BTWash

Lesson 17 – Discussion/Study Questions

Read paragraph 5 of Booker T. Washington's "Atlanta Compromise Speech" from "To those of the white race who look" to "in all things essential to mutual progress."

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1.	What words and phrases in the text clarify whom Washington addresses in this paragraph?
2.	What is the impact of Washington's shift in address?
3.	What advice does Washington give "[t]o those of the white race" (par. 5)? How does this relate to the advice he gave "[t]o those of [his] race" in (par. 3)?
4.	What is the effect of Washington's repetition of advice in paragraphs 3 and 5?
5.	How does Washington's specific word choice in his description of "those of foreign birth" contribute to the persuasiveness of his speech?
6.	What words and phrases develop the meaning of <i>fidelity</i> in this context?
7.	What relationship does Washington establish between African Americans and "the white race"?

8. How does the idea of *fidelity* impact the persuasiveness of Washington's advice to "the white race"?

9.	What is the impact of Washington's description of the work African Americans did in the past? How does this description support Washington's ideas about the "future"?
10	How does Washington further develop his advice to "[c]ast down your bucket" in the sentence beginning with "Casting down your bucket among my people"?
11.	What is the rhetorical effect of the imagery in Washington's description of the "loyalty" African Americans "proved in the past"?
12.	How does Washington refine the idea of loyalty through his description of the "devotion" of African Americans? How does this contribute to the persuasiveness of his advice?
13.	How does Washington use figurative language to clarify his view on what is "essential" for "mutual progress"?
14.	What does Washington mean by "mutual progress"?