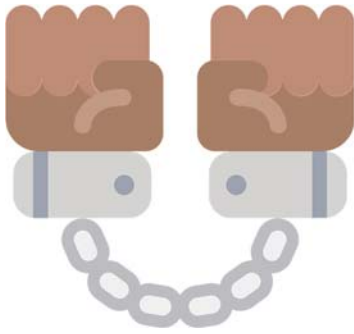


Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Untangling Beloved's Story

**Instructions:** The novel *Beloved* is not told in a straight line. Toni Morrison shifts back and forth in time, weaving together past and present. Your job is to **reconstruct the story's timeline in chronological order**.

Below are ten key events from the novel, written out of sequence. Number them **1-10** in the order they actually occurred in the world of the story (not the order Morrison tells them). After completing the list, write a short paragraph explaining how this non-linear structure affects your reading experience.

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Paul D arrives at 124 Bluestone Road and reconnects with Sethe.
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Schoolteacher arrives at Sweet Home and changes the conditions of slavery.
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Baby Suggs begins preaching in the Clearing after her freedom is purchased.
- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Beloved disappears after a final confrontation with the community's women.
- \_\_\_\_\_ E. Sethe escapes from Sweet Home and makes her way to Baby Suggs's house.
- \_\_\_\_\_ F. Sethe kills her infant daughter to prevent her from being taken back into slavery.
- \_\_\_\_\_ G. Denver is born along the river with help from a white girl named Amy Denver.
- \_\_\_\_\_ H. Beloved first appears at 124 Bluestone Road.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I. Halle sees Sethe being assaulted with milk stolen from her body.
- \_\_\_\_\_ J. The community helps Denver after she asks for support.

Write a short reflection: How does putting the events back in order change your understanding of *Beloved* compared to reading it as Morrison presents it?

---

---

---

---