**Step 1: Land of the free?**

**The Underground Railroad map**

The Underground Railroad, the main routes for the escapees in the 1850s.

Source of the information: National Geographic.

The code of the Underground Railroad:

* Tracks → routes fixed by abolitionist sympathizers
* Stations or Depots → hiding places
* Conductors → guides on the Underground Railroad
* Agents → sympathizers who helped the slaves connect to the Railroad
* Station Masters → those who hid slaves in their homes
* Passengers or Cargo → escaped slaves
* Tickets → indicated that slaves were travelling on the Railroad
* Stockholders → financial supporters who donated to the Railroad
* Freedom Trails → the routes of the Railroad
* Terminal, Heaven, or Promised Land → Canada and the Northern free states

**Look at the document**

Ex 1: What strikes you? What does it tell you about the Underground railroad?

Ex 2: Listen to the [recording](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p04t0lfg). Colson Whitehead tells about the history of the Underground Railroad and the risks taken by the people who took part of it. Be ready to present it.

Ex 3: Why is it called the Underground Railroad?

Ex 4: If it was “the Land of the free”, why did the slaves want to leave the US?

Ex 5: Explain what the Underground Railroad is using the railway code (who, where, when, what).

**ACTIVITY**: **Write an encoded song to help runaway slaves find their way**. Think about the content of the verses and the chorus. Use the code studied on the opposite page. You can use the melody of *Wade in the Water* (see Let's learn! activity 2) or another one.