

## *Excerpt from “To Be A Slave” by Julius Lester*

“The slave trader’s job was to sell to the highest bidder, not to see that each slave was sold to a kind master.

The slave trader would come to a town with his slaves chained together...

After advertising...the ‘merchandise’ he had to offer, he would hold an auction.

Before the formal bidding began, the prospective buyers...would get an opportunity to examine the ‘merchandise’.”

Your task is to place yourself at this auction in either the role of the slave being sold or the buyer there to fill a particular need on his plantation. You will write a first person account of your day at the auction block. Think about the following questions as you complete this task:

1. Who are you? (name, age, a little background information)
2. How did you come to be there on this particular day?
3. What were some sights, sounds, and events of the day?
4. What were your thoughts and emotions at different times?
5. How did the day conclude for you?
6. What do you picture as you look ahead?

There is no length requirement for your response. However, you must address the questions listed above. Check for correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling in your response. You may handwrite your response, or type your response in Google Docs, and share it with me: [kmanning@richland2.org](mailto:kmanning@richland2.org). This assignment is worth 24 points (4 points for each of the 6 questions).

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_