

Name:

Date:

Directions: With your group, read your assigned pages and answer all five questions. The **bold** questions are the most important! You will be sharing your answers with people in other groups, so make sure you are thorough and clear in your answers.

This will be on your exam next week!

Group 1: p. 172-174, from “I did write to Elijah Muhammad” to “the black man’s condition in this wilderness of North America”

1. How does Malcolm X’s written exchange with Elijah Muhammad develop Malcolm X’s point of view?

2. What difference does the author develop between the way Malcolm X views “believing the teachings of Mr. Muhammad” (p. 172) and praying?

3. What does Malcolm X’s experience of praying suggest about his character?

4. How does the author develop the claim that “[e]verything [he’s] ever felt strongly about, [he’s] done something about” (p. 173)?

5. How has Malcolm X’s view of himself changed?

Group 2: p. 174–177 from “It was because of my letters that I happened” to “in the streets I had slept less than that”

1. What motivates Malcolm X “to acquire some kind of a homemade education” (p. 174)?

2. What does Malcolm X’s choice to educate himself suggest about his development?

3. What does the description of Malcolm X's "homemade education" process suggest about his character (p. 174)?

4. What is the impact of Malcolm X's "homemade education" (p. 176) on his point of view?

5. When the author describes Malcolm X's reading habits in prison, what does the reference to his "years in the streets" (p. 177) suggest about his development since that time?

Group 3: p. 177–180 from "The teachings of Mr. Muhammad stressed how history had been 'whitened'" to "naked exploitation and power from Cape Horn to Cairo"

1. What interests Malcolm X in studying "black history" (p. 178)?

2. According to Malcolm X, how has “the collective white man ... been actually nothing but a piratical opportunist” (p. 180)? Based on this context and word parts, what do the words *piratical* and *opportunist* mean?

3. How do the words and phrases Malcolm X uses to describe what he has learned about “the collective white man” contribute to the tone of this excerpt?

4. How does the tone of the excerpt develop Malcolm X’s point of view?

5. How do the details of what Malcolm X learned from reading in prison contribute to the author’s purpose?