

COMPARING THE VIEWS OF DAVID WALKER AND JOHN DAY, TWO NINETEENTH-CENTURY FREE BLACKS

STUDENT HANDOUT 3: COMPARING WALKER'S *APPEAL* AND JOHN DAY'S LETTER

After reading the excerpt from David Walker's *Appeal to Coloured Citizens of the World* in Student Handout 1, answer the following questions:

Paragraph One

1. According to Walker, does "Mr. Clay" support colonization?
2. According to Walker, does Bishop Allen support colonization?
3. Does David Walker support colonization? How do you know?
4. What is Walker's argument for why African Americans should stay in the United States?

Paragraph Two

1. Does Walker think all those who support colonization are bad people?
2. What does Walker want readers (or listeners) to understand about the goals of the colonization?
3. According to Walker, who will the "colonizationists" send to Africa, and who will be kept back in the United States?
4. According to Walker, why do white Americans think free blacks are "brutes?"

Context

1. When was Walker's *Appeal to the Coloured Citizens of the World* written and published?
2. What is life like for free blacks at this time?

After reading the excerpt from John Day's letter from the *Colonization Herald* in Student Handout 2, answer the following questions:

Paragraph One

1. What circumstances are making John Day "weep?"
2. Where, according to Day, has "God planted a paradise?"
3. What country does Day refer to as "a land of oppression?"

Paragraph Two

1. Does Day think that life in the United States has improved for African Americans in the last twenty years?

Paragraph Three

1. According to Day, have African Americans gained knowledge in the United States? Why or why not?

2. How is studying, learning, and gaining knowledge different in Liberia, according to Day?
3. How will knowledge help Africans in Liberia? How will it help Africa? Why should African Americans move to Liberia?

Context

1. When was this letter written and published?
2. What is life like for Free Blacks in the United States at this time?

Comparing the Ideas of David Walker and John Day

How do Walker and Day differ in their opinions about African Colonization? What has changed (or not) in terms of slavery and race relations between the time of Walker's publication (1829) and that of Day's (1854)?

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