

Warm Up/Review Questions Using First Day Covers The Thirteenth Amendment

From the First Day Cover, show the close up of the **STAMP. (Image A)**

- Ask the students to describe the purpose of the statue.
(Thomas Ball created the statue. A former slave, Archer Alexander was the model for the slave.)
- What title might be given the statue?
- Is Lincoln portrayed as holding down or lifting up the slave?
- Ask students to support their choice of title with facts about Lincoln.

Ask students to look up and read the **Thirteenth Amendment**.

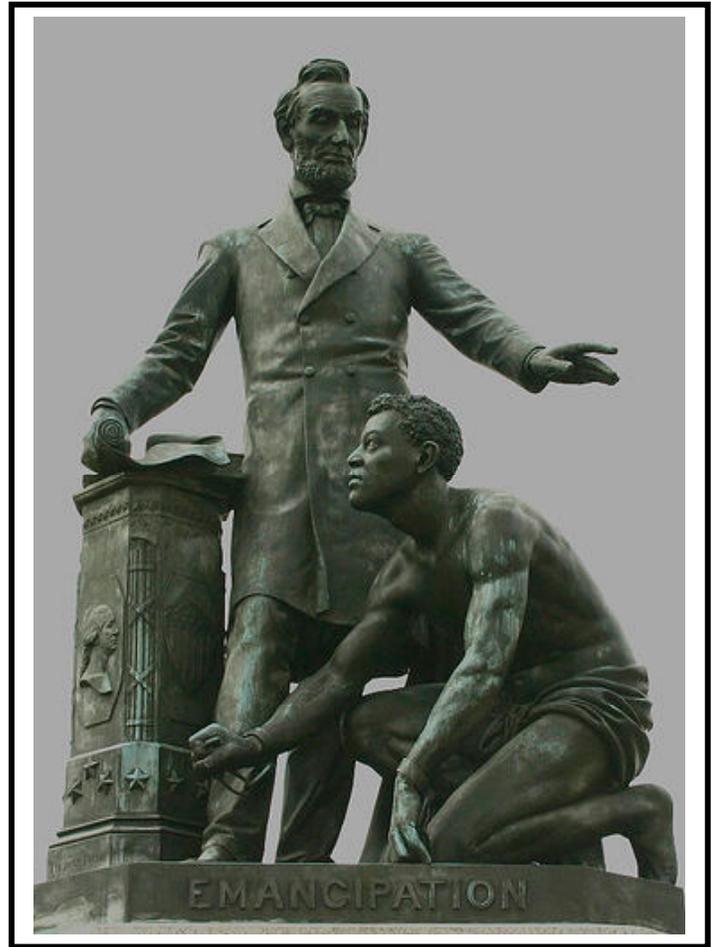
- When was it ratified? (Review the process of amending the Constitution)
- Compare the wording of the Thirteenth Amendment to the wording in the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 concerning slavery in the Northwest Territory ("There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.")
- Why did the Constitution need to be amended when President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation?

Show the entire **First Day Cover. (Image B)**

- The **POSTMARK**, 1940 supports the 75th Anniversary statement
- Identify the components of the **ARTWORK**.
(Words of the 13th Amendment, Portrait of Lincoln, Emancipation Statue slave, Quote, Border commemorating the 75th Anniversary)
- Focus on the **QUOTE (Image C)** by Lincoln in the Artwork: What is “it”?
When might he have said this? (In his youth, Lincoln had witnessed a slave auction in New Orleans. He made the statement at this time in his life. When Lincoln became an adult and an elected politician, he “hit it”: while in the Illinois legislature he protested the injustice of slavery; as a Congressman he voted for the Wilmot Proviso and worked against the Kansas-Nebraska bill; as President he approved the bill to outlaw the slave trade in Washington, D.C.; signed the bill abolishing slavery in the territories; and finally issued the Emancipation Proclamation.)
- Was the Amendment issued to the states before Lincoln’s assassination?
- Was this his “last hit”?

Conclusion: If Lincoln had lived, how might he have helped the newly freed slaves?

Image A



Freedman's Monument in Lincoln Park, Washington, D.C.

Image B

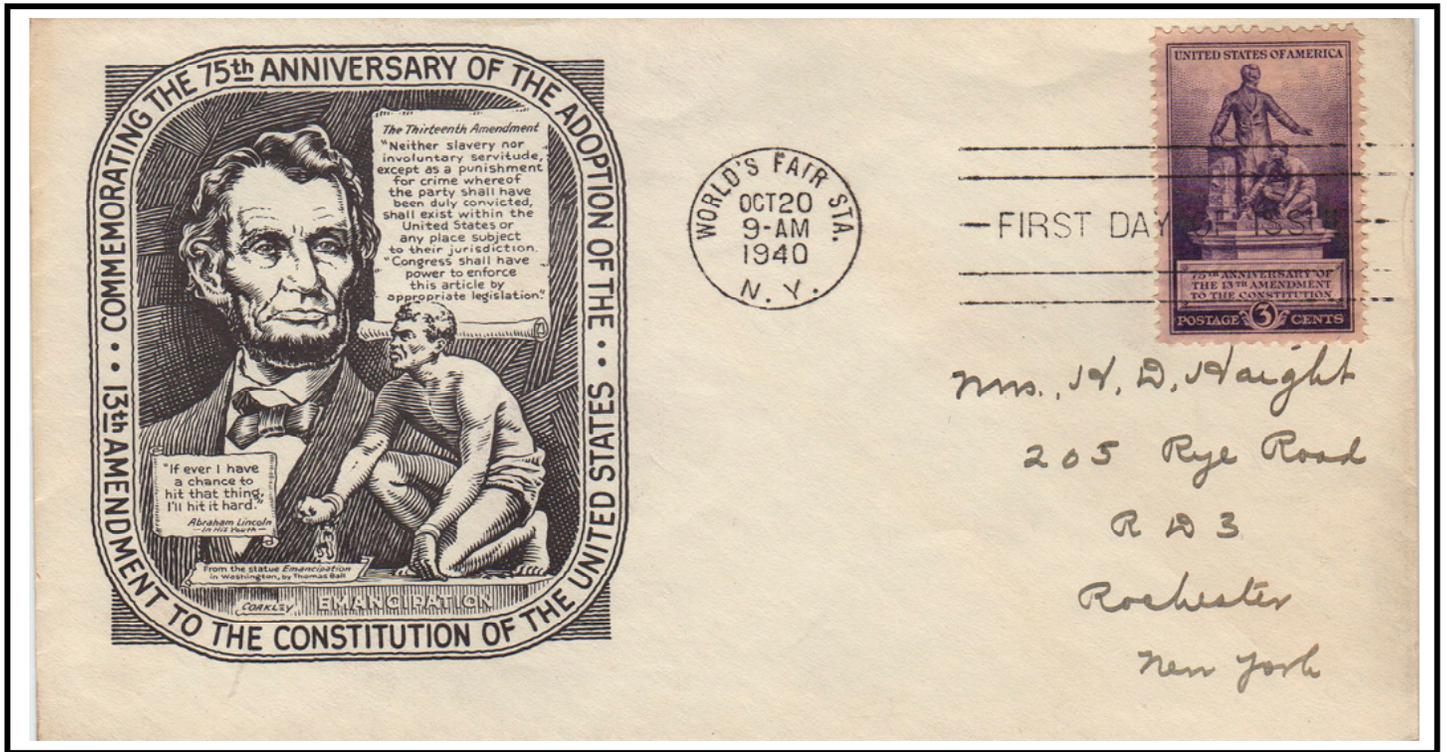


Image C

