**Lincoln High School Choir**

**“Wade In The Water”**

Read both articles “**Literary Analysis of Spirituals** : **Wade In De Water”** and **“**[**Decoding Wade In the Water**](http://blackhistory360.wordpress.com/2011/02/18/decoding-wade-in-the-water/)**”.**

After reading both articles, please answer the following 3 in TEXT paragraph response format:

1. In “Literary Analysis of Spirituals”, what is the author’s opinion on the meaning of “Wade in The Water”? How do you know this and what proof from the text shows you this?
2. In “Decoding Wade In The Water”, what is the author’s opinion on the meaning of “Wade in the Water”? How do you know, and what proof from the text shows you this?
3. Look at the actual text/lyrics of “Wade in the Water”. Do you agree with either author, or do you have your own opinion of what the song means?

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1. \*BONUS\* Many spiritual songs were used in America as guides to help slaves escape. “Wade in the Water” was used by Harriett Tubman as well as other songs to be a “code”. Another example is “Follow The Drinking Gourd”. What is another example of an “Underground Railroad” spiritual that had a hidden meaning to help slaves escape to freedom? What proof is there in the text/lyrics that lets us know this? Do the words have a double meaning and are “coded”? Do the words really mean something else like “Follow The Drinking Gourd” really means to follow the big dipper to escape to the north? Include source as well for where you found the information