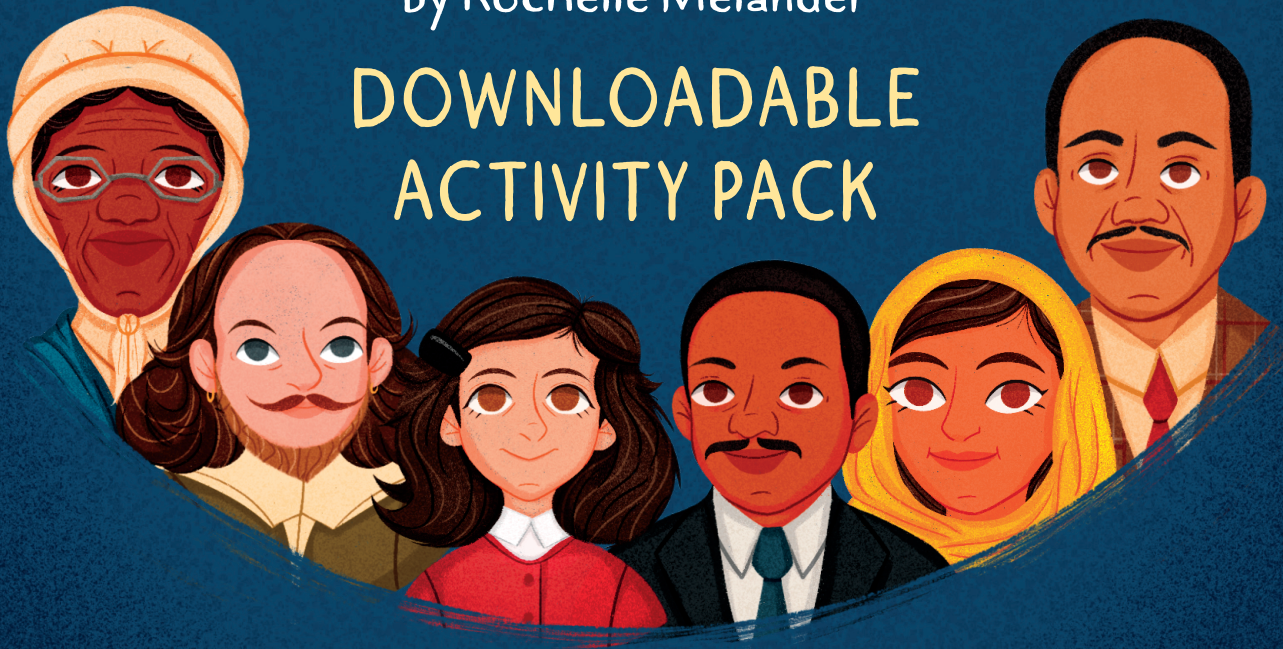




MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD

by Rochelle Melander

DOWNLOADABLE
ACTIVITY PACK



FOR KIDS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS

beaming  books
an imprint of 1517 Media

The Writer's Words

Draw a line between the description and the name of the writer.



1. This person wrote the very first novel.

Ada Lovelace

2. This young woman became the first Black woman and the first female enslaved person to publish a book of poems.

Florence Nightingale

3. This woman introduced the coxcomb, a modified version of the pie chart.

Ida B. Wells

4. When this priest got angry about the church's practices, he wrote and posted his argument on church doors.

James Baldwin

5. This woman wrote the first computer algorithm as part of a note on an article she translated.

Martin Luther

6. This man was a teenaged preacher and avid reader who later wrote a novel based on his own life.

Murasaki Shikibu

7. This journalist wrote an expose of a psychiatric hospital after spending ten days living there undercover.

Nellie Bly

8. This young woman wrote and performed a rap song to protest child marriage.

Patsy Mink

9. This woman wrote a law that makes it possible for both girls and boys to have access to sports at school.

Phillis Wheatley

10. This woman wrote a pamphlet to end lynching.

Sonita Alizadeh



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A Mighty Writer

Harriet Ann Jacobs, Abolitionist and Reformer (1831-1897)

Write to Claim: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl



When it comes to changing history, sometimes you have to tell your stories to the people least likely to embrace them. Harriet Ann Jacobs was born enslaved and wrote her book, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, to appeal to white women in the North. Through her writing, she taught readers how those who held people as property took advantage of their power over enslaved people, abusing them in multiple ways.

After publishing her book, Jacobs founded a school for Black Americans. She told the story no one else could tell—her own. Thanks to Jacobs, we have a distinct and detailed record of what it was like to be an enslaved person.



Write Now: If you were to tell your story, what would you include? What names do you answer to (sister, son, athlete, artist), what groups do you belong to, and who do you love? Taking this information, write a narrative of your life, focusing on 3-5 key incidents that have shaped your identity. Or write a story that reveals something about you that others might now know.

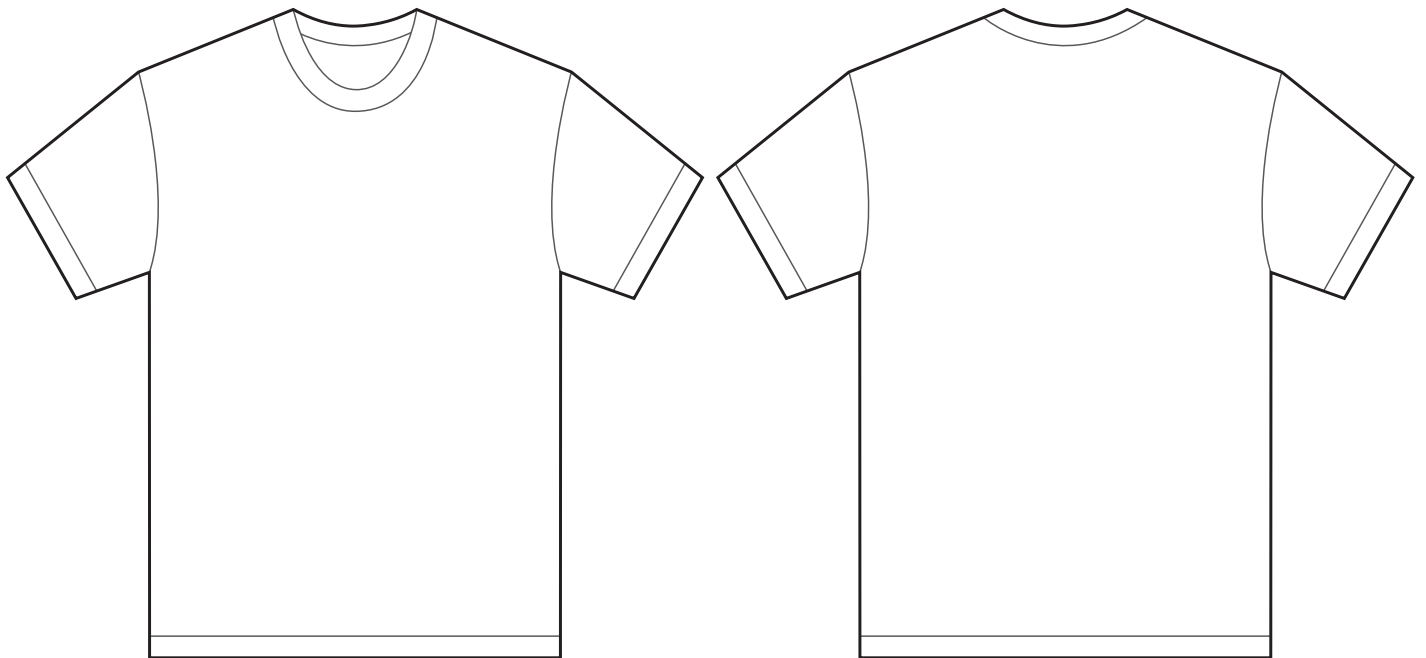


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Write to Create



The company, Life is Good® has built its brand on creating t-shirts that sport their philosophy, “Life is good.” Popular kids’ t-shirts have sayings like, “I’m just here for the snacks.” “My cape is in the wash!” and “The world is my school!” What image or saying reflects your life philosophy? Create a t-shirt design for it in the space below.



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Word Search



K V F S J J U U C W J K Y I S
S I N D Y R G C K S L S G V N
I X K B H E X G E F E O G X L
L A J L M V X Z I R T N C F B
F F B K E S C R I P T G F S I
T Y N A T S P T D E E P P J L
F E G I G T W J Z X R J O J L
W V L S J I N N Q X O M E P W
Q P A V M P K B F D I M M K W
A F W U K J D C O M I C F X C
P K E P I U Q P Y X Y Z I O I
O Z S K S N O V E L O C D V N
E N S Z H T A Q C I K B X N W
F N A U L V G B J M E M O I R
A K Y F B U S Q F P X W X V E

Letter

Essay

Poem

Memoir

Novel

Law

Script

Bill

Comic

Song



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Mightier Than the Sword Trivia

When you've read the book, try answering these questions.



1. Who was the British author who first wrote, "The pen is mightier than the sword?"
2. Ibn Battuta set out on a pilgrimage to Mecca when he was just 21. That trip led to a journey that lasted _____ years and included visits to _____ modern-day countries.
3. Johannes Gutenberg developed a system to reproduce books using what kind of type?
4. Most modern movies last 90-100 minutes. The first black and white movies lasted how long?
5. Wang Zhenyi set up an exhibit in her yard to and wrote an article to prove what?
6. Since 1613 and into the 19th century, the term computer referred to what?
7. When Frederick Douglass was learning to write, what three surfaces did he consider his copy-book?
8. Which writer wanted to dedicate her life to advocating for others but was terrified of public speaking?
9. What field did the novelist Zora Neale Hurston study in graduate school?
10. Who was the first Black American to earn a living as a writer and speaker?



