

**GIMNASIO LOS CAOBOS**

**ENGLISH FOURTH TERM**

**READING AND WRITING WORKSHOP**

**2010-2011**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

**1. Answer in a separate piece of paper (Not printed).**

**2. Hand-in the first day of school.**

**3. It is going to be graded for the IV term**

**4. Individual work**

**READING Achievement 1 -Builds up comprehensive reading skills.**

**13.1. Understands new vocabulary in a variety of written texts and defines it in his/her words. 9.3. Identifies and analyzes elements of literature (persuasion).**

**AIN'T I A WOMAN?**

**by Sojourner Truth  
Delivered 1851 at the Women's Convention in Akron, Ohio**

Well, children, where there is so much racket there must be something out of kilter. I think that 'twixt the negroes of the South and the women at the North, all talking about rights, the white men will be in a fix pretty soon. But what's all this here talking about?

That man over there says that women need to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place! And ain't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man - when I could get it - and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman?

Then they talk about this thing in the head; what's this they call it? [member of audience whispers, "intellect"] That's it, honey. What's that got to do with women's rights or negroes' rights? If my cup won't hold but a pint, and yours holds a quart, wouldn't you be mean not to let me have my little half measure full?

Then that little man in black there, he says women can't have as much rights as men, 'cause Christ wasn't a woman! Where did your Christ come from? Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Man had nothing to do with Him.

If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back , and get it right side up again! And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them.

Obliged to you for hearing me, and now old Sojourner ain't got nothing more to say.

**SECTION 1. READING COMPREHENSION**

**Answer to the following questions**

1. Who is the “little man in black” that Truth addresses in the speech? What point has the man made?
2. What does Truth want her audience to understand?
3. What is Sojourner Truth´s attitude toward being a woman? Support your answer with evidence from the text.
4. What have you learned about Sojourner Truth´s life from this speech? (Draw conclusions)
5. Do you think “Ain´t I a woman?” is of interest purely as a historical document, or does it have something to say to readers today? Explain your opinion.(Evaluate)
6. Identify Sojourner Truth presents counterarguments in which she opposes the claims of the “man over there”. What are his claims, and what logical appeals does she present to counter them?
7. A writer´s Diction, or word choice, helps shape our reactions to a work. Describe the diction used in this speech. How does it contribute to Sojourner Truth´s argument and you response to it?

**SECTION 2. LITERATURE**

**Complete the following chart with ideas and details from the speech.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **MAIN IDEAS** | **SUPPORTING DETAILS** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **MY SUMMARY:** | |

**WRITING Achievement 4- Develops writing skills through formal and informal texts.**

**12.2. Develops the prewriting process of a persuasive essay.**

**Write a short speech in which you present an argument. Like Truth, use the Diction to appeal to your audience´s emotions. (100 words)**

If you need help address your questions to my e-mail:

tatiana.sanchez@gimnasioloscaobos.com

GOOD LUCK !