**) born slave. If He was free as his fellows He (**2- to go**) to school. And if He had known his father He (**3- to have**) the chance. But last year He (**4- to decide**) to go to evening school. This year Kaduka (**5- to be**) able to read and to write. And his master tells him that the coming years He (**6- to can**) attend high schools. But for the time being He (**7- to learn**) English and spanish. He (**8- to master**) already French. Kaduka enjoys (**9- to work**) alone, so it's no use (**10- to take**) a repeatitor for him.

## **Part three: (writing)**

**Task 1:** In a letter not more than twenty five (25) lines write to your American pen-Friend by telling him/her how slavery has been bad for Africa. (at social and economical level)

**Task 2:** In twenty five lines (25) write an article denouncing the racial segregation under its main forms (aspects) that Africans suffer in the world.

**NB:** The worst scholar crime is cheating, so ovoid it.