12 Years a Slave Discussion Questions

1. What are your overall thoughts and reactions to the movie?
2. What is the difference between reading about slavery in the textbook and watching it in the movie?
3. Do you think high school students should watch such horrible movie scenes?
4. How does your study and understanding of slavery relate to your opinions on 'what were the causes of the civil war?'
5. How does your study and understanding of slavery relate to Thoreau's Civil Disobedience arguments? Do you agree more with Thoreau that every American had a moral duty to end slavery immediately and even go to jail to do it?
6. Do you think USA History of slavery has any effects/relation to the USA today? Explain.
7. What was Frederick Douglass's argument in his speech "What to the slave is the Fourth of July?" How does his speech relate to what you saw in the movie?
8. How does his speech relate to anything in the USA today?