

## Assessing with Primary Sources

- Grade Level:** Middle School (6-8)
- Standard(s) or Objectives:** CCSS.RI.6.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.  
CCSS.RI.6.6 - Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.

### Morris Library Special collection Resources:



Galesburg Republican. 1871. Galesburg Republican Sep. 23, 1871  
[text] Struggle and Progress-

African Americans in Knox County, Illinois (Knox College)

GR23Sep1871p4

[http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm/ref/collection/knx\\_strug/id/332](http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm/ref/collection/knx_strug/id/332)

Specific page used:

[http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm/ref/collection/knx\\_strug/id/332](http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm/ref/collection/knx_strug/id/332)

### Topic Background:

The Colored Conventions Movement was a series of national, regional, and state conventions held irregularly during the decades preceding and following the American Civil War. The delegates who attended these conventions consisted of both free and fugitive African American community and religious leaders, businessmen, politicians, writers, publishers, and abolitionists. The minutes from these conventions show that Antebellum African-Americans sought justice beyond the emancipation of their enslaved countrymen: they also organized to discuss issues concerning labor, healthcare, temperance and educational equality.

Excerpted from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colored\\_Conventions\\_Movement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colored_Conventions_Movement)

### Source Used:

The source used for this assessment includes a notice in a Galesburg, Illinois newspaper about two conventions of colored men. The writer of this notice believes that there is no need for racial conventions and organizations because they mark colored as a peculiar race.

### Multiple Choice Answer Key:

Question 1 – B

Question 2 – A

**Galesburg Republican Sep. 23, 1871**

THE colored men of the United States hold two conventions of national importance this fall. The first is called a national convention and was held in St. Louis yesterday. The second is called a southern convention, although it is thought that nearly all the states will be represented; it will meet in Columbia, South Carolina, on the 18th of October. We trust that colored men will soon feel so well assured in their civil and political rights that there will be no necessity for race conventions or organizations. The colored people are themselves most interested in dropping all organizations, which mark them as a peculiar race.

**Questions:**

1. Based on the above primary source, which statement best states the author's view of race conventions or organizations? (CCSS.RI6.6)
  - A. The author supports and encourages race conventions and organizations.
  - B. The author believes that there is no need for racial conventions and organizations.
  - C. The author believes that race conventions and organizations are important to assure colored men civil and political rights.
  - D. Race conventions and organization should represent all U.S. states.
2. What is the meaning of the word **peculiar** as it used in the above text? (CCSS.RI6.4)
  - A. Odd
  - B. Familiar
  - C. Ordinary
  - D. Violent