
Who Makes History?

Instructions: To what extent did Harriet Tubman make history? Were the events of the time influenced by her, by groups of people working collectively like the Underground Railroad, or by social forces?

Create a triangle and label one point The Individual, the second point Cooperative groups and the third point Mainstream Social Forces.

Study the events listed here. Were they the results of Tubman's work as an individual, the effort of groups, or social forces? Each team member in turn should choose an event, say where it should go in the triangle and give a reason. For example, if you thought that Tubman's Escape was a combination of her own efforts and the help of the Underground Railroad, you would place the number 2 between those two points on the triangle.

Events:

1. The sale of Tubman's sisters to the South
2. Tubman's escape
3. The escape of slaves to Canada
4. The escape of the group of slaves led by Tubman when she followed God's directions
6. The abolition of slavery in Canada
7. The Union victory at Combahee River
8. The victory of the North in the US civil war