

# Henry's Freedom Box

*content integration  
freebie*



# Henry's Freedom Box

## By Ellen Levine



Mentor Sentence Focus Standard: L.1 (complex sentences)

### Reading Lesson Ideas:

R.1: Students give evidence to support their conclusions about what it would have been like to try to escape slavery.

R.2: Have students summarize the story and tell the theme of the book.

R.3: Students explain Henry's character traits (thoughts, words, actions).

R.6: Discuss how this book would have been different if it had been told by someone who wanted slavery.

R.9: Read a book like Freedom Summer by Deborah Wiles, and discuss how even 100 years later, things weren't fair for black people. Students could compare how black people were treated in the 1800s and mid-1900s. Read a book like Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom by Carol Boston Weatherford, and discuss how Harriet and Henry both took drastic measures to escape slavery.

### Writing Lesson Ideas:

W.2, W.7, W.8: Students should use information from several books to write about civil rights.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Henry's Freedom Box

Define unknown words in the story.



word:

**beckoned**

what I think it means

actual meaning

word:

**warehouse**

what I think it means

actual meaning

word:

**vitriol**

what I think it means

actual meaning

word:

**pry**

what I think it means

actual meaning

Name: Possible Answers Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Henry's Freedom Box

Define unknown words in the story.



word:

**beckoned**

what I think it means

actual meaning

**summoned to come**

word:

**warehouse**

what I think it means

actual meaning

**a large building for goods**

word:

**vitriol**

what I think it means

actual meaning

**acid**

word:

**pry**

what I think it means

actual meaning

**use force to open**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Henry's Freedom Box

Give evidence from the book to show slaves were treated unfairly.

evidence

evidence

evidence

evidence

evidence



Name: Possible Answers Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Henry's Freedom Box

Give evidence from the book to show slaves were treated unfairly.

evidence

Slaves couldn't know  
their birthdays.

evidence

Slaves children could  
be taken away from  
their family.

evidence

Slaves could be given  
away like property.

evidence

Slave husbands and  
wives didn't always  
remain together-  
they can be sold  
apart.

evidence

Slaves had to take  
drastic measures to  
get freedom, or they  
could suffer a severe  
punishment.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Henry's Freedom Box

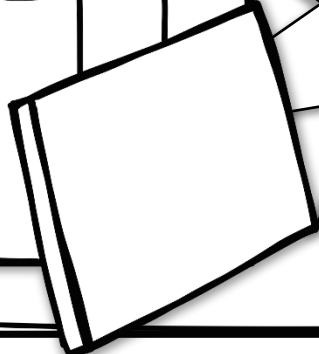
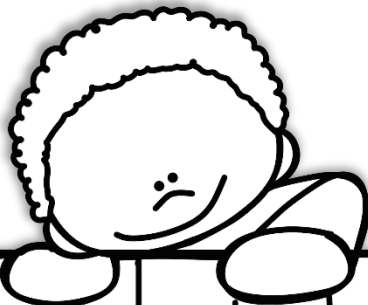
Describe Henry through his thoughts, words, and actions.

trait:

thoughts:

words:

actions:



Name: Possible Answers Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Henry's Freedom Box

Describe Henry through his thoughts, words, and actions.

trait:

courageous

thoughts:

he dreamed of freedom

words:

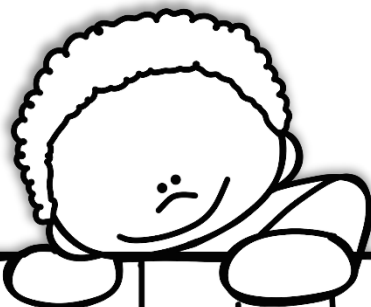
"I will mail myself to a place  
where there are no slaves."

actions:

Henry watched his family  
be sold away

he poured acid on his hand to  
have an excuse to stay home

he mailed himself to freedom

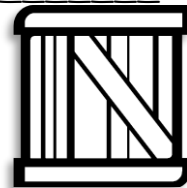




Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Henry's Freedom Box



Write an informational piece about slavery and civil rights.

[illegible]

When he wiped away  
his tears, Nancy, too,  
was gone.

~Henry's Freedom Box

When he wiped away his tears, Nancy,  
too, was gone.

~Henry's Freedom Box

When he wiped away his tears, Nancy,  
too, was gone.

~Henry's Freedom Box

When he wiped away his tears, Nancy,  
too, was gone.

~Henry's Freedom Box

When he wiped away his tears, Nancy,  
too, was gone.