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Anne Frank

Coloring Page



Louis Braille

Coloring Page



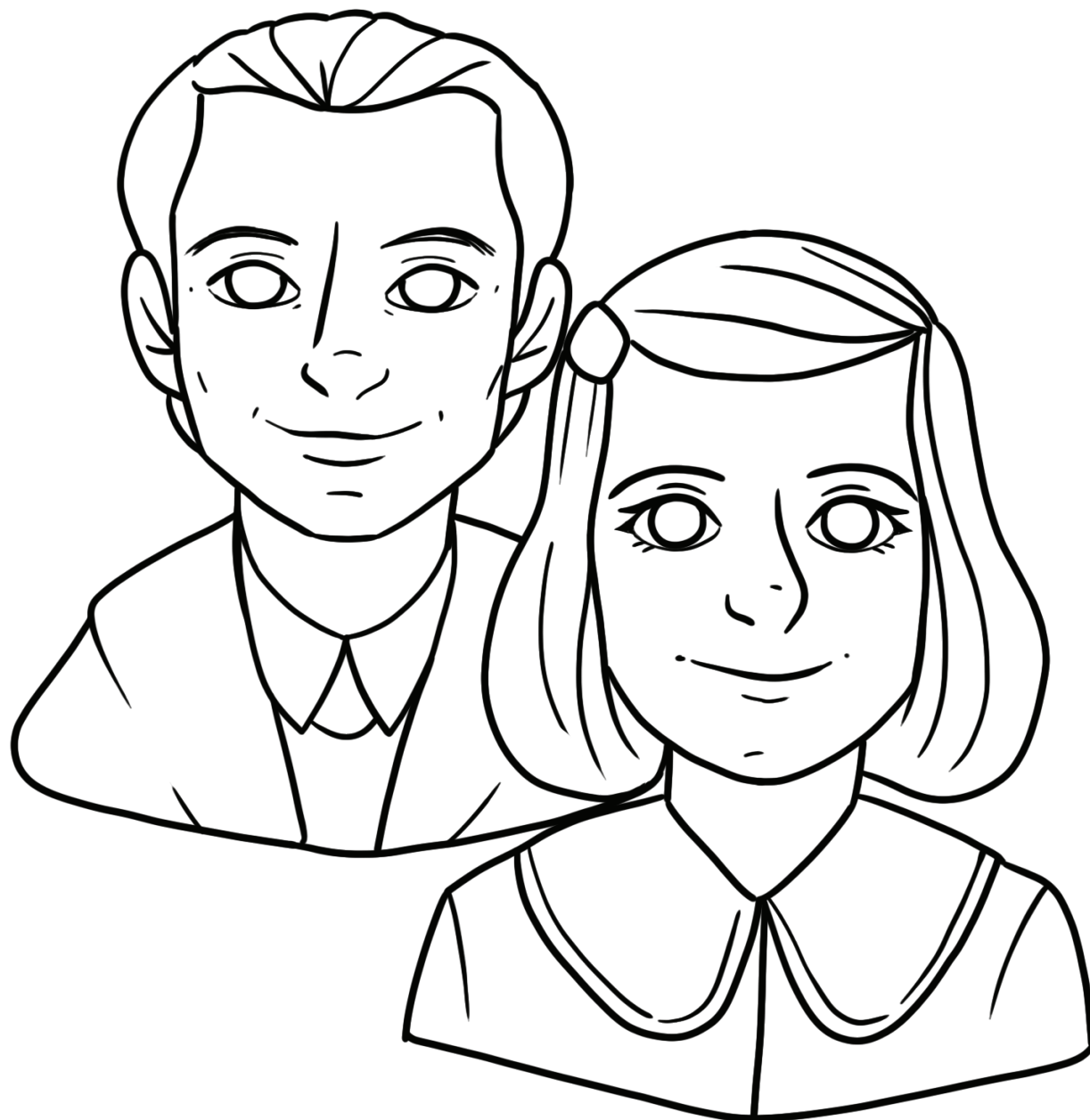
Sophie Cruz

Coloring Page



Hans and Sophie Scholl

Coloring Page



Answer Key



The Writer's Words

1. Murasaki Shikibu
2. Phillis Wheatley
3. Florence Nightingale
4. Martin Luther
5. Ada Lovelace
6. James Baldwin
7. Nellie Bly
8. Sonita Alizadeh
9. Patsy Mink
10. Ida B. Wells

Mightier Than the Sword Trivia

1. Edward Bulwyr-Lytton
2. 30 years, 44 countries
3. Movable
4. Less than a minute.
5. That eclipses are caused by the Earth and the Moon casting shadows and are not the work of an angry god.
6. Mathematicians
7. Board fence, brick wall, pavement
8. Helen Keller
9. Anthropology
10. Langston Hughes