



How I Came To Be

AN EPISODE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS' LIFE



ON THE 1ST OF JANUARY, FREDERICK DOUGLASS WENT TO WORK FOR MR. COVEY.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME EVER IN HIS LIFE THAT HE WAS MADE INTO A FIELD HAND, A TASK THAT FREDERICK WAS ABLE TO AVOID IN THE PAST.

POOR BOY! HE WAS ONLY 18, AND HE HAD TO DO KINDA THE BACK-BREAKING PHYSICAL LABOR.

1833

MR. COVEY'S HOUSE IN BALTIMORE.



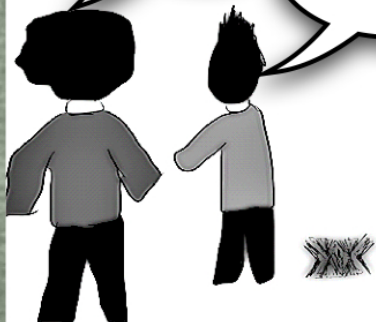
OH MY GOD! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO THIS KINDA WORK. MR. COVEY IS SURELY GONNA BEAT THE SKIN OUTTA ME.

ON A COLD COLD JANUARY DAY.... FREDERICK SET TO ONE OF HIS FIRST TASK



YO, BILL! LET'S STOP THE FANNING. I'M NOT FEELING SO GOOD AND THE PEEPS ARE NOT BRINGING THE WHEAT EITHER.

OKS FRED. GET SOME REST BRO.



SIR, FREDERICK'S NOT FEELING WELL SIR.

HEY, WHY DID YOU BEASTS STOP?

WHERE'S FRED?



FREDRICK IN THE HIDING.....



WACK!
WACK!
WACK!

AHHHH...
OUCH. STOP
MR. COVEY,
STOP!

FREDERICK IS GETTING
KICKED LEFT AND
RIGHT BY MR. COVEY



GET UP,
YOU LITTLE
PIECE OF
DIRT!
GET UP!

MR.
COVEY
PLEASE, STOP!
I'M NOT
FEELING WELL.
I CAN'T
STAND UP.

WACK
WACK WACK
WACK WACK

I'M
TELLIN' YA
ONE MORE
TIME. I SAID
RISE!

AAAAAAHHHH
HHHHHHHH



MRRR...
COOVEY!
PLLLLEASSSE,
I.....I CANN'T
TAKKE TI!



DOUGLASS FALLS NO
THE GROUND AGAIN!

OH MY
GOD! YOU
FELL AGAIN.
GET UP, YOU
IDIOT!

WEAK AND TIRED,
FREDERICK PUTS NO
EFFORT TO CONFORM.
HE DECIDES TO LET
MR. COVEY GET THE
BEST OF HIM.....
AFTER A TAD BIT
FREDERICK GETS
BETTER AND THIS TIME
HE THINKS OF
RETURNING TO HIS TRUE
MASTER AND COMPLAIN
ABOUT COVEY.
AS COVEY STARED IN
THE OPPOSITE
DIRECTION, AND
STARTED FOR ST.
MICHAELS, FREDERICK
TOOK HIS CHANCE.....

FREDERICK RUNS AS FAST AS HE CAN. HE GETS PRETTY FAR IN THE WOODS AND CAN HEAR MR. COVEY CALLING FOR HIM YET HE STILL CONTINUES.....

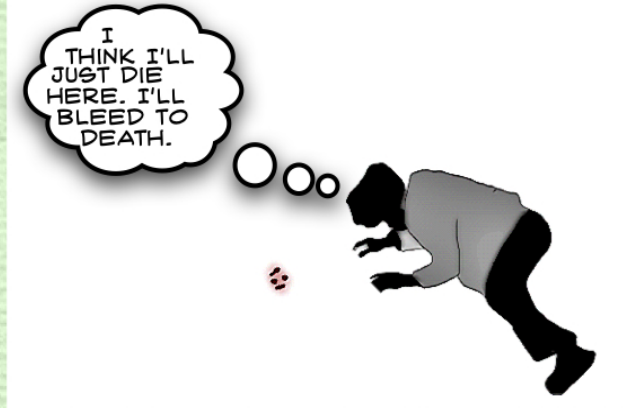
FREDERICK COME BACK. I WILL BEAT THE GUTS OUT OF YOU COME BACK OR ELSE....

