APUSH

Mr. Bedar

**James McPherson, “Who Freed the Slave?”**

1. How does McPherson present the “slaves freed themselves” argument?

1. Why does McPherson believe Lincoln was most responsible for freeing the slaves? Explain his argument as it relates to:
2. The Election of 1860 and secession
3. Lincoln’s actions during 1861-62
4. Lincoln’s sense of timing
5. Lincoln’s actions during the 1864 presidential campaign

e. The role of the war in ending slavery

1. What do you think of McPherson’s argument? Explain.

**Ira Berlin, “Emancipation and Its Meaning in American Life”**

1. Explain the debate between different types of historians that Berlin describes on the first page.
2. Why does Berlin think that the Emancipation Proclamation was an ineffective document?
3. What evidence does Berlin present that slaves should get credit for ending slavery?
4. What evidence does Berlin present to argue that Lincoln deserves less credit than McPherson gives him?
5. Ultimately, what is he arguing about who freed the slaves?
6. What do you think of Berlin’s argument? Explain.