



Name _____

Class Period _____

Date _____

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Using the information you gather on the web site, answer the following questions about the unit.

1. Editorials can often be used by historians to learn what people in a community were thinking about an important topic of the day. What do the articles shown in the Abolition section tell us about the personal opinions involved in this issue?

Based on the number and content of the articles in this section, how important do you think the issue of slavery was to the community at the time?

What other sources might also have told us what people were thinking about Eliza Winston's situation?

2. Artifacts like the handcuffs on this site can tell us much about an event or a person we are studying. Although the handcuffs in this photograph are actually from Williamsburg, Virginia, and were never used on Eliza Winston, they can still tell us many things about slavery during the 1800s. What can an artifact like this tell us about a topic we are studying?

What artifacts might historians find in 100 years that would tell them about our lives today?

What are the shortcomings of using only artifacts in your research?

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3. The media played a large role in the Eliza Winston case. People wrote letters and articles on both sides of the issue. Do newspaper accounts impact how we view a story or an issue in our current events today?

What is helpful to know about a newspaper while we are reading an article about an issue?

Do you think newspapers sometimes offer opinions in articles that are labeled "news"?

How can you tell fact from opinion in a newspaper article?

4. As you learned in the Eliza Winston case, the interpretation of what a law says and how it is applied is not always the same in all cases. Name some other examples in history or in your community in which a law was not followed "to the letter." What reactions do you think people at the time had to that event and to how the law was or was not applied?

What events happening now are similar?

What sources might you use to determine if a law is or is not being applied properly?