~Henry's Freedom Box

When he wiped away his tears, Nancy,  
too, was gone.

~Henry's Freedom Box

When he wiped away his tears, Nancy,  
too, was gone.

~Henry's Freedom Box

Monday – possibilities of things to notice

\*complex sentence

declarative

emotion shown

too=also (homophone)

Nancy- proper noun

past tense

three commas

tears- plural

Tuesday – label the sentence

When – subordinating conjunction

he – pronoun

wiped – verb

was – linking verb

away, too – adverbs

his – possessive pronoun

tears – noun

Nancy – proper noun

gone – adjective

When he wiped away his tears, Nancy, too, was gone.

*complete subjects*

*complete predicates*

*simple subjects*

*simple predicates*

Wednesday – possibility of revised sentence

When he miserably wiped away his tears, his dear Nancy, too, disappeared.

(added adverb, added adjectives, changed verb)

Thursday – possibility of imitation sentence

As they carefully moved through the night, Harriet, too, walked with them.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Invitation to Edit

when he wiped away his tears, nancy, to, was gone

1. Circle 4 mistakes in the sentence. Rewrite the sentence correctly:

-----

-----

In the following sentences, highlight the conjunctions. Then, mark whether the sentences are compound or complex:

	compound	complex
2. Henry nodded, but he didn't say thank you.		
3. When both their masters agreed, Henry and Nancy were married.		
4. He went to work, and at night he ate supper and went to bed.		
5. As he lifted a crate, he knew the answer.		
6. The sun was not yet up when Henry climbed into the box.		

Complete the sentences with **too**, **to**, or **two**:

7. Slaves weren't allowed \_\_\_\_\_ know their birthdays.

8. Henry and Nancy were married, and they had children, \_\_\_\_\_.

9. Henry watched \_\_\_\_\_ birds flying in the sky, and it reminded him of freedom.





Name: **Answer Key**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Invitation to Edit

when he wiped away his tears, nancy, to, was gone

1. Circle 4 mistakes in the sentence. Rewrite the sentence correctly:

When he wiped away his tears, Nancy, too, was gone.

In the following sentences, highlight the conjunctions. Then, mark whether the sentences are compound or complex:

	compound	complex
2. Henry nodded, but he didn't say thank you.	X	
3. When both their masters agreed, Henry and Nancy were married.		X
4. He went to work, and at night he ate supper and went to bed.	X	
5. As he lifted a crate, he knew the answer.		X
6. The sun was not yet up when Henry climbed into the box.		X

Complete the sentences with **too**, **to**, or **two**:

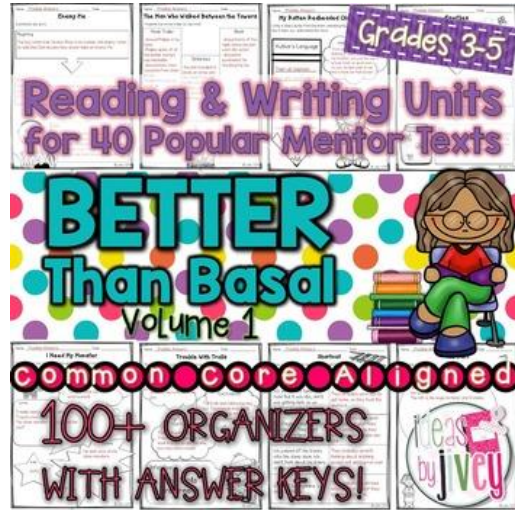
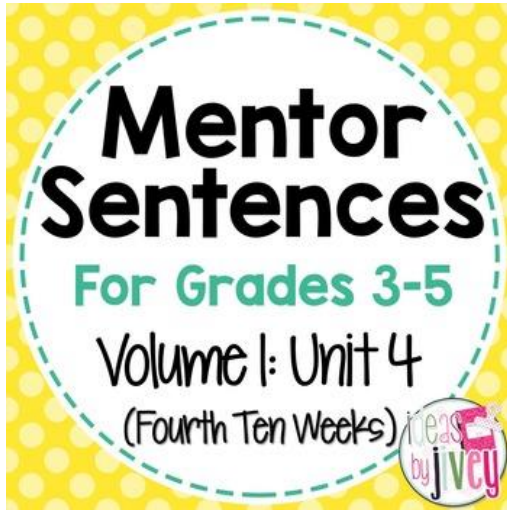
7. Slaves weren't allowed to know their birthdays.

8. Henry and Nancy were married, and they had children, too.

9. Henry watched two birds flying in the sky, and it reminded him of freedom.



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