







Running away

1 An African-American heroine → WB P. 36

-  a. **Get ready** Learn about life on a plantation in the USA.
-  b. Look at the webpage and say who Harriet Tubman was.  
-  c. Listen and find information about her life.
-  d. **Your turn!** The Tubman Museum is welcoming a slave's descendant for a conference: imagine questions you could ask him / her.





1851 - WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE

**For Stealing Slaves
Harriet "Moses" Tubman
\$40,000 Reward**

Negro slave about 5 feet tall, scars on her neck and a deep scar on her forehead. Plain woman, short stature, upper front teeth missing. Looks harmless but she carries a pistol.



OUR MISSION

The Tubman Museum fulfills its mission through exhibitions and special events.
Take a virtual tour and learn all about Harriet Tubman.

Click here 

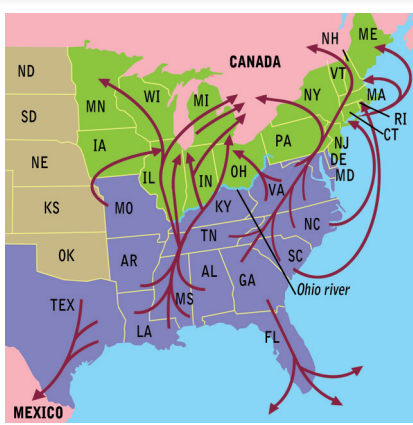




2 A secret network → WB P. 37

-  e. **Get ready** Learn about northern and southern states.
- f. Read and say what the Underground Railroad was. Explain what runaways had to do.
-  g. **Your turn!** Imagine you were a conductor on the Underground Railroad. Say what you had to do to help a fugitive.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

escape from slavery



In the 19th century, slaves used a secret network to run away to northern states or Canada. This network was called "The Underground Railroad". It was not a real railroad: slaves didn't have to take a train. It was a network of routes organized by people who helped slaves to escape.

The fugitives were called "passengers" and safe houses "stations". Slaves were helped by "conductors" who guided them to a station that was marked by a candle at the window. Runaways could only travel at night and so they had to find their way by looking at the stars and constellations. Fugitives had to disguise themselves and to use coded messages and songs. They couldn't speak to anyone, they had to be very careful: one word heard by the wrong person could put an end to their journey.

3 An ingenious escape → W B P. 38

- h. Get ready** Learn words about personality.
- i.** Read and say why and how Henry Brown escaped.
- j. Your turn!** Imagine Henry had to go back to save his family. Write a few lines about his journey.

His friend James came into the factory¹. He whispered to Henry, "your wife and children were just sold at the slave market." "No!" cried Henry. He couldn't move, he couldn't think, he couldn't work.

And Henry thought about being free. But how? As he lifted a crate² he knew the answer. He asked James and Dr. Smith to help him. Dr. Smith was a white man who thought slavery was wrong. Dr. Smith wrote on the box: To: William H. Johnson, Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Henry climbed into the box. "Ready!", he said. James nailed down the lid³. Dr. Smith and James drove to the station.

Hours passed. Henry was lifted up and thrown again. He heard waves splashing. This must be the steamboat headed for Washington D.C. Henry was still upside down. But he was afraid to move. Someone might hear him⁴.

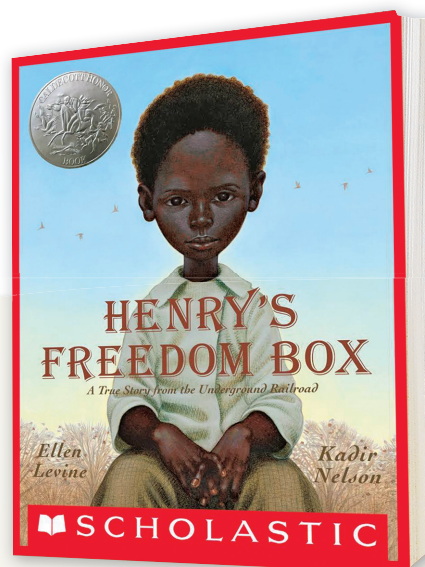
Henry was carried off the steamboat and placed in a railroad car, this time head up.

He fell asleep to the rattling song of the train wheels.

He woke up to loud knocking. "Henry, are you all right in there?"

"All right!" he answered. Four men smiled at him. "Welcome to Philadelphia!"

Ellen LEVINE, *Henry's Freedom Box*, 2007



Henry's Freedom Box, a play by Christina Ham, 2010

1. usine 2. caisse 3. clou a le couvercle 4. quelqu'un pourrait l'entendre

Words



- a **journey** /'dʒɜːni/ : un voyage
- a **reward** /rɪ'wɔːd/ : une récompense
- a **runaway**, a **fugitive** /'fjuːdʒɪtv/ : un(e) fugitif(ve)
- **slavery** : l'esclavage
- catch : attraper
- follow : suivre
- hide : se cacher
- **escape** /ɪs'keɪp/ : s'enfuir
- whip : fouetter

Use your words → P. 61

Use your grammar → P. 60

- Le passif au passé
- Could / couldn't
- Had to

Practise and write → W B P. 39