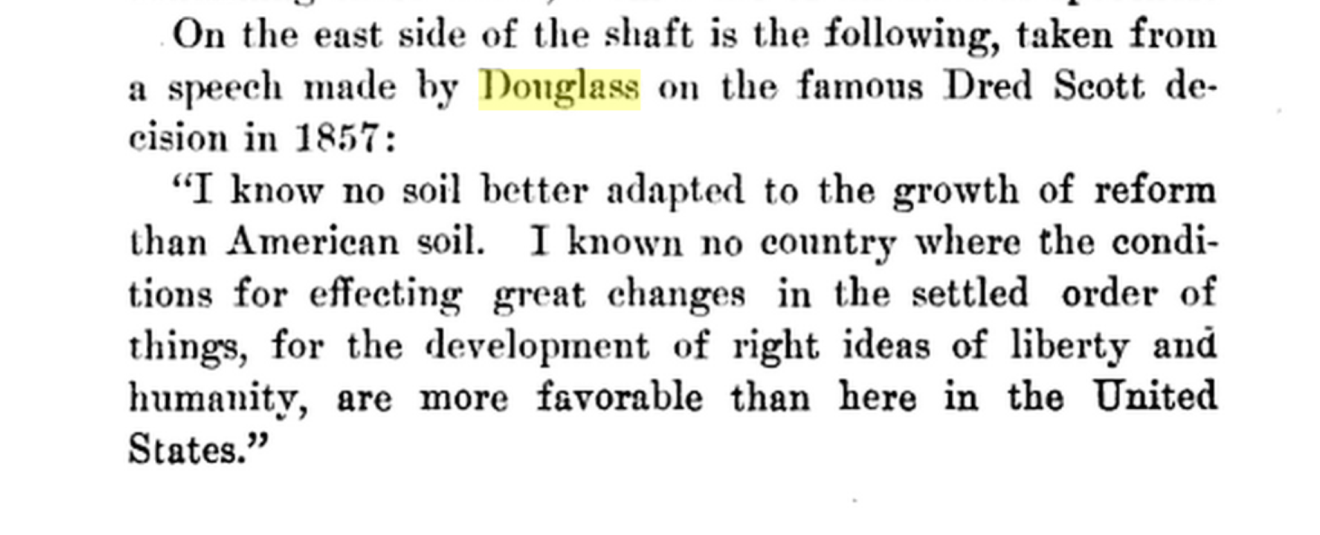
**Genius of Freedom: The Douglass Monument**

**Worksheet B: Inscription Analysis Answer Key**

The Douglass Monument is inscribed on three sides (North, West and East). Work in your group to analyze your assigned inscription from the Exhibit based on the following questions:

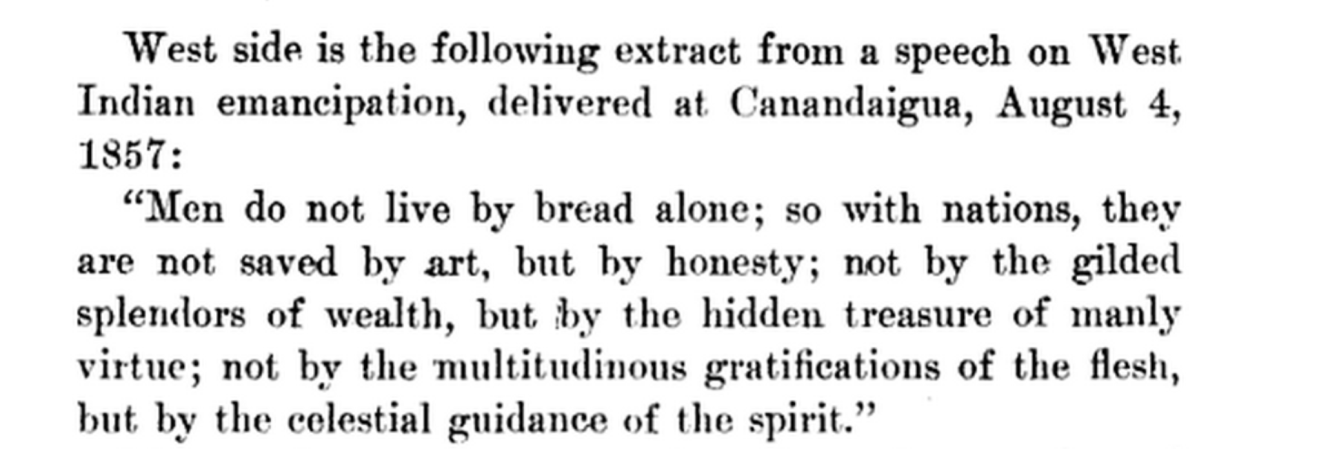
* Paraphrase the inscription.
* Imagine that you are Sidney W. Edwards, the statue’s sculptor. You are at the dedication ceremony for the statue and are asked by the press why you selected that particular quotation from Douglass, above all others, to include on the statue. How would you respond?

