

Freedom Remembered Answer Key

Essay Tips you can give to students:

- Begin with a strong **hook**: a quote, question, or striking image about freedom.
- Use **historical references** (like 1865, the Emancipation Proclamation, or General Order No. 3) to show depth.
- Connect history to **current issues or movements** promoting equality.
- End with a **call to action**: how can young people honor Juneteenth today?

An effective essay should:

- Explain that Juneteenth marks the final enforcement of emancipation in Texas, symbolizing the end of slavery in the U.S.
- Emphasize its modern relevance as a reminder of freedom, resilience, and the continued pursuit of equality.
- Include examples of present-day celebrations or movements that connect to Juneteenth's message.
- Conclude with a personal or civic reflection on why remembering Juneteenth strengthens unity and awareness.

Teacher's Guide:

- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Grades 9-10: Provide a writing organizer (intro-body-conclusion) to help structure ideas.
 - Grades 11-12: Encourage use of direct quotes from historical documents for evidence.
 - Allow oral brainstorming or peer sharing before writing to build confidence.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Start with a brief video or image gallery showing modern Juneteenth celebrations.
 - Play a short excerpt from a Frederick Douglass or Opal Lee speech for inspiration.
 - Use a "Freedom Wall" where students post meaningful words (e.g., hope, justice, courage) before writing.