

Name _____

The Douglass Gazette Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

Guide your students to follow this structure:

- **Headline** - Catchy, bold, and news-style.
- **Lead sentence** - A strong opening that summarizes the event.
- **Body paragraphs** - 2-3 paragraphs giving details, eyewitness perspective, and context.
- **Closing statement** - Suggest why the event matters in the larger fight for freedom.

Note: Student work will vary; these samples model style and accuracy.

Scene: The Fight with Covey

Headline: *Local Slave Resists "Slave-Breaker" in Defiant Battle*

Lead Sentence: In a shocking confrontation yesterday, an enslaved man stood up to the notorious overseer Edward Covey, changing the balance of power on a Maryland farm.

Body Paragraphs:

Frederick Douglass, a young man in his late teens, had endured months of brutal treatment under Covey, who had a reputation for "breaking" the spirit of enslaved workers. When Covey attempted another whipping, Douglass fought back in a physical struggle that lasted nearly two hours.

Eyewitnesses say Covey could not subdue Douglass, who refused to yield. Though no master officially acknowledged the incident, word spread quickly that Covey's control was shaken.

Closing Statement: The event marks a turning point in Douglass's life and symbolizes resistance against a system built on violence and fear.