

No Turning Back Part 2

Exit Ticket Answer Key

Exit Questions

1. What does Robert say he hopes President Kennedy will do?
 - a) Give a major speech about civil rights on national television
 - b) Push for new legislation to provide voting rights to African Americans
 - c) Remove the local sheriff from office
 - d) Not just fight for freedom around the world, but at home in the United States, too**

Answer explanation: In his letter to Verna, Robert shares his thoughts about the newly inaugurated President Kennedy. After quoting Kennedy talking about the responsibility of the United States to defend freedom worldwide, Robert writes, “He wants to fight for freedom around the world ... I want to see if he’s going to start here at home.”

2. What news story made the Chalmers’ dinner guests angry?
 - a) The Soviet Union was winning the space race
 - b) A multiracial group of activists, known as Freedom Riders, were riding buses throughout the South to challenge segregation laws**
 - c) President Kennedy was assassinated
 - d) There was a hunger strike at the Mississippi State Penitentiary

Answer explanation: Throughout Part 2, Verna hears news of the Freedom Riders as they are attacked in Birmingham, arrested in Jackson, and sent to Parchman State Penitentiary. This is also a topic of interest to the guests at the Chalmers’ dinner party. Aunt Mabel says that she hasn’t seen the Chalmers so upset about anything since Brown v. Board of Education was decided by the Supreme Court in 1954.

3. What does Mrs. Chalmers ask Verna while she is serving guests at the dinner party?
 - a) If she is on the debating team
 - b) If she would like to go to Greenwood High School, the white high school**
 - c) What she thinks about the Freedom Riders
 - d) If she knows where her “Roll With Ross” record is

Answer explanation: After discussing the Freedom Riders, the Chalmers and their guests continue to discuss the Civil Rights Movement with disdain. Testing her belief that not even African Americans want integration, Mrs. Chalmers puts Verna on the spot and asks her if she would like to attend Greenwood High School with the city’s white students. Before she can respond, Aunt Mabel interrupts and deflects the question.

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4. Where does Miss Annetta invite Verna to go in order to meet more people fighting for civil rights in Greenwood?
- a) A girl scouts meeting
 - b) A NAACP meeting**
 - c) The roller rink
 - d) A church fundraiser

Answer explanation: After the choir performs at church on Sunday morning, Miss Annetta approaches Verna to ask if they can meet at Polly's Salon the next morning. There, Miss Annetta tells Verna that the NAACP is trying to start a youth chapter in Greenwood, and she invites Verna to an NAACP meeting to meet Medgar Evers and learn more.

5. Why does Uncle Curtis fire Miss Annetta as the youth Choir director?
- a) The church could no longer afford to have a youth choir
 - b) She told Addie and Verna about how he had started a petition to integrate Greenwood High School several years ago
 - c) He thinks her NAACP work is putting the church and its members in danger**
 - d) He does not think she is not doing enough to support the Civil Rights Movement

Answer explanation: Uncle Curtis found out that Miss Annetta was not only active in the NAACP but also recruiting Verna and other choir members to join. Years before, Uncle Curtis, himself, had started a petition to integrate Greenwood High School, but a local bank repossessed his car in retaliation, threatening his livelihood as a taxi driver. Therefore, he thinks there is too much risk for the church and his family for them to be involved with the NAACP and other civil rights organizations.