

Name: ANSWER KEY

Date: _____ Class: _____

ACTIVITY: Selections & Questions John Jasper White

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Unto the Honorable General Assembly
of the State of North Carolina
The Petition of Sam^l Jasper Executor
of Caleb White deceased
Humbly Sheweth
That his Brother Caleb White by his Last
Will and Testament liberated his Negroe Slave
Jack upon condition that the said Jack would
pay the sum of #100 to his Executors
Sheweth that the services performed by the
Said Jack were such as did great honor
to the name of humanity and highly merited
much greater reward than that of Emancipa-
tion- A Service no less than that of
taking prisoners the whole crew of a British
Priateer & releasing his Master and a
number of others who were at that time cap-
tured by the said British cruiser together
with making the said British Privateer
a Capture To The United States
Sheweth that the said Negroe Jack
At Annapolis in the year of
received the thanks of the Congress of the
United States then seting for the said service
& a recommendation to his master to liberate
him Therefore; Sheweth that the said Jack
hath paid the sum of #100 as described
by the Will of your Petitioners Testator
And Your Petitioner prays that the
said Jack may be liberated ^ by law and
your Petitioner as in duty bound shall
ever pray

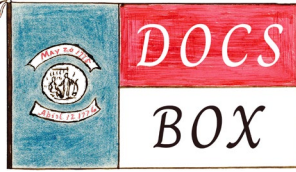
Saml Jasper Extor of
Caleb White

*What 2 justifications for Jack's
emancipation did Samuel Jasper's
petition point out?*

He paid 100 pounds for his own emancipation,
according to the terms of Caleb White's will. 2.
He also rescued the *Polly* crew from British
privateers and received thanks from Congress.

*How does the mention of congressional
recognition help Jack's case?*

It provides legitimacy and shows the high honor
he received from the federal government, which
would influence the state government to also
recognize him.



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Indian Town 17 Nov^r 1792

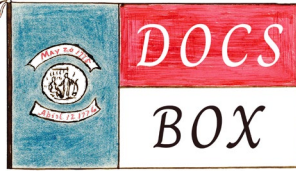
Sir

I Promised you an ac^t [account] of our Ingagem^t at sea which Happened as Follows---

On board Schooner Polly Com^d by Caleb White & Navigated by three Men one of which was Jack a Negro, the Property of Henry White Part owner of s^d [said] Schooner Loaded with Corn Pease and Pork [bound to the West Indies] & saild from Currituck 14 Feb^y 1780 on 16th Inst. Was boarded and Taken by a British Privateer Call^d Fame of N. York Com^d by John Adkinson [tear] 34^m Lang^th 43^w we were Immediately Confined in Irons and allowanced one Gill of raw Pease and one Gill of water per day on the 19th we attempted to retake the Schooner by first getting Jack out of Irons but was discover^d before we c^d [could] Prosecute our design by some of the Crew. They cons^t [consisted] of a Prize Master & 4 hands. They Imedeately confined us below Deck and Lasht the feet of Jack to a Stan- tion on the quarter deck his hands being Irond Where he Lay 24 hours in a gale of wind or Snow Storm every sea Making a breach over us. however he survived that afterward was Loosed and Permeted below with us---

List the hardships Jack endured in February 1780:

His feet were lashed and his hands ironed, and he endured snowstorms on deck. He showed loyalty to his shipmates, one of whom was the son of his enslaver. He also fought the British privateers courageously and fiercely with limited weapons and suffered an injury. Then, after that incident, he was a good worker and trusted associate of Samuel Jasper. He also paid his enslaver the amount they had agreed upon for his freedom. More than a decade later Jasper worked through legal channels to grant his emancipation.



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the reason of his usage was because he Never w[^]d
Consent to Join them and attempting to get out
of Irons. However we Ordered him to [Term]
himself a Enemy to America this had the effect
we wish[^]d. they Loosed him from his Irons and
he soon became their Right hand Man with
Promise of freedom and Many Rewards after
arriving at York but whenever he got an oppor-
-tunity of Speaking to us continued to Tell us
he was ready to assist us any Moment in the
recapture on the 22 the gale abating they
were ab[^]v Making sail My Brother [^]who was the
Master Got out of Irons gave the watch word and
Engaged the Prize Master – Jack Imediately
Contrary to their Expectations Engaged two of
them which he soon worsted having No
Weapon but a Marlin Spike In the Interim
I got out of Irons having Procured a Cutlash
but was Much beaten before I got out after
Bloodshed on both sides we Conq[^]rd them—
which we [???] and Coursed in to Anapolis
& delivered to Congress tell by the wounds
& [fresh] Jack receiv[^]d he Never walk[^]d a Step
for five weeks—after we returned home his
Master abused him somewhat Jack Apply[^]d to us for
redress before which
My Brother Bought him and in his Last
Will Sold s[^]d Jack his freedom [by] his Paying
His Estate #100 the said fellow behaves himself
well. Honest and Industrious is Very
Manerly to all and has Comanded a [Schooner]
For me five years. Is Intrusted by M[^]r
Daughity with Many Hundred Pound every
Year –Time Fails
Adieu
Your friend
Sam Jasper

What did Jack's actions suggest about his character?

Answers will vary by student. Examples include words like loyal, brave, courageous, strong, honest, trustworthy, and industrious.

What does the story tell us about skills Jack had?

He was a skilled speaker who could convince people, and he was skilled with a weapon. After the battle, he commanded a schooner (ship).

What did Jack sacrifice to assist in this way?

His freedom, as he could have escaped his enslavement instead of helping the crew.

What happened to Jack after the heroic event?

He was abused by his enslaver and had to pay for his freedom.