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## Harriet Tubman: Conductor of Freedom

Harriet was born in 1820. Her parents were slaves in Maryland.

That meant Harriet was a slave, too. Slaves were owned by a "master."

Even though she was just a child, Harriet had to work. Her job was to take care of the master's baby. She had to keep the baby from crying at night. If the baby cried, Harriet was whipped. Harriet hated being a slave. She wanted to be free.

When she grew up, Harriet married John Tubman. He was a free black man. But Harriet was still a slave. A few years later, Harriet became worried that she was going to be sold. She decided to run away. She escaped to the northern part of the U.S. There was no slavery in the North. Harriet ended up in Pennsylvania. She got a job there and saved her money.

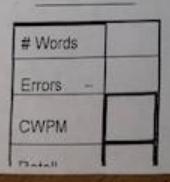
Harriet wanted to help other slaves become free. It was dangerous to help slaves escape. But Harriet was very brave: She went back to Maryland 19 times to help the slaves there. She showed slaves how to follow the Underground Railroad. This "railroad" was a group of homes. They were called "safe houses." They were owned by people who wanted to help the slaves. Slaves could stop to rest at the safe houses along the way as they moved north.

221 Harriet Tubman helped 300 slaves become free. Harriet is an 231 American hero.

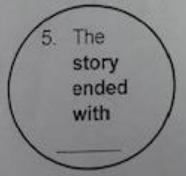
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# 3. The most important characters and objects are

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