

ENG 246 African American Literature I
Spring 2021 Midterm Quotation Study Guide

QUOTE: I am a poor pilgrim of sorrow.
I'm tossed in this wide world alone.
No hope have I for tomorrow.
I'm tryin to make heaven my home

SOURCE: "City Called Heaven" Pg 12

QUOTE: When Israel was in Egyptland
Let my people go
Oppressed so hard they could not stand
Let my people go.

SOURCE: "Go Down, Moses," page 14

QUOTE: Green trees a-bending,
Po' sinner stands a-trembling,
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul,
I ain't got long to stay here.

SOURCE: "Steal Away to Jesus," page 16

QUOTE: My old Mistiss promise me,
W'en she died, she'd set me free.
She lived so long dat 'er head got bal',
An' she give out'n de notion a dyin' at all.

SOURCE: "Promises of Freedom," page 22

QUOTE: Ole Mosser lakwise promise me,
W'en he died, he'd set me free.
But ole Mosser go an' make his will
fer to leave me a-plowin' ole Beck still."

SOURCE: "Promises of Freedom," Pg.22

QUOTE: Yes, my ole Mosser promise me;
But "his papers" didn't leave me free.
A dose of pizen he'ped 'im along.
May de Devil preach 'is funer'l song.

SOURCE: "Promises of Freedom," Pg 22

QUOTE: Dis nigger run, he run his best,

Stuck his head in a hornet's nest,
Jumped de fence and run fru de paster;
White man run, but nigger run faster.

SOURCE: "Run, Nigger, Run," page 24

QUOTE: But I know somebody
Who do not think that is true-
He told me he could whip
The living daylights out of you.

SOURCE: "The Signifying Monkey," page 30

QUOTE: O freedom O freedom
and before I 'll be a slave .
I'll be buried in my grave
and go home to my Lord and be free.

SOURCE: "Oh Freedom" page 11

QUOTE: When de nigger opened up his bundle he found a pick and shovel and a hoe and a plow
and chop-axe and then de white man opened up his bundle and found a writin'-pen and ink.

SOURCE: Zora Neale Hurston, "De Reasons Niggers Is Working So Hard" Pg.64

QUOTE: Is it time yet, daddy? He answered: Yes, daughter; the time has come. Go; and peace be with
you!"

SOURCE: "All God's Chillen Had Wings," Pg. 57

QUOTE: With that she leaped straight up into the air and was gone like a bird, Flying over field
and wood.

SOURCE: All God's Chillen Had Wings," Pg. 57

QUOTE: The men went clapping their hands; and the women went singing; and those who had children
gave them their breasts; and the children laughed and sucked as their mothers flew, and were not
afraid.

SOURCE: "All God's Chillen Had Wings," page 57

QUOTE: Then all the Negroes, old and new, stood up together; the old man raised his hands;
and they all leaped up into the air with a great shout; and in a moment were gone, flying like a
flock of crows, over the field, over the fence, and over the top of wood; and behind them flew
the old man.

SOURCE: "All God's Chillen Had Wings," page 57- 58

QUOTE: Great Maro's strain in heav'nly numbers flows,
The Nine inspire, and all the bosom glows.
O could I rival thine and Virgil's page,

Or claim the Muses with the Mantuan Sage;
Soon the same beauties should my mind adorn,
And the same arbors in my soul should burn:
Then should my song in bolder notes arise,
And all the numbers pleasingly surprise;
But here I sit, and mourn a grov'ling mind,
That fain would mount, and ride upon the wind.

SOURCE: Phillis Wheatly. "To Maecenas" lines 20-30. Pg 141-142

QUOTE: But say, ye Muses, why this partial grace,
To one alone of Afric's sable race;
From age to age transmitting thus his name,
With the first glory in the rolls of fame?

SOURCE: Phillis Wheatley "To Maecenas" p.142

QUOTE: Some view our sable race with a scornful eye;
"Their colour is a diabolic die."
Remember, Christians, Negros, black as Cain,
May be refin'd, and join the angelic train.

SOURCE: Phillis Wheatly. "On Being Brought from Africa to America," lines 5-8. Pg 144

QUOTE: While an intrinsic ardor prompts to write,
The muses promise to assist my pen;
'Twas not long since I left my native shore
The land of errors, and Egyptian gloom:
Father of mercy, 'twas thy gracious hand
Brought me in safety from those dark abodes.

SOURCE: AUTHOR : Phillis Wheatley, "To the University of Cambridge, in New-England" by Phillis Wheatley," page 143

QUOTE: Students, to you 'tis giv'n to scan the heights
Above, to traverse the ethereal space,
And mark the systems of revolving worlds.
Still more, ye sons of science ye receive
The blissful news by messengers from heav'n,
How Jesus' blood for your redemption flows.

