



Emancipation Primary Source Questions – Teacher Answer Key

1. Describe the contrast of the scenes in the left of the drawing compared to the right.
 - The scenes in the left of the drawing depict the violent and hard lives of Blacks before emancipation while the right side depicts more peaceful scenes of life after Emancipation for Blacks.
2. What was the artist trying to convey with the scene in the middle, and why did they attach a drawing of Abraham Lincoln to it?
 - The middle of the drawing conveys the peace of Blacks as emancipation went into effect. A drawing of Lincoln is connected to the middle to demonstrate Lincoln's contribution to this peace.
3. What do you think could be the significance of the different flags on the opposite sides of the drawing?
 - Up to interpretation. One idea: On the left, with the scenes of violence, a tattered Confederate flag waves in the wind, signifying the brokenness of the South with slavery. On the right, after emancipation, a fully intact United States flag waves, demonstrating that with emancipation and Union victory, the country is no longer broken or torn over the issue of slavery.
4. What message do you think the artist was trying to convey with this drawing?
 - A message of hope for Blacks with the news of emancipation – hope for better days and freedom. It also depicts a sense of gratitude toward President Lincoln.