

Name:

Date:

**Directions Part 1:** Read “The Battle with Mr. Covey” by Frederick Douglass. Then, select three of the questions New Historicists use and answer them using “The Battle with Mr. Covey.” If you need more information to understand the context of “The Battle with Mr. Covey” please do a little research and include a Works Cited page.

Questions to select from

- What language/characters/events present in the work reflect the current events of the author’s day?
- Are there words in the text that have changed their meaning from the time of the writing?
- How are such events interpreted and presented?
- How are events’ interpretation and presentation a product of the culture of the author?
- Does the work’s presentation support or condemn the event?
- Can it be seen to do both?
- How does this portrayal criticize the leading political figures or movements of the day?
- How does the literary text function as part of a continuum with other historical/cultural texts from the same period...?
- How does the work consider traditionally marginalized populations?

1. Question:

Answer:

2. Question:

Answer:

3. Question:

Answer:

**Part 2 Directions:** Use the answers to the questions you selected to help you develop a response that a New Historic critic might give about “The Battle with Mr. Covey.” Make sure your response is written formally, has complete sentences, and contains no spelling or grammar errors.