

# Read Like This, Too—Finding Central Ideas and Details in a Literary Nonfiction Text

## Read Like This - Conquer It

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Directions:

1. Read the *Twelve Years a Slave* excerpt on the following page.
2. Remember to read carefully, underline or circle unfamiliar vocabulary, and interact with the author and the text on the margins of your paper. This careful preparation will make answering questions about the text a much easier task.
3. When you are finished annotating the passage, complete the Conquer It assessment activity.

My narrative is at an end. I have no comments to make upon the subject of Slavery. Those who read this book may form their own opinions of the "peculiar institution." What it may be in other states, I do not profess to know; what it is in the region of Red River, is truly and faithfully delineated in these pages. This is no fiction, no exaggeration. If I have failed in anything, it has been in presenting to the reader too prominently, the bright side of the picture. I doubt not hundreds of free citizens have been kidnapped and sold into slavery, and are at this moment wearing out their lives on plantations in Texas and Louisiana. But I forbear. Chastened and subdued in spirit by the sufferings I have borne, and thankful to the good being through whose mercy I have been restored to happiness and liberty, I hope henceforward to lead an upright though lowly life, and rest at last in the churchyard where my father sleeps.



ARRIVAL HOME, AND FIRST MEETING WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN

- Solomon Northup, *Twelve Years a Slave*, "The Conclusion," p.321.