

Up From Slavery

Booker T. Washington

Why does sweeping one room tell the teacher something an ordinary entrance exam would not?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	The sweeping examination
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter III
START	The adjoining recitation-room needs sweeping. Take the broom and sweep it.
END	I guess you will do to enter this institution.
PASSAGE ID	sec-ufs-01

THE MOVE

Read a practical task as an alternative admissions test

WHY THIS PASSAGE

The sweeping task tests qualities a written entrance exam might miss: care, persistence, standards, attention to detail, and willingness to work. Washington understands that the room is functioning as an examination even though it does not look academic.

MARK

Number the steps Washington takes while cleaning the room. Circle the places where he goes beyond merely making it look acceptable. Star the inspection detail that reveals what the teacher is actually testing.

NOTICE

- What abilities does sweeping reveal that a conventional test might not?
- Why does Washington clean the room repeatedly instead of stopping once it appears clean?
- What does the teacher learn about how he approaches work?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does sweeping one room tell the teacher something an ordinary entrance exam would not? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does sweeping one room tell the teacher something an ordinary entrance exam would not? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Sweeping tests care, persistence, standards, attention to detail, and willingness to repeat work until it meets a demanding inspection. Those qualities are not measured by a conventional academic exam.
EVIDENCE	Use Washington's repeated cleaning, the teacher's detailed inspection, and the admission decision that follows.
WATCH FOR	Do not say sweeping proves intelligence in general. Explain what specific habits of work the practical test reveals.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

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END ANCHOR	I guess you will do to enter this institution.

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OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Number the steps Washington takes while cleaning the room. Circle the places where he goes beyond merely making it look acceptable. Star the inspection detail that reveals what the teacher is actually testing.
2. NOTICE - What abilities does sweeping reveal that a conventional test might not? Why does Washington clean the room repeatedly instead of stopping once it appears clean? What does the teacher learn about how he approaches work?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does sweeping one room tell the teacher something an ordinary entrance exam would not?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.