I DON'T CARE WHAT HE'S GONNA DO TO ME. I CAN'T TURN BACK



FREDERICK COULD NO LONGER RUN OR WALK. HE FALLS YET AGAIN, BLOOD OOZING DOWN FROM HIS WOUNDED HEAD. HE LAYS DOWN AND RESTS...

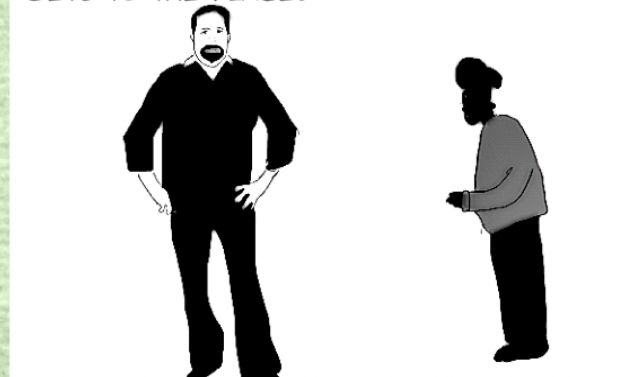
I THINK I'LL JUST DIE HERE. I'LL BLEED TO DEATH.



I'VE GOT TO GET UP AND GET MYSELF IN PLACE. I HAVE TO GET THERE.



FREDERICK CONTINUES HIS JOURNEY. HIS EVERY SINGLE STEP DRAGS HIM DOWN, LIKE AS IF HEAVY CHAINS WERE TIED TO HIS FEET. HE MAKES HIS WAY THROUGH THE BRAMBLES AND FINALLY GETS TO THE PLACE.



WHY ARE YOU HERE FREDERICK?

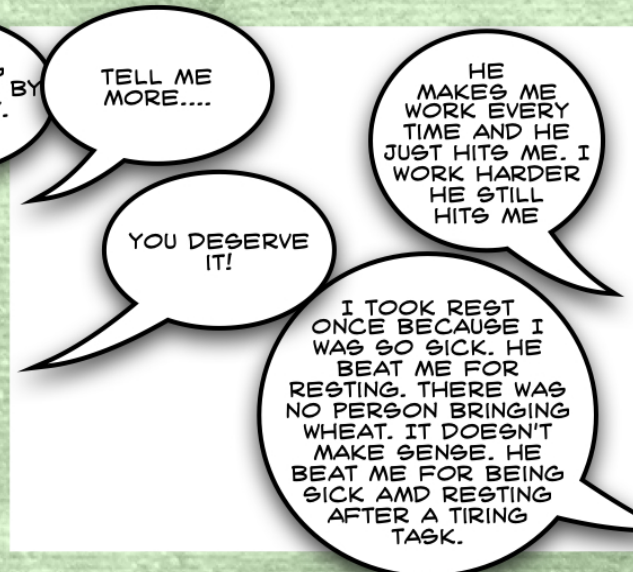
MASTER, I'M BEING MISTREATED BY MR. COVEY.

TELL ME MORE....

HE MAKES ME WORK EVERY TIME AND HE JUST HITS ME. I WORK HARDER HE STILL HITS ME

YOU DESERVE IT!

I TOOK REST ONCE BECAUSE I WAS SO SICK. HE BEAT ME FOR RESTING. THERE WAS NO PERSON BRINGING WHEAT. IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. HE BEAT ME FOR BEING SICK AND RESTING AFTER A TIRING TASK.



WHAT DO YOU WANT?

LET ME GET A NEW HOME. A SAFE HOME. IF I STAY WITH MR. COVEY AGAIN, I WOULD DIE INSTEAD. HE WOULD KILL ME.

