

Practice Cold-Read Task Answer Key

1. __A__ Part A

__D__ Part B

Standards: **RI.7.4; RI.7.1; RI.7.10**

2. __B__ Part A

__B__ Part B

Standards: **RI.7.4; RI.7.1; RI.7.10**

3. __A__

Standards: **RI.7.2; RI.7.10**

4. __B__ Part A

__B__ Part B

Standards: **RI.7.5; RI.7.1; RI.7.10**

5. __D__ Part A

__D__ Part B

Standards: **L.7.5; RI.7.4; RI.7.1; RI.7.10**

6. __C__ Part A

__C__ Part B

Standards: **RI.7.3; RI.7.1; RI.7.10**

7. __B__ Part A

__B__ Part B

Standards: **RI.7.6; RI.7.1; RI.7.10**

8. ___C___, ___F___

Standards: **RI.7.6; RI.7.1; RI.7.10**

9. ___C___ Part A

___A___ Part B

Standards: **RI.7.4; RI.7.1; RI.7.10**

10. ___A___ Part A

___D___ Part B

Standards: **RI.7.5; RI.7.1; RI.7.10**

11. Student Exemplar Response:

In Chapter 9 of *Behind the Scenes*, Elizabeth Keckley describes two very different reactions to liberty she witnessed while working among freed slaves. Some freedmen and freedwomen were miserable in the North, and even wished to return to their southern homes and their old lives. Others began building new homes and new lives for themselves, happy to be on their own.

Keckley states that some slaves had exalted views of what freedom was going to be like. “To them it was a beautiful vision, a land of sunshine, rest and glorious promise,” she says. They flocked to Washington, and when they didn’t find a place that matched the picture in their minds, they pined for home. “The colored people are wedded to associations, and when you destroy these you destroy half of the happiness of their lives.” Without the familiar surroundings and comforts—however few—of home, they didn’t know what to do with themselves, so huddled in camps with others who were disappointed. Keckley points to their inability to make a living for themselves when she says “independence brought with it the cares and vexations of poverty,” and she sounds sympathetic to their plight.

To further illustrate her point, Keckley tells the story of an old woman who was experiencing her first time off the plantation. The woman was upset because she had expected to be given everything she was used to, including 2 shifts (undergarments) per year, from her mistress. She expected Mrs. Lincoln to give them to her now, and was confused when she didn’t receive them. This anecdote tells us how far away expectations were from reality for some freed slaves.

Other freedmen and women “went to work with commendable energy, and planned with remarkable forethought.” They build homes, school, and communities. They delighted

in having children, building their own homes, planting gardens, and taking care of farm animals. Keckley goes on to describe how the Freedmen's Village in the outskirts of Washington was full of prosperity and happiness. Teachers were hired, and children were advancing in school. These people did not whine about leaving the past and were excited to build a new future.

Keckley does not blame emancipated slaves for expressing their disappointment. She understands how difficult it is for many of them to leave their old lives behind. "The love for the past was so strong that they could not find much beauty in the new life so suddenly opened to them." But the contrasting images she paints for us—of the squalid camp and the productive village—tell us that not all freed slaves were living happy lives.