

4.12 African Americans in the Early Republic

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS communities and strategies 社群与策略 • unsuccessful rebellions 未能成功的起义
• african american action 非裔美国人的行动

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]

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.