GROW UP KID, HE WON'T KILL YA! HAHHA THAT'S RIDICULOUS.

I WON'T GET MUCH MONEY IF I TAKE YOU OFF FROM YOU.

LISTEN, HE'S A GOOD GUY AND HE WON'T KILL YOU. YOU MUST GO BACK OKAY? DON'T BACK AGAIN WITH MORE STORIES. OR ELSE I'LL HAVE YOU FOR MYSELF

HAVING GOT NOTHING TO EAT, NO SUPPER, NO BREAKFAST, FREDERICK HEADS OFF TO COVEY'S IN THE AM.



AS FREDERICK APPROACHES NEAR COREY'S PLACE, MR. COVEY STANDS THERE, BY HIS FIELDS. HOLDING A WHIP, HE RUNS TOWARDS FREDERICK. FREDERICK RUNS AWAY FROM HIM ONTO THE CORNFIELDS.

COME OUT FREDERICK. DON'T GET ME STARTED. YOU KNOW YOU HAVE TO COME BACK FOR SUPPER?

HMM. I CAN EITHER STAY AND STARVE OR I CAN GO BACK AND GET WHIPPED



WHAT'S UP FREDERICK?

HEY SANDY. I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU.

SANDY IS ANOTHER SLAVE WHO IS MARRIED TO A FREE WOMAN. FREDERICK CONSIDERS HIM AS HIS GREAT FRIEND AND AN ADVISOR.

I RAN AWAY FROM MR. COVEY. HE BEATS ME ALL THE TIME. I CAN NO LONGER TAKE IT.

HEY, LISTEN. I'M GOING TO SEE MY WIFE. COME ON OVER AND TELL ME MORE.

THEY LEAVE TO SANDY'S HOUSE.





LISTEN
FREDERICK, YOU
SHOULD STAY WITH COVEY
ALRIGHT? I WANT YOU TO
GO BACK TO HIM BUT
BEFORE YOU LEAVE,
COME. LET'S GO TO
THE WOODS

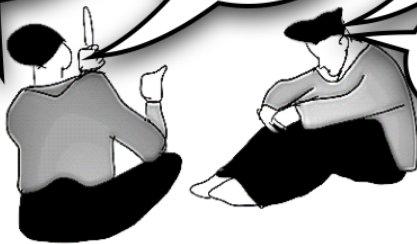


TAKE THIS
ROOT AND KEEP
IT IN YOUR RIGHT
POCKET ALL THE TIME.
NO WHITE MAN WILL EVER
BEAT YOU. I'VE BEEN
CARRYING IT FOR YEARS
AND I'VE NEVER
GOTTEN A BLOW OR
A KICK OR WHAT
SO EVER.

IT WILL
DO YOU NO
HARM. IF IT
HELPS, IT WILL
ONLY HELP.
NOTHING
MORE.

NO WAY.
THIS IS
RIDICULOUS. I'M
NOT CARRYING A
ROOT AROUND
MY POCKET.

YEA, SURE. I
WILL KEEP IT.
THANKS!



FREDERICK HEADING
BACK TO MR. COVEY'S

WHERE HAVE
YOU BEEN
FREDERICK?

IS OKAY.
GET TO
WORK



UHH....

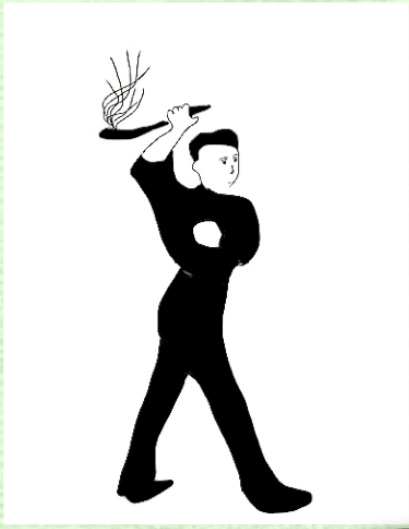
OH
WOW.
WHAT'S IN
THIS ROOT.
IT MUST BE
SOMETHING
SPECIAL.