SOURCE: "To the University of Cambridge, in New-England by Phillis Wheatley," page 143

QUOTE: No more America, of mournful strain.
Of wrongs and grievance undressed complain,
No longer though shall drought threat iron chain,
Which wanton Tyranny with lawless hand he made,
and with it mean't enslaved the land.

SOURCE: "To the Right Honorable William, Earl of Dartmouth, His Majesty's Principal secretary •of State for north-America, ..Etc." Phyllis Wheatly pg. 145

QUOTE: It was but the last night, that she witnessed the most terrifying scenes of her life - when the shrieks of her dying friends made her apprehend justly what her own fate must be, should she fail to effect an escape from the village of her happiest days. Theresa thought of the brave St. Clair; she imagined she saw her beloved uncle weltering in his blood, and the barbarous French fixing his venerable head on a pole, and it exposed on a cross road, as the head of a rebel.

SOURCE: "Theresa, a Haytien Tale" by S

QUOTE: In what manner must she act? The salvation of her oppressed country to her, was an object of no little concern; but she also owed a duty to that mother, whose tender solicitude for her happiness, could not be surpassed by any parent, and a sister, too, whom she tenderly loved, and whose attachment to her was undivided. Her absence from the grove, she was confidently assured, would be to them their greatest source of affliction; it would probably terminate the already much exhausted life of her dear mother, and complete the measure of Amanda's wretchedness.

SOURCE: "Theresa, a Haytien Tale" by S pg 156

QUOTE: The subject of the following pages, had he received only a common education, might have been a man of high respectability and usefulness; and had his education been suited to his genius, he might have been an ornament and an honor to human nature. It may perhaps, not be unpleasing to see the efforts of a great mind wholly uncultivated, enfeebled and depressed by slavery, and struggling under every disadvantage. - The reader may here see a Franklin or a Washington in a state of nature, or rather in a state of slavery.

SOURCE: Venture Smith. *A Narrative of the Life and Adventures of Venture, A Native of Africa: But Resident above Sixty Years in the United States of America*. Preface. Pg 95.

QUOTE: He asked me for his keys, and I immediately took them off my neck and reached them out to him. He took them, stroked my hair, and commended me, saying in presence of his father that his young VENTURE was so faithful that he never would have been able to have taken the keys from him but by violence; that he should not fear to trust him with his whole fortune, for that he had been in his native place so habituated to keeping his word, that he would sacrifice even his life to maintain it.

SOURCE: Venture Smith. *A Narrative of the Life and Adventures of Venture, A Native of Africa: But Resident above Sixty Years in the United States of America*. pg101

QUOTE: He then broke out into a great rage, snatched a pitchfork and went to lay me over the head therewith; but I as soon got another and defended myself with it, or otherwise he might have murdered me in his outrage.

SOURCE: Venture Smith *A Narrative of the Life and Adventures of Venture, a Native of Africa: But Resident above Sixty Years in the United States of America*, p.101

QUOTE: They all tried to bind me but in vain tho there were three assistants in numbers. My up start master then desisted, put his pocket handkerchief before his eyes to tell his mother of the struggle with young venture.

SOURCE: AUTHOR : Venture Smith. *A Narrative of the Life and Adventures of Venture, A Native of Africa: But Resident above Sixty Years in the United States of America*. Preface. Pg 101

QUOTE: It will here be remembered how much money I earned by cutting wood in four years. Besides this I had considerable money, amounting in all to near three hundred pounds. When I had purchased my two sons, I had then left more than one hundred pounds. After this I purchased a negro man, for no other reason than to oblige him.

SOURCE: Venture Smith. *A Narrative of the Life and Adventures of Venture, A Native of Africa: But Resident above Sixty Years in the United States of America*. Chapter III. Pg 107

QUOTE: I am sensible. I ought to entreat your pardon for addressing to you a work so wholly devoid of literary merit. but as the production of an unlettered. African can who, is actuated by the hope of becoming an instrument towards the relief of his suffering countrymen.

SOURCE: Olaudah Equiano. *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African, Written by Himself*. Pg 114

QUOTE: The dress of both sexes is nearly the same. It generally consists of a long piece of callico, or muslin, wrapped loosely round the body, somewhat in the form of a highland plaid. This is usually dyed blue, which is our favorite colour. It is extracted from a berry, and is brighter and richer than any I have seen in Europe. Besides this, our women of distinction wear golden ornaments; which they dispose with some profusion on their arms and legs.

SOURCE: Olaudah Equiano. *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African, Written by Himself*. p.117

QUOTE: Our pine apples grow without culture; they are about the size of the largest sugar-loaf, and finely flavoured. We have also spices of different kinds, particularly pepper; and a variety of delicious fruits which I have never seen in Europe; together with gums of various kinds, and honey in abundance. All our industry is exerted to improve those blessings of nature. Agriculture is our chief employment; and every one, even the children and women, are engaged in it.

