***A NOTE TO THE EDUCATOR:***

*After your students have completed Part Two of “No Turning Back,” distribute the excerpt from an imagined letter from Verna to her grandmother. Review the directions with your students, and ask them to complete the text using the terms they studied as well as the glossary. Here is the order in which the vocabulary terms should be inserted into the blanks within Verna’s letter:*

*Freedom Riders*

*CORE*

*petition*

*Greenwood High*

*Brown v. Board of Ed.*

*Citizens Council*

*Ross Barnett*

*Parchman*

*NAACP*

*Medgar Evers*

*human rights*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_                                     Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Activity:  Imagine that Verna writes a letter to her grandmother in Sunflower County after her experiences in Part Two. Use the words and definitions on the flashcards, as well as the glossary to fill in the missing words and terms in the letter below.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *CORE**Parchman**NAACP**Ross Barnett* | *human rights**Freedom Riders**citizens council**Brown v. Board of Ed.* | *Greenwood High**Medgar Evers**petition* |

Dear Grandma,

So much has happened since I last wrote!  I received a letter from Robert in Chicago, and he told me about the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, another non-violent way of protesting being organized by groups like **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. I told Addie that I wished the protests came through Greenwood, and she said her parents would have a fit if they did. She told me about how Uncle Curtis started a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to open up **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** after the Supreme Court decided **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, but the white-owned bank retaliated by calling in his car loan and forcing him to lose his own taxi business. He has been cautious ever since.

Last week, Aunt Mabel brought me to the Chalmers’ house to help serve dinner to their guests. It was so uncomfortable. I think the Chalmers and their guests were part of the local **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. They played a record with a song on it cheering for our segregationist governor **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, and I overheard them talking about how when the Freedom Riders arrived in Mississippi they would be arrested and sent to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. Mrs. Chalmers asked me if I wanted to attend Greenwood High with the white students, and I wasn’t sure what to say. What would you have said?

The next day at church, Miss Annette, the choir director, pulled me aside and told me that the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** is setting up a youth branch in Greenwood, and she invited me to come to a meeting on Wednesday. It filled me with hope to meet the field secretary **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, and hear him talk about how freedom and equality are **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** that everyone deserves. I think I want to get involved, but I’m afraid of how Uncle Curtis and Aunt Mabel will respond. What do you think?

Love,

Verna

**Part Two Vocabulary Activity - ANSWER KEY**

Dear Grandma,

So much has happened since I last wrote!  I received a letter from Robert in Chicago, and he told me about the [**Freedom Riders**], another non-violent way of protesting being organized by groups like [**CORE**]. I told Addie that I wished the protests came through Greenwood, and she said her parents would have a fit if they did. She told me about how Uncle Curtis started a [**petition**] to open up [**Greenwood High**] after the Supreme Court decided [**Brown v. Board of Ed.**], but the white-owned bank retaliated by calling in his car loan and forcing him to lose his own taxi business. He has been cautious ever since.

Last week, Aunt Mabel brought me to the Chalmers’ house to help serve dinner to their guests. It was so uncomfortable. I think the Chalmers and their guests were part of the local [**Citizens Council**]. They played a record with a song on it cheering for our segregationist governor [**Ross Barnett**], and I overheard them talking about how when the Freedom Riders arrived in Mississippi they would be arrested and sent to [**Parchman**]. Mrs. Chalmers asked me if I wanted to attend Greenwood High with the white students, and I wasn’t sure what to say. What would you have said?

The next day at church, Miss Annette, the choir director, pulled me aside and told me that the [**NAACP**] is setting up a youth branch in Greenwood, and she invited me to come to a meeting on Wednesday. It filled me with hope to meet the field secretary [**Medgar Evers**], and hear him talk about how freedom and equality are [**human rights**] that everyone deserves. I think I want to get involved, but I’m afraid of how Uncle Curtis and Aunt Mabel will respond. What do you think?

Love,

Verna