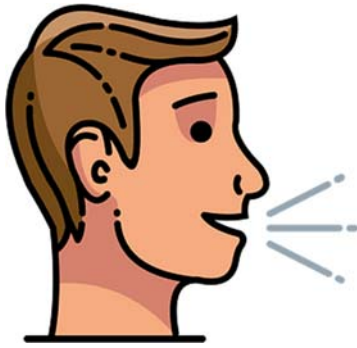


Name _____



New Voices, Old Words

Directions: Read the Reconstruction-era political excerpt below. Rewrite it using modern language while keeping its tone and message. Then, explain how the speaker wanted the nation to move forward after the Civil War.

Adapted from a Reconstruction speech by Frederick Douglass:

"We ask only for justice. We ask only for fair play and integrity. Our good will is not purchased by oppression, nor can our loyalty be secured by cruelty. The path to national peace lies in the protection of equal rights."

Rewrite in Modern Language: Rewrite the excerpt below so that a teenager today would fully understand the meaning and tone:

What Was the Goal?: What does the speaker want the country to do during Reconstruction?

Tone Check: Circle or write 2-3 words that describe the speaker's tone.

Hopeful Determined Angry Demanding Fearful Confident

Explain your choice:
