

## No Turning Back Part 3 & Epilogue

### Exit Ticket Answer Key

#### Exit Questions

1. What does Uncle Curtis ask Verna when she tells him that she has started volunteering for SNCC?
  - a) If his church can host citizenship classes
  - b) If SNCC is more important to her than her family
  - c) If she is willing to risk her future for the cause of civil rights**
  - d) If she can teach him some freedom songs

**Answer explanation:** Despite his previous opposition to her becoming involved with civil rights activism, Uncle Curtis sees how important this cause is to Verna. He reminds her that she came to Greenwood so that she would have a better future, and asks her if she is willing to risk that future to work with SNCC. Verna says yes.

2. What happens at the first citizenship class Verna attends?
  - a) Verna meets SNCC Field Secretary Sam Block
  - b) They begin and end the meeting singing freedom songs
  - c) Verna helps other people at the meeting read and understand the voter registration form
  - d) All of the above**

**Answer explanation:** Verna meets Sam Block at the class, and the class sings freedom songs (which Block thinks are the movement's "organizational glue"). During the meeting, Verna is paired up with another attendee (who varies depending on earlier decisions) to help them understand the voter registration form. While some states required citizens to pass a separate literacy test as a prerequisite for voter registration, in Mississippi, the registration form itself was the test. It was designed to intimidate and discourage Black people with poor reading and writing skills, and white authorities treated Black voters' answers as grounds to reject their registration, while permitting white voters with similarly low reading and writing ability to register. As a high school student, Verna has more literacy skills than many of the other people at the meeting and is able to help them gain confidence and skill in reading and completing the form.

3. How does the Citizens' Council respond to SNCC's efforts to register Black voters in Greenwood and the surrounding county?
  - a) They hold a rally against SNCC, led by Governor Barnett
  - b) They recruit for SNCC's citizenship classes to help make sure all of Greenwood's citizens are able to vote
  - c) They convince the county to cut off the food supply for many Black sharecroppers**

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- d) They organizing a boycott of Black-owned businesses

**Answer explanation:** In a letter, Verna tells Robert that SNCC is getting a few more people to try to register to vote every week. She explains that, in retaliation, the Citizens' Council has convinced the county to cut off its food surplus program, which many Black citizens rely on to have enough to eat. This prompts Aunt Mabel to quit working for the Chalmers, because she is angry that they would support depriving families of food.

4. Why does Robert come to Greenwood?

- a) To replace Miss Annetta as the choir director
- b) To convince Verna that it is too dangerous to work with SNCC
- c) To show off his new car and brag about how much better life is in Chicago
- d) To deliver food and clothing donations from Chicago, and to work with SNCC**

**Answer explanation:** Robert surprises Verna by knocking at her door. He explains that in Chicago he has been working with an organization called Chicago Area Friends of SNCC to raise donations of food and clothing to send to the residents of Greenwood impacted by food shortage caused by the Citizens' Council. Robert says that he will stay in Greenwood and work for SNCC at least until the summer.

5. What happened when Sam Block was arrested for talking to national newspapers about the fire at the SNCC office?

- a) The SNCC office was shut down
- b) Greenwood churches stopped distributing food
- c) Even more Black Greenwood Residents tried to register to vote**
- d) Uncle Curtis forbade Verna from working with SNCC

**Answer explanation:** In a letter to her grandma, Verna explains that after Sam's arrest, a whole crowd marched to the courthouse. Then Greenwood had its first mass meeting, where everyone in the room, including Uncle Curtis and Aunt Mabel, volunteered to try to register to vote.