“The Ballot or the Bullet” Malcolm X: Document Analysis

**Important Phrases:** Which are the most powerful phrases in the speech? Choose three phrases.

Phrase 1: ______________________

Why is this phrase important or powerful?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Phrase 2: ______________________

Why is this phrase important or powerful?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Phrase 3: ______________________

Why is this phrase important or powerful?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

**Critical Thinking Questions:** Examples from the text must be cited in answering these questions.

1. Why does Malcolm X say that he is not “anti-white”?

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________________________________________________________________________________________

2. Why does Malcolm X say that he does not consider himself an American?

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________________________________________________________________________________________

3. What does Malcolm X mean when he says “Sitting at the table doesn't make you a diner, unless you eat some of what's on that plate.”?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________
4. Malcolm X says not to “go out and get violent”. Yet, he then says violence is allowable. Why?

5. Why does Malcolm X call Uncle Sam a hypocrite?