

Please select one of the following writing options:

- A. **a SPEECH delivered by a politician or celebrity:** Imagine a figure like Gloria Steinem, Kanye West, or John Lewis giving a public speech to a live audience. Invent the circumstances: an awards show, a funeral for a victim, perhaps of a police shooting, a rally, a march, a graduation ceremony, a political setting or event like a candidate's rally, a protest, a fictional speech (President Trump?) or something else. Write the speech that this person might give, using many of Coates's words. It could be a planned speech—like the audience came to hear the person talk—or it could be unplanned, spontaneous speech where the audience was gathered for some other purpose. It could be angry. It could also be a hostile audience. Weave together Coates's lines and quotes from the book and which you wrote in your Response Journals. Structure it like a speech. Before you start writing the speech itself, be sure to fully detail what the circumstance of the speech are, where and why it's set, who's in the audience, etc. Shouts from the audience, in support and / or opposition, are encouraged!

For Option A: aim for about 70% of your writing being direct quotes from the book and which you wrote in your Response Journal, and 40% your own "filler" necessary to weave together the lines from Coates. Yeah, that's right—110%!

- B. **a "found" protest POEM:** Write a "protest poem," in the "found poem" format. Research both of those terms—they are traditions and patterns. Learn what they are and then use them for this assignment. Read some protest poems and read some found poems. Be sure to do these steps. You won't be disappointed that you did. In your poem / piece, focus on creating and sustaining an effective voice, either Coates's or a fictionalized one based on / related to his.

For Option B: aim for about 60% of your writing being direct quotes from the book and which you wrote in your Response Journal, and 40% your own "filler" necessary to weave together the lines from Coates. Consider using short, clipped pieces of many, many quotes, and not long passages of Coates's quotes.

- C. **a 2-person back-and-forth DIALOGUE:** Write a 2-speaker dialogue or conversation. For one of the speakers, use Coates quotes from the book and which you wrote in your Response Journals. For the other speaker, make up a personality. Invent the circumstances of the dialogue. It could be a journalist interviewing Coates. It could be a political commentator debating Coates on a cable television news program. It could be someone else. There are many online videos of Coates being interviewed, and those might help you get ideas for your writing piece.

For Option C: aim for about 40% of your writing being direct quotes from the book and which you wrote in your Response Journals, 50% your invented speech for the other speaker, and 10% 'transitional' language that you have to add in order to make the dialogue flow well. Make your speech about 3-4 pages, double spaced.

Whichever option you choose, take liberties where and when you need to in order to make it sound consistent and realistic. Please type your piece. Make your piece have emotion and feeling. These issues are not passive issues. Please be sure to identify Coates's words with page-number citations (you may also highlight, bold, underline, italicize, etc., though these are not required; page-number citations are).