



GEORGE MOSES HORTON: CRAFTING VIRTUAL FREEDOM THROUGH POETRY
ASSESSMENT

Consider the life of George Moses Horton. Think about what he accomplished during his lifetime. George Moses Horton crafted his own “virtual” freedom through the recognition of his own talents and working hard to use and improve those talents.

Write an essay with at least two paragraphs. One paragraph should discuss the accomplishments of George Moses Horton, focusing on how he capitalized on his talents and overcame obstacles to become a famous poet. An additional paragraph should identify your own gifts and consider how you might develop them further.

Teachers may use and reproduce the material on the Crafting Freedom website for instructional purposes.

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ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Accomplishments	The essay includes the accomplishments of Horton. His accomplishments are elaborated upon and many details are provided.	The essay includes the accomplishments of Horton. His accomplishments are elaborated upon and some details are provided.	The essay includes some accomplishments of Horton. The accomplishments are mentioned and few details are provided.	The essay does not include any accomplishments.
Talents and Obstacles	The essay richly describes Horton’s talents and what obstacles he overcame to become a poet.	The essay describes Horton’s talents and what obstacles he overcame to become a poet.	The essay mentions Horton’s talents and obstacles.	The essay does not mention talents or obstacles.
Personal Connection	The essay includes rich and detailed reflections of the student’s personal talents and ways to develop them.	The essay includes reflections of the student’s personal talents and ways to develop them.	The essay includes some reflections on personal talents.	The essay does not include any personal reflection.
Spelling and Punctuation	There are no spelling or punctuation errors in the final draft.	There is one spelling or punctuation error in the final draft.	There are between two and three spelling or punctuation errors in the final draft.	The final draft has more than three spelling or punctuation errors.