

Lowell and Harper

“Stanzas on Freedom” by James Russell Lowell

“Free Labor” by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

Bio. p. 579

Choose 10 and rank from most to least effective. With 10 being the most effective.

METHODS OF PROTEST

Letter to an editor

Benefit concert

Petition

March

Strike

Boycott

Movies

Social Media

Songs

Television

Books

Website

Commercials

Advertising

Symbol: define

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Question 5

If both “Stanzas on Freedom” and “Free Labor” had been widely read before the war, the one most likely to stir people to action would be . . .

The reasons for this are as follows. First of all, Second, . . . Third, . . .

Question 6

Modern examples of protest art or advertising that are similar to the anti-slavery poetry of the 19th century are . . .
(write about or explain three examples)

- Letter
- Benefit concert
- music
- street art/graffiti
- movie
- books
- movies
- television
- songs

Alternative suggestions for Questions 5 and 6, p. 578

#5

If “Stanzas on Freedom” and “Free Labor” were widely read before the Civil War, then “_____” would probably have been more effective at influencing people to take a stand against slavery because

#6 The antislavery poems of the 19th century are comparable to today’s music, movies and _____. One example of modern protest music is Bruce Springsteen’s song, “Born in the USA.” This song was a protest against the Vietnam War. Next,

"Free Labor"

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

I wear an easy garment,
O'er it no toiling slave
Wept tears of hopeless anguish,
In his passage to the grave.

NO ONE CRIED FOR
HER CLOTHES

And from its ample folds
Shall rise no cry to God,
Upon its warp and woof shall be
No stain of tears and blood.

NO TEARS OF BLOOD

Oh, lightly shall it press my form,
Unladen with a sigh,
I shall not 'mid its rustling hear,
Some sad despairing cry.

NO SAD CRY IN HER
CLOTHES.

This fabric is too light to bear
The weight of bondsmen's tears,
I shall not in its texture trace
The agony of years.

NO SLAVE TEARS

Too light to bear a smother'd sigh,
From some lorn woman's heart,
Whose only wreath of household love
Is rudely torn apart.

NO WOMEN'S FAMILY
TORN APART

Then lightly shall it press my form,
Unburden'd by a sigh;
And from its seams and folds shall rise,
No voice to pierce the sky,

NO SIGHS OR SCREAMS

And witness at the throne of God,
In language deep and strong,
That I have nerv'd Oppression's hand,
For deeds of guilt and wrong.

NO GUILT
SHE DID NO WRONG

PROBABLY MAKES HER OWN FABRIC?
CLOTHES.

"Stanzas On Freedom"

James Russell Lowell

Men! whose boast it is that ye
Come of fathers brave and free,
If there breathe on earth a slave,
Are ye truly free and brave?
If ye do not feel the chain,
When it works a brother's pain,
Are ye not base slaves indeed,
Slaves unworthy to be freed?

American Men:
Are you free if you
Allow others to be
slaves?

Women! who shall one day bear
Sons to breathe New England air,
If ye hear, without a blush,
Deeds to make the roused blood rush
Like red lava through your veins,
For your sisters now in chains,--
Answer! are ye fit to be
Mothers of the brave and free?

women;
rape IF you know
ABOUT ABUSE of
slave women & ignore it
you're NOT fit to be mom.

BRITAIN
Is true Freedom but to break
Fetters for our own dear sake,
And, with leathern hearts, forget
That we owe mankind a debt?
No! true freedom is to share
All the chains our brothers wear
And, with heart and hand, to be
Earnest to make others free!

We broke from Britain
but if some are slaves
no one is truly free.

They are slaves who fear to speak
For the fallen and the weak;
They are slaves who will not choose
Hatred, scoffing, and abuse,
Rather than in silence shrink
From the truth they needs must think;
They are slaves who dare not be
In the right with two or three.

speak out even if
you're afraid or
might be punished.