



**THE SELF-EMPOWERMENT OF HARRIET JACOBS**  
ASSESSMENT

List two facts about Harriet Jacobs:

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are slave narratives?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the space where Harriet Jacobs lived for seven years:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List five ways Jacobs was able to empower herself and gain some control in her hiding space:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

What role did Jacobs's family serve while she was in hiding?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THE SELF-EMPOWERMENT OF HARRIET JACOBS**

ASSESSMENT KEY (Answers may vary)

**List two facts about Harriet Jacobs:**

- 1) Harriet Jacobs was a slave. Harriet Jacobs wrote a slave narrative about her experience. She lived for seven years in a small crawl space.
- 2) Jacobs had a good childhood but was willed to a bad man. She watched her children grow up through a peep hole. She moved to Rochester, NY. She wrote an autobiography.

**What are slave narratives?**

Slave narratives are stories written by slaves about their experiences.

**Describe the space where Harriet Jacobs lived for seven years:**

She lived in a small crawl space. There were rats, mice, and ants. It was either cold or hot. The space was only 9 feet long, 7 feet wide, and 3 feet tall. She couldn't stand up or move around.

**List five ways Jacobs was able to empower herself and gain some control in her hiding space:**

- 1) In her hiding space Harriet Jacobs was no longer a slave to the bad man.
- 2) She was able to be near her family and watch her children grow up.
- 3) She made a peep hole so she could read.
- 4) She sewed garments and made toys for her children.
- 5) She found a way to exercise, crawling around and sneaking out at night.

**What role did Jacobs's family serve while she was in hiding?**

Jacobs's family helped protect her, brought her food, gave her blankets, and talked with her.

Jacobs's family supported her as she endured difficult living conditions.