Created by: Darlene McClurg, L.T. Ball Intermediate

Grade level: 5


Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the interview located at the above link while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

Level I: Description

1. What details help you pick out who the information is about?
2. What was the date of the oral history interview?
3. Where can the oral history information be found?
4. What is the actual time period Lucy is speaking about?

Level II: Interpretation

1. Who is the intended audience for this writing?
2. Lucy says, “White folks didn’t keep no ‘count of dey slaves’ ages. Dey wuz jes’ like chickens-like many chickens. . .”. What does she mean?
3. Why was Lucy’s speech written in this manner?

Level III: Analysis

1. What does Lucy tell you about her time period and her way of life?
2. What evidence can you find that she was confused about why her last name was Hawkins?
3. What inferences can you make about her life as a slave?
4. If you could interview Lucy, what questions would you ask her?