East Side Group:



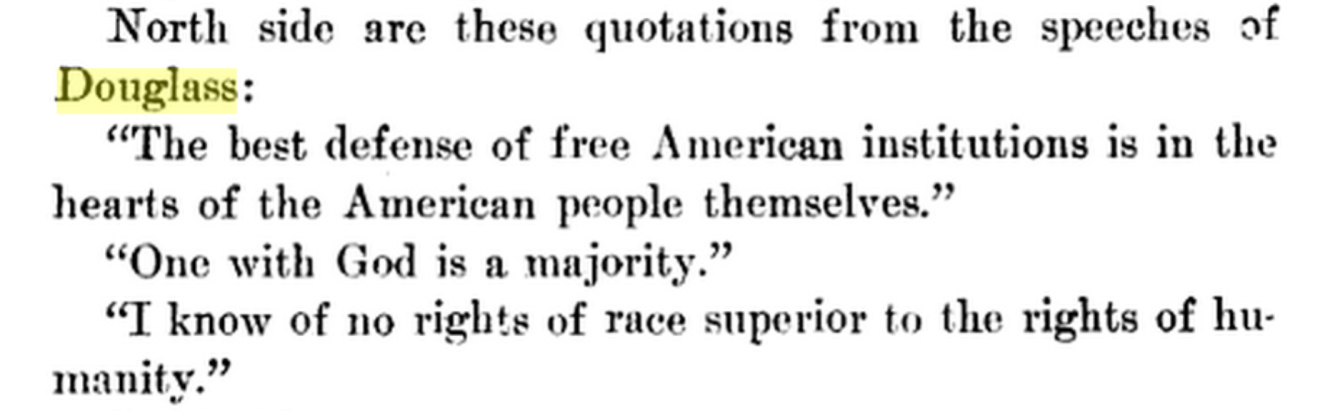
* *Prompt 1: America is exceptional as a country able to remedy past errors (“growth of reform”) and develop in support of basic human rights such as liberty and humanity.*
* *Prompt 2: The Dred Scott decision was a “black mark” in American history, in which slavery was supported by the highest court of the land. Ironically, this decision galvanized the abolitionists to respond with greater force, unifying and strengthening the Republican Party. As sculptor, I not only wanted to acknowledge Douglass’ comments on this decision, but also to capture his optimism and hope for the ultimate American response.*

West Side Group:



* *Prompt 1: Both practical and spiritual/artistic motivations are necessary to explain humanity’s growth. Honesty, virtue and spiritual guidance are essential human qualities.*
* *Prompt 2: As sculptor, I wanted to capture Douglass’ thoughts on the abolition of slavery (“West Indian emancipation”) in a British colony well before slavery was abolished in the United States. I wanted capture Douglass’ focus on the attributes of honesty, virtue and spirit that he believed guided the British in that momentous decision, and highlight the need for those same qualities needed for American emancipation.*

North Side Group:



* *Prompt 1: There are basic human rights, so basic that they are clear to all men and to God.*
* *Prompt 2: As sculptor, I wanted to emphasize the basic human right of freedom that Douglass advocated. Douglass was religious and believed in God’s righteousness, hence his statement that if even only one person can see God’s view on basic human rights, he/she has the power of a majority.*