

Antebellum Religion and Reform Roundtable

We will be having a discussion in which you will play the role of a prominent religious or reform leader from the antebellum period. You will need to stay in character to ask and answer questions as your person might have done.

Grading Rubric

	Possible Points	Your Points
I. Autobiographical Introduction – including a nameplate that is illustrative of your person’s history and concerns	15	
II. Your answers to questions 1 – 3 about the challenges facing the country and your recommendations	30	
III. Appropriate questions for other characters	10	
IV. Analysis of the primary document	25	
Active, perceptive, and accurate participation in the roundtable reflecting your person’s character	20	
TOTAL	100	

You are responsible for doing the following tasks. All work that you hand in must be typed and ready to turn in on the assigned day.

1. Research your person and learn as much as possible about that person’s life and thoughts. Prepare a short “autobiographical” introduction for your person explaining why this person is notable and what contributions he or she has made to American history, and a Name plate for your desk. Try to find several sources on your person so that you get a fuller picture.

2. Research your assigned person from the list below and type out answers to the following questions as your person would have. Your answers must be typed. We will be having a discussion where you will play the role of your person and answer these questions. You will be responsible for telling the class about yourself and expressing your person’s opinions about the issues that are discussed.

1. What do you consider the biggest challenge(s) facing Americans today? Why do you believe the way that you do?

2. What do you think individuals can do to improve the character and lives of ordinary Americans?

3. What have you done in your life to try to achieve this goal? Have you been successful? What obstacles and criticisms have you faced as you fought to make the country a better place?

3. Write down one question specifically tailored for the person in () next to your character's name and one other person of your choosing from the list below. You will need to read about these (2) people in order to write a question appropriate for that person. Keep the character of your own assigned person in mind and write questions that would be appropriate for your role.

4. Go to my website and read the primary document about your person (all docs are on the Antebellum Roundtable Page). It is either by your person or about your person or the issue your person was closely associated with.

1. Write a short summary of the main points of the document, including an analysis of what we can learn about your person and his or her cause from reading this document.

2. Write three critical-thinking questions that you would use if you were teaching this document in a history class. Then give a bullet-point answer to each of your questions.

For the purposes of our discussion, the year is 1848 and anyone who is deceased has miraculously been resurrected.

Reformists and Religious Leaders

Please make a name plate for your person. Feel free to search out pictures on the Internet so we can see what "you" looked like. Dressing up or in character will receive extra credit.

Abolitionists

William Lloyd Garrison (Turner)
David Walker (Adams)
Frederick Douglass (Walker)
Lewis Tappan (Garrison)
Sojourner Truth (Turner)
Nat Turner (Douglass)
John Quincy Adams (Garrison)

Other Reformers

Dorothea Dix (Barnum)
Horace Mann (Morse)
Neal S. Dow (John Sullivan)
John L. Sullivan (Mann)
P.T. Barnum (Grimke)
Samuel Morse (Mann)
Lyman Beecher (Finney)

Transcendentalists

Margaret Fuller (Thoreau)
Ralph Waldo Emerson (Channing)
Henry David Thoreau (Emerson)
Edgar Allan Poe (Walt Whitman)
Walt Whitman (Edgar Allan Poe)

Religious Leaders and Communalists

Charles G. Finney (Thoreau)
Brigham Young (L. Beecher)
Mother Ann Lee Stanley (Allen)
John Humphrey Noyes (Lee)
William Ellery Channing (Allen)
Richard Allen (Noyes)

Women's Rights

Sarah Grimke (Stanton)
Elizabeth Cady Stanton (C. Beecher)
Catherine Beecher (S. Grimke)
Susan B. Anthony (C. Beecher)
Angela Grimke (Dix)
Harriet Beecher Stowe (Stone)
Lucy Stone (Stowe)