EVERYTHING WAS GOING
WELL. FREDERICK WAS
TOLD TO RUB AND
FEED THE HORSES

HE FOLLOWED THE
ORDERS AND
COMMITTED TO HIS
TASK.

FREDERICK IS IN THE
STABLE WORKING AND
MR. COVEY COMES
IN....



FREDERICK TRIES TO RUN OUT BUT MR. COVEY GETS HOLD OF HIS FOOT.



HA. YOU CAN'T HIDE, YOU CAN'T RUN. I'M BETTER THAN YOU.



HUUUHH. WHERE IS...

AHHHHHH!
AHHH!

HUGHES!
HELP ME OUT HERE,
WOULD YOU?



HUGHES GETS A HEAVY KICK FROM FREDERICK THAT JUST KNOCKS HIM DOWN

TO BE CONTINUED...

Written Task

Learning Outcomes	Topic(s) Text(s)	Course Selection	Text type of Task	Title of Text
1) Analyse the impact of language changes 2) Show the way Mass Media use language and image to inform or persuade or entertain	Popular culture History and the evolution of language.	Part 1 and 2	Comic book	“How I came to be. An episode of Frederick Douglass’ life.” Based on Chapter X of his narrative.

Rationale.

My written task was a comic book, which was based on some parts of chapter X of Frederick Douglass’ narrative. It was written in a very informal tone and hopes to not only entertain the readers but to also allow the reader to see a change in language.

In my comic, I tried to use words or slangs such as, “oh my god, or oh my lord.” This was done in order to show the changes in words and also to show a clear comparison between Frederick’s chapter and my recreation of his chapter. I also tried to give it an old age feeling by making my comic in black and white. I really wanted to keep my reader engaged in the book, so I used Webletterer Pro BB font as it gives out an intense feel and a fast going feel. I chose to use different speech bubbles as well. The smooth edged bubbles were specifically for conversations while the sharp edged were to emphasise the intensity of a conversation. The cloud shaped bubbles was used only for thoughts or when the person was talking in their heads. In some columns there are no pictures but just words. This was because I wanted my reader to clearly focus on the conversation rather than who was involved in it. Like many other comic books, they don’t number off the speech bubbles, often making it difficult to read. I did the same to my comic for the same exact reason.

This task was focused mainly on the changes in language and media as a form of entertainment. Thus, I chose to do a comic because I thought I would best show what I learned through this medium.

FOA

Learning Outcomes	Topic (s) Text (s)	Course Selection	Type of Task	Title of text
Demonstrate an awareness of how language and meaning has shaped by culture and context	History and Evolution of Language	Part 1	Interview (Role playing)	Speeches by Frederick Douglass

Reflection

My Further Oral Commentary was based on Part 1, Language in Cultural context. My goal was to meet the learning outcome, “demonstrating an awareness of how language and meaning has shaped by culture and context.” Through my FOA, I planned on showing the change in language or how language has evolved over the course of time.

I presented my FOA in a form of an interview. I read many speeches by Frederick Douglass in order to better understand his personality as I planned on impersonating him. There was an audio bite played throughout the presentation. The audio bite was interviewing Frederick. The language used by the interviewer was modern English or slangs such as OMG! Awesome and cool. Frederick Douglass (me) answered or talked in a more exotic way. I spoke like how the people would speak back in the 1800s.

I think I was able to show the different usage of words or in other words truly meet the learning outcome. I was able to clearly show the evolution of language. I think I kept my audience engaged as well. They did laugh in certain instances and that was my intention.

I could have been a little calmer and conducted the presentation slower. I think I went through my presentation quite quickly. I could be more presentable or have more of a professional stance while presenting. I could also improve my speaking. I need to learn how to articulate better.

My goals for next time are to consider COST/AIRING a bit more. I also hope to be able to gain more confidence and present in a more professional manner. I will practice more and prepare ahead of time.