

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class pd. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

## Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass TONE AND MOOD

**Directions:**

The first chapter of Frederick Douglass's work establishes a certain tone for the remaining chapters and creates a certain mood in the reader. Douglass conveys tone and creates a mood through the details he chooses to relate about his early years in slavery and the words he uses to describe such facts. Read the following quotations and summaries of the main ideas in chapter 1. If necessary, locate each quotation in the text. **Then evaluate and identify the tone Douglass uses and the mood he creates. Using the tone words provided you may label each as having more than one tone and mood.**

QUOTATION/SUMMARY	TONE	MOOD
1. Most slaves "know as little of their ages as horses know of theirs, and it is the wish of most masters . . . to keep their slaves thus ignorant."		
2. To ask his master about his birthday was deemed "improper, and impertinent, and evidence of a restless spirit."		
3. Mothers are separated from their babies by twelve months, probably to "hinder the development of the child's affection toward its mother, and to blunt and destroy the natural affection of the mother for the child. This is the inevitable result."		
4. Slaves are seldom given permission to be in the field later than sunrise—a permission that gives the master "the proud name of being a kind master."		
5. Death soon ended what little [communication] we could have had while she lived, and with it her hardships and suffering."		

QUOTATION/SUMMARY	TONE	MOOD
<p>6. “Never having enjoyed, to any considerable extent, her soothing presence, her tender and watchful care, I received the tidings of her death with much the same emotions I should have probably felt at the death of a stranger.”</p>		
<p>7. ““ . . . [T]he fact remains, in its glaring odiousness,” that slave children are slaves even if their fathers are white masters, “and this is done too obviously to administer to their own lusts, and make a gratification of their wicked desires profitable as well as pleasurable; for by this cunning arrangement . . . ” the slaveholder is both master and father to the slave.</p>		
<p>8. A mulatto slave whose master is his father is often treated worse or more harshly and must be sold to be saved from such treatment.</p>		
<p>9. Slaves’ appearances are changing because of mixed black-white relations between slave women and their white masters. The result of light-skinned slaves contradicts the notion that it is race that makes them justifiably slaves.</p>		
<p>10. “It struck me with awful force. It was the blood-stained gate, the entrance to the hell of slavery, through which I was about to pass. It was a most terrible spectacle. I wish I could commit to paper the feelings with which I beheld it.</p>		
<p>11. . . . I was so terrified and horror-stricken at the sight, that I hid myself in a closet, and dared not venture out till long after the bloody transaction was over. I expected it would be my turn next.”</p>		