

Please make sure to submit your assignment stapled together, but not bound in any kind of folder or wrapping. Every assignment must include a “title-page” and the statement on plagiarism.

Please analyse the following passage from Harriet Jacob's *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* by addressing the following tasks and questions. In your analysis you should use the terminology on the relevant handouts. You may write up to *three* pages of text, according to the formatting specifications of our style sheet.

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"I knew an old black man, whose piety and childlike trust in God were beautiful to witness. At fifty-three years old he joined the Baptist church. He had a most earnest desire to learn to read. He thought he should know how to serve God better if he could only read the Bible. He came to me, and begged me to teach him. He said he could not pay me, for he had no money; but he would bring me nice fruit when the season for it came. I asked him if he didn't know it was contrary to the law; and that slaves were whipped and imprisoned for teaching each other to read. This brought the tears into his eyes. 'Don't be troubled, uncle Fred,' said I. 'I have no thoughts of refusing to teach you. I only told you of the law; that you might know the danger, and be on your guard.' He thought he could plan to come three times a week without its being suspected. I selected a quiet nook, where no intruder was likely to penetrate, and there I taught him his A,B,C. Considering his age, his progress was astonishing. As soon as he could spell in two syllables he wanted to spell out words in the Bible. The happy smile that illuminated his face put joy into my heart."

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### **1. IDENTITY [AND MEDIA] (30)**

Whose identities are constructed in this passage and by whom? Name the relevant features/markers for each identity.

### **2. DISCOURSES AND CULTURAL CONTEXTS (40)**

Name the discourses that you recognize in this passage (please quote characteristic terms and vocabulary)! What is the relationship between these discourses?

### **3. CONTRAST AND COMPARISON (30)**

Name one other passage from the autobiography which corresponds or contrasts with this passage in one particular aspect (10). Describe the nature and significance of the correspondence or contrast (10). Relate both passages to one key concept in cultural studies (10). (You may build on your findings from questions 1 & 2.)