

Student Work Example

Directions: Answer the essential question for the day in two paragraphs: *What is the relationship between Black resistance and white fear?*

In paragraph one, students should refer to historical examples of enslaved people's rebellion. In paragraph two, they should refer to a more recent example of white fear.

The history of the relationship between Black resistance and white fear can be traced back to the time period of slavery because every time the slaves had a rebellion the white people took something away from their freedom. For example in the Stono rebellion white people made it known that enslaved people can't move around in groups of seven and they cannot leave the plantation without the slave owner's permission or without giving the slaves a ticket. Another example of white fear being displayed would be their reaction to the Haitian Revolution. For example in Document 1, a letter from Charles Pinckney to George Washington in 1791, he wrote, "I am afraid if not checked in time it is a flame which will extend to all of the neighboring states." This shows white people's fear because if George Washington doesn't send help Charles Pinckney believed the enslaved people will start taking over the states that neighbor South Carolina.

White fear of Black bodies is still present in recent years. For example, consider what happened to Trayvon Martin. He was a 17 year old from Sanford, Florida. He got shot and killed because a white man suspected him of having a gun because he was walking with his hood on. The white man called the cops and he told the cops he thought the African American man had a gun and the cops told him to back off and not approach him. The white man with the name George Zimmerman who was 28 and a Hispanic American approached him anyway then suddenly he shot and killed Trayvon Martin. Trayvon was born February 5th, 1995 and his death date was February 26th, 2012. He attended the schools Dr. Michael M.Krop senior high and Miami Carol City senior high school. This specific reason shows that the racism or fear that white people have towards Black people hasn't changed that much since the time of enslaved people.