

What Do You Know? Myth or Reality?

Since the Underground Railroad was operated in secrecy and few records kept, many of the stories have been passed down over several generations. Sometimes it is difficult to differentiate fact from fiction. Before you start your unit on the Underground Railroad, take the Myth or Reality test. Read the statement, decide if it is true or false. Take the test again after you have completed the unit. You may be surprised at what you have learned!

Questions	True	False
1. Conductors on the Underground Railroad (UGRR) were people who assisted fugitives on their journey to freedom.		
2. Abolitionists were people who believed in the institution of slavery.		
3. The Buxton Settlement was considered to be the most successful of the settlements in Canada West for the fugitives of slavery.		
4. The term "package" on the UGRR refers to a survival kit that runaways were issued by Quakers.		
5. More fugitive slaves settled in Toronto than in Chatham Kent.		
6. All abolitionists were white Quakers.		
7. Most Black refugees who entered Canada were assisted by the UGRR.		
8. The Provincial Freeman was a Toronto newspaper that wrote editorials against slavery.		
9. Slave catchers were not allowed to enter into Canada.		
10. Sir John Graves Simcoe the first Lieutenant Governor of Canada supported the institution of slavery.		
11. The Buxton Settlement site was chosen because it was directly under the North Star.		
12. Prejudice against the fugitives was as bad in Canada as in the United States, but in Canada the law protected them.		
13. The U.S. Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 protected the rights of free Blacks.		
14. Fugitives came to the Buxton Settlement because of the superior education that was offered there.		
15. All churches were "stations" of refuge for slaves on the run.		
16. A lantern or candle in a window could be a signal to runaways that the house was a "safe house".		
17. The "drinking gourd" was a nickname for the North Star.		
18. Many songs sung by slaves held references to freedom hidden in their lyrics.		
19. All Blacks in Canada in the 1800's came on the UGRR.		
20. Children never escaped alone on the UGRR.		