SOURCE: Olaudah Equiano: *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African, Written by Himself* page 119

QUOTE: Did Nature make *them* inferior to their sons? And should *they too* have been made slaves?

SOURCE: Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*, Pg.124

QUOTE: Soon after this the blacks on who brought me on board went off, and left me abandoned to despair.

SOURCE: Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*, Pg. 130

QUOTE: O, ye nominal Christians! Might not an African ask you, learned you this from your God, who says unto you, Do unto all men as you would men should do unto you? Is it not enough that we are torn from our country and friends to toil for your luxury and lust of gain? Must every tender feeling be likewise sacrificed to your avarice?

SOURCE: Olaudah Equiano. *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African, Written by Himself*. Chapter II. Pg 133-134

QUOTE: While I was attending these ladies their servants told me I could not go to Heaven unless I was baptized.

SOURCE: Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*, Pg. 137

QUOTE: They tell us of the Israelites in Egypt, the Helots in Sparta, and of the Roman Slaves, which last were made up from almost every nation under heaven, were, in comparison with ours, under this enlightened and Christian nation, no more than a cypher – or in other words, those heathen nations of antiquity, had but little more among them than the name and form of slavery; while wretchedness and endless miseries were reserved, apparently in a phial, to be poured out upon our fathers, ourselves and our children, by Christian Americans!

SOURCE: David Walker. *David Walker's Appeal in Four Articles*. Preamble. (Pg 161)

QUOTE: All persons who are acquainted with history, and particularly the Bible, who are not blinded by the God of this world, and are not actuated solely by avarice—who are able to lay aside prejudice long enough to view candidly and impartially, things as they were, are, and probably will be—who are willing to admit that God made man to serve Him *alone*, and that man should have no other Lord or Lords but Himself—that God Almighty is the *sole proprietor* or *master* of the WHOLE human family, and will not on any consideration admit of a colleague, being unwilling to divide his glory with another—and who can dispense with prejudice long enough to admit that we are *men*, notwithstanding our *improminent noses* and *woolly heads*, and believe that we feel for our fathers, mothers, wives and children, as well as the whites do for theirs.

SOURCE: David Walker *David Walker's Appeal in Four Articles: Together with a Preamble, to the Coloured Citizens of the World* page 163

QUOTE: My beloved brethren: The Indians of North and of South America -the Greeks -the Irish, subjected under the king of Great Britain -the Jews that ancient people of the Lord -the inhabitants of the earth (except however, the son of Africa are called men, and of course are and ought to be free. But we colored people and our children are brutes .

SOURCE:: David Walker. *David Walker's Appeal in Four Articles* VOL 1 PAGE# 164

QUOTE: «The land of Egypt is before thee : in the best of the land make thy father and brethren to dwell ; in the land of Goshen let them Dwell : and if thou knowest any men activity among them, then make them rulers over my cattle »

SOURCE: David Walker. *David Walker's Appeal in Four Articles* pg 165

QUOTE: And the child grew, and she brought him unto pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. And she called his name Moses : and she said because I drew him out the water.

SOURCE: David Walker. *David Walker's Appeal in Four Articles* pg #166

QUOTE: God will not suffer us always to be oppressed. Our sufferings will come to an end, in spite of all the Americans this side of eternity. Then we will want all the learning and talents among ourselves, and perhaps more, to govern ourselves. - "Every dog must have its day," the American's is coming to an end.

SOURCE: David Walker. *David Walker's Appeal in Four Articles*. Article 1 (Pg 169)

QUOTE: I want to say a few words about this matter. I am a woman rights. I have as much muscle as any man chopped and mowed, and can any man do more than that , I have heard much about the sexes being equal .I can carry as much as any man, and can eat as much too, If I can get it. As for intellect , all I can say is , if woman have a pint and a man a quart-why can;t she have her little pint full?

SOURCE: AUTHOR : Sojourner Truth TITLE : "Ar'n't I am Woman"

QUOTE: If my cup won't hold but a pint and yourn holds a quart, would n't ye be mean not to have my little half measure full?

SOURCE: AUTHOR : Sojourner Truth TITLE : "Ar'n't I am Woman" Pg 176-180

QUOTE: As for intellect, all I can say is, if a woman have a pint, and man a quart—why can't she have her little pint full ? You need not be afraid to give us our rights for fear we will take too much,—for we can't take more than our pint'll hold. The poor men seem to be all in confusion, and don't know what to do. Why children, if you have woman's rights, give it to her and you will feel better. You will have your own rights, and they won't be so much trouble.

SOURCE: Sojourner Truth, "Ar'n't I a Woman?" page 178