

4.12 African Americans in the Early Republic

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 13 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain **African American action** 非裔美国人的行动.

You must be able to:

- state what the CED says about antislavery efforts in the South
- state the two things enslaved and free African Americans created
- state what they joined
- explain why the CED records creation as well as resistance

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ In the South

Antislavery efforts in the South were largely limited to unsuccessful rebellions by enslaved people. "Largely" and "unsuccessful" —the CED reports both the limit and the outcome without denying the effort.

■ What was created

Enslaved blacks and free African Americans created communities and strategies to protect their dignity and family structures. Communities and strategies—one is a structure, the other a practice.

■ Political effort

They joined political efforts aimed at changing their status. Not only endurance and not only rebellion: organised political action.

■ Creation as well as resistance

A history recording only what was done to people leaves them without agency. The CED's verbs here—created, protect, joined—are all active, and reproducing them is part of writing the period accurately.

2 Practice

2.1 State what the CED says about antislavery efforts in the South. [2]

2.2 State the two things African Americans created and what they protected. [2]

2.3 The CED's verbs are active.

(a) Name three. [3]

(b) State what a history recording only what was done to people loses. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED describes Southern antislavery efforts as largely limited to [1]

- **A** unsuccessful rebellions by enslaved people
- **B** newspaper campaigns
- **C** legislative action
- **D** nothing at all

3.2 African Americans joined [1]

- **A** political efforts aimed at changing their status
- **B** the Whig party only
- **C** no organisations
- **D** the Awakening only

3.3 A community maintains its family structures under a system designed to break them.

(a) State what this is. [1]

(b) Explain why the CED records it.

[2]

4 Go further

- work through the **4.12 African Americans in the Early Republic** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Period 4: 1800-1848** section of the AP US History handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 they were largely limited to rebellions by enslaved people, which were unsuccessful.

2.2 communities and strategies, to protect their dignity and family structures.

2.3 (a) created; protect; joined. (b) the agency of the people it describes.

3.1 A. unsuccessful rebellions.

3.2 A. political efforts.

3.3 (a) a strategy to protect dignity and family structures. (b) an account of the period that reports only what was done to enslaved people would omit what they themselves built and defended.