A young woman wearing a big hat walked down the road carrying chickens. When she recognized a man coming toward her, she pulled a string tied to one chicken's leg. The chickens started squawking. Because of the noise, the man avoided her.

The woman was named Harriet Tubman. She was wearing a disguise. In fact, Harriet was an African American woman who was an escaped slave.
The man who avoided her was a slaveholder who had once owned her. If he had recognized her, he would have tried to capture her again.

Two hundred years ago, many African Americans were held as slaves. Most slaves were in the southern United States. Tubman helped the slaves escape to the North and on to Canada. Many other people also helped. They hid escaping slaves in houses and churches along the way. The group of people who worked to help slaves escape by using different places and secret routes was known as the Underground Railroad.

Facing danger, Harriet Tubman showed courage every day. Slaveholders knew who she was, and the police wanted to arrest her, but she kept on helping slaves to escape. Today, Harriet Tubman is remembered as a brave leader who made the world a better place.
Elizabeth Blackwell was the first woman to become a medical doctor in the United States. Elizabeth was born in England more than a hundred years ago. She moved to the U.S. when she was about eleven years old.

At first, Elizabeth was a teacher. Later, she knew she wanted to study medicine.

Elizabeth applied to many medical schools in the United States, but they
would not take her. These schools were only allowing men to study medicine. Finally, Elizabeth found a school that let her in. Some men at the school did not want a woman there, however. At first, they were not kind to her.

After two years, Elizabeth graduated at the top of her class at the medical school. She and her sister opened a clinic for women and children in New York City. They gave medical care to the poor. Dr. Blackwell also opened a medical college for women. She trained women to become doctors. She also gave speeches and wrote books.

Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell had courage and strong character. She worked hard for the things she wanted to do. Her work encouraged other women to become doctors.
Use the article "A Hero in Disguise" to answer questions 1 to 2.

1. How did Harriet Tubman help slaves in the southern United States?

Answers will vary.

2. Read this sentence from the article:

"Facing danger, Harriet Tubman showed courage every day."

What evidence from the text supports this statement?

Answers will vary.
3. The article states that "Dr. Blackwell had courage."

What evidence from the text supports the idea that Dr. Blackwell had courage?

Answers will vary.

4. Compare the behavior of Harriet Tubman with the behavior of Elizabeth Blackwell.

Answers will vary.