

### Introduction

Imagine you have been hired by an educational organization called History from the African American Point of View. This organization has asked you to review the History Alive textbook to determine if this text should be used in Ethnic Studies and African American history classes in high schools around the nation. They are particularly concerned about the chapters on emancipation and Reconstruction. Please remember that the following criteria must be met for you to recommend this book:

1. The historical events described and analyzed are important both in terms of understanding the emancipation and Reconstruction and in terms of understanding the way in which African Americans were affected by those events.
2. There must be evidence that African Americans are primarily depicted as agents of change (makers of history) rather than objects of change (victims of history).
3. The importance of Critical Race Theory/White Privilege must be used as a lense to understand historical events. In other words, is there evidence that the authors of History Alive have considered the role that racism and white privilege play in the history of emancipation and Reconstruction?

### Process for Evaluation

1. Select 3 topics/themes to evaluate using the above criteria.
2. Support your evaluation with specific ideas and information from both the History Alive text and the course readings, handouts, film, and assignments.

### Writing the Recommendation

1. Introduction that states your recommendation.
2. Three body paragraphs that support your recommendation:
  - Determine the focus (topic sentence) of each paragraph. The focus can be a topic/theme to be evaluated or one of the 3 criteria.
  - Include the specific evidence from the sources you are using for your evaluation.
  - Analyze the evidence to fully explain your evaluation.

3. Conclusion should emphasize the educational importance of accepting your recommendation.

Additional Instructions

You will be able to use the following resources:

- A graphic organizer/organized notes as a writing aid
- “Who Freed the Slaves” handout and arguments
- Answers to the “Up With Slavery” questions