

CREATING HISTORICAL FICTION WITH SLAVE NARRATIVES AND RUNAWAY SLAVE ADS

STUDENT HANDOUT 2: RUNAWAY SLAVE DIARY WRITING ASSIGNMENT

In 2-3 pages, write a series of historical fiction, runaway slave diary entries. Your diary entries should be based on the runaway slave ads that you reviewed, the overview of the life and narrative of Henry "Box" Brown that your teacher provided, the short video that you watched, and the sample writing assignment provided in Student Handout 1. Your diary entries should:

- Describe several days in the life of an enslaved youth in the antebellum South. Use, as a stimulus for this "historical fiction" exercise, an actual slave advertisement or group of advertisements and on-line resources on slave resistance.
- Incorporate the culture, values, landscape, and language of the time in a "historical fiction" diary, making sure the account is historically accurate.
- Express empathy for the plight of the enslaved individual and an understanding of the laws and customs regarding slavery.

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