

APUSH  
Kailua High School  
Social Studies Elective  
2021-2022  
Mr. Wilson  
<http://weisun.org>

Graded Summer Reading Assignment:  
Uncle Tom's Cabin or Life among the Lowly, by Harriet Beecher Stowe.

INSTRUCTIONS: To warm you up to reading a best-selling book from the 19<sup>th</sup> century (1852), answer the provided questions. Please use the Project Gutenberg EBook of Uncle Tom's Cabin that is provided at the following URL: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/203/203-h/203-h.htm>

The Gutenberg edition is searchable via the find function (command F or control F). Use the find function and enter the phrase into the find menu without the quotation marks.

Vocabulary will be provided as footnotes in the order in which the word appears in the text. For each vocabulary word, write out the word, its part of speech, its definition, and then write the word into a sentence that demonstrates its meaning as used in the novel.

All work for *Uncle Tom* will be typed. Single-space each answer and double-space between answers. One-inch margins. 14 point font size. See last page for example. Submit work as an attachment in microsoft word format. Name your file as follows: lastname\_firstname\_filename. For example:

Wilson\_Leonard\_ch\_01\_uncle\_tom's\_cabin

## CHAPTER I

### In Which the Reader Is Introduced to a Man of Humanity

1. In paragraph 2, who is identified as a "low man who is trying to elbow his way upward in the world"? (You have to read beyond paragraph 2 to see his name.)
2. Who was Lindley Murray?
3. How does Mr. Shelby describe "Tom" to "Haley"? What is the context in which Mr. Shelby and Haley are discussing Tom? ("Why, the fact is, Haley...")
4. In what way does the phrase "You mean honest, as niggers go" describe Haley's understanding of humanity?

5. In reference to Haley's perception of Tom, what does Mr. Shelby affirm? ("he really *did* get it")
6. In what way does Haley consider "religion a valeyable thing" among slaves?
7. How much "conscience" does Haley have?
8. What is "hard necessity mak[ing]" Mr. Shelby do? <sup>1</sup>
9. What do "women always say...?"
10. In the eyes of Haley, why is Harry "just the article!"?
11. How does "Mr. Shelby, thoughtfully..." describe himself? Do you think that "hard necessity" will outweigh Mr. Shelby's self-description?
12. How did "...want of management..." affect "...a real handsome gal once, in Orleans..."
13. For Haley, why is the "...humane thing...always best..."
14. Wilberforce <sup>2</sup>
15. Diffidence <sup>3</sup>
16. For Haley, what is "...the great pillar of [his] management"?
17. piquant<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> quadroon: noun: a person who is one-quarter black by descent

<sup>2</sup> Wilberforce: noun: William Wilberforce (1759-1833) was a British politician, philanthropist, and a leader of the movement to abolish the slave trade. Please read Introduction, Background, and Other Nations in the Slave Trade Act, 1807 at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slave\\_Trade\\_Act\\_1807](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slave_Trade_Act_1807)

<sup>3</sup> diffidence: noun: modesty or shyness resulting from a lack of self-confidence

<sup>4</sup> piquant: adjective: having a pleasantly sharp taste or appetizing flavor; pleasantly stimulating or exciting to the mind

18. elucidations<sup>5</sup>

19. “There was something so piquant and original in these elucidations of humanity....” Here the author is directly commenting to the reader. She uses sarcasm to highlight both Haley’s and Shelby’s notions of humanity. In what ways do her comments about “the odd things that humane people will say and do” apply to today?

20. Explain the meaning of “white folks” and “niggers” in the following passage: “...I takes a leetle care about the onpleasant parts, like selling young uns and that,--get the gals out of the way—out of sight, out of mind, you know,--and when it’s clean done, and can’t be helped, they naturally gets used to it. ‘Tan’t, you know, as if it was white folks, that’s brought up in the way of ‘spectin’ to keep their children and wives, and all that. Niggers, you know, that’s fetched up properly, ha’n’t no kind of ‘spectations of no kind; so all these things comes easier.”

21. How does Mr. Shelby respond to the passage above?

22. What does the following phrase mean? “So much for being in debt,--heigho! The fellow sees his advantage, and means to push it.”

23. Explain “the shadow of *law*” in reference to “...the best regulated administration of slavery.”

24. incredulity<sup>6</sup>

25. Describe Mrs. Shelby’s reaction to “...Eliza’s suspicions.”

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<sup>5</sup> elucidations: noun: explanation that makes something clear; clarification

<sup>6</sup> Incredulity: adjective: the state of being unwilling or unable to believe something

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**CHAPTER I**  
**In Which the Reader Is Introduced to a Man of Humanity**

1. The "low man who is trying to elbow his way upward in the world" is ...
2. Lindley Murray was...