Frederick Douglass and Text Elements – Problem and Solution

Name _____

Problem-solution is a common text structure format. Below are two examples of problems in the life of Frederick Douglass, and two examples of solutions in his life. Use the Frederick Douglass biography from another activity in this packet, or, on mrnussbaum.com or mrn365.com for all of the necessary information.

Problem – Although Frederick escaped from the chains of slavery, he was not officially a "free" man.
Solution:

Problem -
Solution – He joined the American Anti-slavery society and became a prominent writer and speaker for the abolitionist movement.

Problem – Slaves were kept illiterate so they would not question their place in society or wish for a better life
Solution –

Problem –
Solution – Douglass continued to fight for slave rights after the Emancipation Proclamation.

Answers:

Problem – Although Frederick escaped from the chains of slavery, he was not officially a "free" man.
Solution: Frederick embarked on speaking tours in England and Ireland, where the money was raised to pay his "master" and officially make him a free man.

Problem - Frederick wanted to find ways to speak out against slavery
Solution – He joined the American Anti-slavery society and became a prominent writer and speaker for the abolitionist movement.

Problem – Slaves were kept illiterate so they would not question their place in society or wish for a better life
Solution – As a young man, Frederick taught over 40 slaves to read and write using the New Testament.

Problem – Even after the Emancipation Proclamation, many slaves were not free and others would likely still not enjoy the same rights as White people.
Solution – Douglass continued to fight for slave rights after the Emancipation Proclamation.